



James Bates,

September 20, 2008

KINGSFORD - James Norman Bates Sr., 75, of Kingsford, passed from this life into the loving arms of Jesus on Saturday, Sept. 20, 2008, at Dickinson County Memorial Hospital.

He was born in Iron Mountain on July 23, 1933, the son of the late Norman and Ruby (Johnson) Bates.

Jim married Juanita Karban on July 19, 1952, in Iron Mountain. The couple celebrated 56 years of marriage on Jim's 75th birthday in July. He was retired from Bacco Construction in 1984 after 35 years of service.

The greatest joy in Jim's life was his children, especially when they would come to visit and share their love and experiences with him. Jim's love for the Lord Jesus and His word was great. Jim loved to sing His praises and worship Him. Jim also enjoyed spending time with Robert Smajda, who was a very dear friend to him.

He is survived by his wife Juanita; five children, Barbara (Butch) Olson of Kingsford, Daniel Bates of Kingsford, Mina (Scott) Fayas of Iron Mountain, Amy (William Sr.) Neuens of Kingsford, and James Norman (Bethany) Bates Jr. of Kingsford; 14 grandchildren, Wendy Olson, Jennifer (Dave) Streckert, Allison Olson, Melissa Olson, Andrea (Gary) Paul, April and Alysa Fayas,

Ashley, Amber, and Billy Neuens Jr., Levi, Robert, and Kaytlin Bates, and Jeffrey Freshe, all of the Iron Mountain-Kingsford area; and two great-grandchildren, Kelby Olson and Avery Streckert.

Visitation will be Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home.

Funeral services will be held at 6 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Pastor James Philbrick of the Living Water Apostolic Church will officiate.

Burial will be in the Quinnesec Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Jim's sons and grandson, Dan Bates, Jim Bates Jr., Levi Bates, Robert Bates, Little Billy Neuens, and Gary Paul.

Condolences to the family of James "Jim" Bates can be expressed online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

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

Tribute Wall

JS

“ I can only imagine his last minutes were a blessed time. He was with the people he cared the very most about. His mind and his heart were content and at peace. Now he can do his job as a dad, and watch over his loved ones. He'll be missed... That just proves how good he was.

Best Wishes to his family~

Jim

Jim Schultz - September 23, 2008 at 12:00 AM

LR

“ Dear Juanita and family; Sorry to hear of your loss, wish I could be there to express my sympathies in person but wanted you to know that my thoughts and prayers will be with you during this sad time. I know he will be missed by many...Sincerely Lois Ring

Lois Ring - September 23, 2008 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ Sorry to hear about your Loved one. May he rest in Peace

ashley van pembrook - September 23, 2008 at 12:00 AM