



## Fr. Steven Goerner

January 12, 1933 - January 12, 2008

HILTON HEAD, S.C. - Fr. Basil Steven Goerner, 75, of Hilton Head, formerly of Iron Mountain, died Saturday, Jan. 12, 2008, at his home in Hilton Head.

He was born Sept. 23, 1932, in Brooklyn, N.Y., son of the late Alfred and Mary Margret (Popp) Goerner. Following high school, he received a bachelor of science in pulp and paper science from New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse, N.Y.

Steve married Mary Patricia Avery in June 1949, and she preceded him in death in 1985. He had retired from Champion International Corporation after 35 years of service in various technical and operations managerial positions. He entered the Sacred Heart Seminary in 1989 and was ordained by Bishop James Garland on June 11, 1993. He was assigned as an associate pastor of Our Lady of Peace in Ironwood from 1993 until his retirement in 1997.

He is survived by three daughters; Kathrine Dowda of Cincinnati, Dr. Christine Avery of New York, N.Y., and Mary Alice Funke of Cincinnati; one brother, Prof. Edward Goerner of South Bend, Ind.; two sisters, Dr. Dorothy Ducker of Birmingham, Mich. and Alice Pike of Valleso, Calif.; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Friends may call from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Thursday at St. Mary Queen of

Peace Church in Kingsford.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday at the church. Bishop Alexander Sample will preside at the Mass of Christian Burial. The priests of the diocese will concelebrate the Mass.

Burial will be in Dickinson County Memorial Gardens.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Fr. Basil Goerner online at [www.ernashfuneralhomes.com](http://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com).

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain.

# Tribute Wall

LC

“ I have many fond memories of my Uncle Basil especially his deep laugh. I can remember summer vacations to Long Island to visit Grandma and Grandpa Goerner and getting to visit with our cousins. I was privileged to attend his ordination as a priest and got to attend one of his masses while up for a skiing trip in Ironwood MI. He was such a source of comfort for our family when our mother died and we all deeply miss him. My deepest condolences to his daughters and their families.

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**Liza Goerner Crisafi** - April 03, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Out sysmpathies to Steve's Family. We had the opportunity to get to know Steve during our stay at the Quinnesec Mill. It was a honor to know Steve. He will be remembered.

*Dan and Linda Burger*

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**Dan and Linda Burger** - January 22, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ We are saddened to hear that Steve has left us and extend our condolences to his family. We met him as he concluded his career in the pulp and paper industry at Quinnesec, and chose a future in the church. As Fr. Basil he made choices that were an inspiration to others. We will hold him in our prayers

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**john and robin myers** - January 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM

HS

“ We have known Steve for many years- since our time together in 1976 in Brasil. We also spent time with him and Pat during the building of the Pulp Mill in Quinnesec. He was a fine man and a real pleasure to be around. You have our deepest sympathy. Holden and Joann Smith

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**Holden Smith** - January 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM

NH

“ Those of us who were privileged to have known and worked with Steve during his paper industry career will always remember and cherish his friendship and the inspiration he was for us. His great compassion and understanding of his associates and those around him will never be forgotten. We spoke with him just two short weeks ago about our days in Brazil together and it is so sad to know that he is no longer with us. How fortunate we are that he passed our way. We send our prayers and heartfelt sympathy to his family in this hour of sadness.

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**Nancy & Norman Heberer** - January 18, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ Steve was a great friend of us and I have the honor to work in Champion Papel e Celulose S.A. - Brasil - with him. I'm sure that Steve are seeing the face of God by al eternity. Simao e Nilza Bottesi

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**Simo Hor?cio Bottesi** - January 18, 2008 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Steve was a great friend and he will never be forgot by me or my wife.  
he was always there to help others.  
God Bless you Steve  
rest in peace  
Lou

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**Lou Costello** - January 17, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ On behalf of the entire Quinnesec Mill family, our thoughts and prayers are with Steve's family! He was an inspiration to many, and helped form the cornerstone of the success we enjoy today. His memory lives on!

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**Mark Pontti** - January 17, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ I first had the opportunity to meet and get to know Steve (and Pat) in Brazil in 1978. They were both wonderful. Over the years I've been able to spend considerable time with Steve. He's always been an inspiration to everyone who has known him and been fortunate enough to be associated with him. We'll all miss him, are thankful for having the opportunity to know him, and extend our sympathies to the family. Jeff Hearn

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**Jeff and Jane Hearn** - January 17, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Extending our deepest sympathies to the Steve G. family. We heard from Steve G. just a couple months ago, and now are very saddened to learn of his passing. He's been an inspiring man.

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**Steve and Sue Hadden** - January 17, 2008 at 12:00 AM