



## George "Slabs" Daniels

May 11, 1926 - May 11, 2012

George Robert "Slabs" Daniels, 86, of Channing, passed away peacefully at his home on Friday, May 11, 2012.

Bob was born June 20, 1925, in Hancock, son of the late George and Lucille (Radell) Daniels. He grew up in Channing and graduated from Channing High School in 1943.

A lifelong flag-flying, patriotic man, Bob joined the United States Navy after high school to do his part for the war effort. It was always with a touch of regret that he quipped about fighting "the battle of Terre Haute, Ind." as the war ended before he saw action overseas.

On Oct. 20, 1956, Bob married the love of his life, Mary Clyatt, in Crystal Falls. His devotion to her and to his family was an inspiration to everyone. Happiest when surrounded by family and friends, he was always up for anything, from "color tours" to fishing trips, to our every Saturday night, card club. He loved to help others with a cheerful attitude.

"Slabs" was a railroad man, working for the Milwaukee Road for 40 years as a conductor; first on the wonderful old passenger trains such as the "Hiawatha" and "Chippewa" and also on the freight trains until his retirement in 1986. He collected railroad memorabilia and had about a million stories that he loved to

tell.

A self-taught pianist, Bob loved to share his considerable talent whenever he could. He developed his unique style of playing the swing standards and ballads of the 40s, and in his later years, the strength of his faith showed through in the hymns he taught himself.

He will be sadly missed by the residents and staff of the Iron County Medical Care Facility, where he put on a show every other Saturday for many years. Those of us who knew and loved the man and his music are smiling to think of a little combo playing up in Heaven, with a trumpet, a clarinet, a drummer, and a man at the piano with a twinkle in his eye and a big grin on his face, playing a perfect Twelfth Street Rag.

Bob is survived by his beloved wife of 55 years, Mary; daughters, Diane (Vincent) Roell, MaryLu Daniels, and Carolyn (Bob) Kennard, all of Channing; "adopted" son, Mychael Stafford of Green Bay, Wis.; brother James (Florence) Daniels of Wakefield; 10 grandchildren, Brian (Kendra) Roell, Joseph (Bronwyn) Roell, James (Julie) Roell, Karisa (Dave) Falls, Wade (Daphne) Kennard, Blake Kennard, Abigail (Benjamin) Garcia, Katelyn (Kyle) Kubacki, Bailey Stafford and Jacob Stafford; seven great-grandchildren and an eighth great-grandchild he would have been proud to welcome in June.

In addition to his parents, Bob was preceded in death by his stepfather, Owen Sayers and a brother, John Daniels.

Visitation will be Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home in Iron Mountain and from 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Thursday at the Grace Presbyterian Church in Sagola.

The funeral service will follow Thursday at 11 a.m. at the church. Rev. David

Anderson will officiate.

Burial will be in the Channing Cemetery.

Military honors will be accorded by the Cuculi-Baraga Post 168.

Memorials may be made to the North Dickinson Music Department.

Condolences to the family of Bob Daniels may be expressed online at [ernashfuneralhomes.com](http://ernashfuneralhomes.com).

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

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 16. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home  
901 Carpenter Ave.  
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

## Visitation

MAY 17. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Grace Presbyterian Church  
309 First St.  
Sagola, MI 49815

## Funeral Service

MAY 17. 11:00 AM (CT)

Grace Presbyterian Church  
309 First St.  
Sagola, MI 49815

# Tribute Wall

ME

“ Dad, how I miss both you and Mom, but I am glad you are together.  
You are always in my heart.

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**Mary L Elsemore** - September 15, 2022 at 01:09 AM

MD

“ Just want to say hi Dad and that I love you and miss you every day.  
ml

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**mary daniels** - June 04, 2014 at 03:45 PM

MD

“ I love you Daddy.

ml

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**mary daniels** - May 22, 2014 at 02:30 PM

MD

“ Sorry the last 2 messages are so similar.....I guess it means that I  
really mean it!

ml

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**mary lu daniels** - February 12, 2014 at 11:53 AM

MD

“ Hi Pappy! I sure love that picture. I don't think anything made you  
smile like that like playing the piano did. I miss you still - everyday.  
So glad you are nice and warm in heaven. Love you always,

ml

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**mary lu daniels** - February 12, 2014 at 11:51 AM

MD

“ Hi Pappy,

*You are so handsome in that picture, and how you loved to play the piano. We miss that and you so much but are happy that you are nice and warm in heaven. I love you more than I can say Dad. XO ml*

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**Mary Lu Daniels** - January 07, 2014 at 04:30 PM

MD

“ Hi Dad,

*Congratulations on your year anniversary reunited with Mom. I love you both always and miss you every day. ml*

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**mary daniels - channing, MI - daughter** - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Hi Dad,

*Just wrote to Mom also to tell you guys that I'm at 19 months today....bet you're glad. I love you so much.*

*mary lu*

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**mary lu daniels - daughter** - July 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ 1 year Dad - the saddest of my life. I love you - always.....ml

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**MARY LU** - May 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Oh Dad, I still miss you so much. It is nearing a year since we lost you and it's been the emptiest year of my life. Love always to you and to Mom. Enjoy Heaven. ML

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mary lu daniels - MI - daughter - March 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Well Dad,

You have had Mom with you again now for a month, and we are now without you both. She just missed you too much and had to be with you. Your gain is our loss but it is truly right that the two of you are together again. I know where you are and I know that you are OK. And, I know that we will be together again some day. Until then, my dearest love always. Please give Mom a kiss and a hug and go ahead and pat her purse....

xoxoxo  
ml

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MARY LU DANIELS - daughter - October 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ Oh Daddy, we miss you so much. I am trying to take care of Mom as you wished. She is doing OK but seems so much older in the past few days. She and I share coffee most every morning. It is a lovely time but bitter sweet knowing that you aren't in the bedroom listening as you used to enjoy. Oh Daddy, Mommy will be with you soon, I just feel it. What will we do without her to? Loosing you is the single most heartwrenching thing that I have experienced, Dad I miss you so. Mom is safe and seems happy enough considering. We love you Dad, you are our rock. You guys are all that I have. I know it's dumb writting to you here but somehow it seems to help. I have to go now because I can no longer see for the tears.

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mary lu - July 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Mowed the lawn yesterday and thought of you the whole time. I know how much you liked the lawn looking good - and it does. I sure do miss you and am not looking forward to the 4th - won't be the same without you. Hopefully, I will be scheduled to work that day and I won't have to think about it. Anyway Dad - just wanted to say that I love you and miss you. ml

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**mary lu daniels** - June 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Happy Birthday Dad, I sure do miss you but I guess we have to get through all these milestones to heal. I am working hard and hope I am making you proud. Love you. ml

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**mary lu daniels - channing, MI - daughter** - June 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Well Dad, It's been just over a month since you went to your new home with the Lord. It is almost a month since our last good bye. I love you and I miss you every minute of every day. You were a wonderful, wonderful Father and I know that our Father has rewarded you richly.

*Forever your daughter, I love you,*

*Mary Lu*

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**MARY LU - Channing, MI - Father** - June 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ *your in our thoughts and prayers*

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**The Martin - channing, MI** - May 16, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Karisa and her family. Love your Derby Sisters

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**TeLa Hereau - Niagara, WI - May 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM**

WF

“ Mary and family,  
I was so sorry to read of Bob's passing. I know that you are comforted by his destination, but I know that sorrow runs deep when you lose such a wonderful man. The time and attention that you both gave to our daughter, Sarah, meant so very much to her as she grew up. We couldn't have asked for a more faithful set of "grandparents" for her. Please accept our heartfelt sympathies.

Love,  
Steve and Wendy Dalberto

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**Wendy Dalberto - New Bern, NC - friend - May 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM**

AF

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you! A Great resident of Channing is lost, he will forever be remember in our hearts and minds.

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**Amanda Esler (DalSanto) - St. Francis , MN - Friend - May 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM**

CF

“ Dear Mary, Diane, Mary Lu, Carolyn & son,  
We are so sorry for your loss. Slabs has always had a smile on his face and a happy greeting where ever he met you. We know how close and loving your family is and we pray for peace and comfort to your hearts.  
Yes, he is banging out the jazz on the heavenly piano in the company of many of his friends. God's blessings on all of you. Please let us know if we can help or attend to your needs in any way.  
Remember, God's promise is that we will all be together again in heaven one day. What a celebration that will be!!  
Sincerely,  
Chris & Don Burns

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**Christine Burns - Channing, MI - friend** - May 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TN

“ Dear Mary and Daughters, Slabs will always be remembered as a great friend and neighbor. His warmth and humor will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Our deepest sympathy to you and yours. The Olson Brothers Families

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**The Olson Family - Menasha, WI - neighbor(past)** - May 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Auntie Mary, so sorry to hear of your dad's passing. May he rest in peace. My thoughts & prayers are with you & your family.

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**Jennifer Flynn - Kingsford, MI** - May 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Sorry for your loss.... I heard many stories about him and my uncle Alvin playing in the band. Gramma Ruthie LOVED to listed to them play.. I will definetly miss him coming into the store!! He will DEFINETLY be missed.. Thoughts and prayers to everyone!

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**Amy Suarez and family** - May 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM