



G. Johnson

November 2, 2009

CRYSTAL FALLS - George Earl Johnson, 81, of 500 Pentoga Road in Crystal Falls, passed away on Monday, Nov. 2, 2009, at Iron County Community Hospital after a lengthy illness.

Earl was born May 25, 1928, in Harbor City, Calif., son of the late George and Noma (Steele) Johnson. He joined the Navy on his 17th birthday and after being asked to return three times, he decided to make it his career. Earl served during World War II in the Japanese Theatre, the Korean War and as an exchange officer in Bangkok, Thailand during the Vietnam War.

He was awarded numerous medals including the National Defense Service Medal with bronze star, United Nations Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, American Area Medal, World War II Victory Medal and the Occupation Medal. Earl reached the rank of lieutenant commander in the United States Navy at an early age and retired as the Navy Exchange Officer in Washington D.C.

He then served as a civilian adviser to the Saudi Arabian Navy for 10 years after which he returned to the beautiful Upper Peninsula of Michigan. He called the small village of Pentoga his home for the remainder of his life. Earl was very passionate about his church, wife and his children. He was friend to many and felt privileged to know that many called him friend.

He is survived by his wife, Joyce; his daughter, Sheri (Kerry) Branham of Iron River; his son, Paul (Tena) Johnson of Brookfield, Wis.; a sister, Vina Mae (Lamar) Millet of Sequim, Wash.; grandsons, Tanner (Katie) Branham of Yuma, Ariz., Cody (DuAnne) Branham of Quantico, Va. and Timothy Johnson of San Francisco, Calif.; great-grandchildren, Sadie Grace and Colin Gabriel.

Earl was preceded in death by an older brother, Tom and an older sister, Esther Lane.

Visitation will be Saturday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Kingsford.

Funeral services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at the church. President Gregory I. Krehbeil of the Green Bay Stake will be presiding with local president, Myron Berry, conducting the funeral service.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial will be established in his memory.

Condolences to the family of G. Earl Johnson can be expressed online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home with the arrangements.