



Gene P. Richard

May 22, 1939 - April 6, 2020

Gene “Pudgie” Richard, 80, of Norway, passed away Monday, April 6, 2020 at his home surrounded by family.

Gene was born on May 22, 1939 in Iron Mountain to Paul and Irene (Peede) Richard. He was a lifelong resident of the Iron Mountain/Kingsford/Norway area and attended Kingsford schools.

Gene worked as a laborer on the Pipeline, did construction work, and also spent several years operating a local landfill.

On Sept. 2, 1967 in Iron Mountain, Gene was united in marriage to Mary Beth Vinkoski. They enjoyed 51 years together before her passing in 2019. Together, Gene and Mary Beth raised two daughters.

In his spare time Gene liked listening to country music, playing pool, hunting, and carpentry projects. He was naturally talented as a carpenter and, even with no professional training, could easily build a house on his own. More than anything, though, Gene enjoyed the time he spent with his friends and family.

He is survived by his daughters, Kelly (Scott) Kline of Norway, and Cyndi Richard of Vulcan; two granddaughters, Tianna Sanchez and Bobbie Jo Wagner; and two great-grandchildren, Khloe and Kayden Olp.

In addition to his wife and parents, Gene was preceded in death by all of his siblings.

At Gene's request, there will be no services.

Condolences to the family of Gene Richard may be expressed online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

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

Tribute Wall

TC

“ *Pudgie was a friend and teammate of mine. We played Community School football and slow pitch softball in local tournaments during the late 1960's and 70's. He was a natural athlete with a highly competitive nature, a tremendous amount of ability, and possessed the spirit of a winner. God bless him and his family. -Tom Clarke*

Tom Clarke - April 09, 2020 at 07:58 PM

JJ

“ *My condolences to the family. I have fond childhood memories of 'Pudgie'. He instilled my lifelong love affair with baseball.*

Jason Julian - April 08, 2020 at 09:37 PM

RD

“ *I as well as many other's had the pleasure of knowing and playing Softball with Pudgie!! He was probably the most talented ballplayer that this area ever saw. To his Family and Friend's, you have my most sincere sympathy in your loss of this great Friend.*

Richard & Gail Dabb - April 08, 2020 at 02:56 PM

BW

Thank you for the kind words. He will be greatly missed.. 💔

Bobbie Wagner - April 08, 2020 at 05:10 PM