



John Robert Carey

June 20, 1929 - July 28, 2020

John “Jack” Carey, 91, of Channing, passed away Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at his home surrounded by his family. Jack was born June 20, 1929 in Sagola, MI., son of the late Lester and Mildred (Hunting) Carey. He was a lifelong resident of the area and attended Channing High School. He proudly served in the U. S. Army. Jack married the love of his life, Joanne Helgren on December 2, 1950 and enjoyed 65 years of marriage. Joanne preceded him in death on January 8, 2016.

Jack was a Michigan State Trooper for 24 years before retiring in 1981. An on-duty accident forced an early retirement from the profession that he loved. He was well respected within the department and saved numerous lives during his career. He also scuba dived for the department.

Mr Carey was a “Jack” of all trades. He was usually working on home improvement projects, renovating vehicles, building things, and at one point he even built a sauna from the ground up while on crutches while nursing a broken leg. He was always helping relatives and friends with their projects and he could fix anything. If Jack couldn’t fix it, it probably couldn’t be fixed.

In his early years, he enjoyed snowmobiling, hunting, trapping, trout fishing and the spring walleye opener. He enjoyed video recording family events. The entire family cherishes the video he filmed of his wife JoAnne making her

famous sweet rolls and sharing the recipe.

Some of best family memories were those spent on Sawyer Lake with the Jim and Willy Helgren family. The tradition of summer lakeside family gatherings are still going strong. Jack and JoAnne's children, grandchildren and now great grandchildren hold memories of those times spent together close to their hearts.

He eventually became interested in computers and even started fixing those. He wrote computer programs, and even wrote a cost tracking program for loggers that earned him national recognition.

Some of the best years of his retirement were spent traveling with his wife Joanne in their RV. Annual trips to Florida for the winters and other excursions out west with their good friends.

Jack was very proud of his seven grandchildren and fourteen great grandchildren. He had a way with babies and all the kids adored him.

Jack was well known for his sense of humor and would often have a joke to share, a one liner said with perfect timing, or a funny reply to someone's question. He was extremely saddened by his wife's death, and eventually found joy in attending the senior lunch held at the Sagola Community center. They enjoyed his sense of humor and those lunches were what he looked forward to each week. They will miss him at those lunches.

He was a member of St. Rose Church, a devout Catholic, and a man of highest integrity.

Jack is survived by his three children, Debra Carey (Mark Serwe) of

Bessemer, MI, James (Deb) Carey of Channing, MI, and Barb Carey of Oxford, WI; seven grandchildren, Chad Bruno, Michael Loy, Meagen "Pippi" Morrison, Ryan (Kylie) Carey, Lindsay Carey, Erin (Justin) Dillon and Gretchen Carey (Emily Yerby); and 14 Great- Grandchildren. Brothers Micheal "Mickey" (Marion) Carey and Joe (Bev) Carey.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Tom and Pat Carey. and his daughter-in-law, Toni Carey.

Friends may call from 9-11:00 am Friday, July 31, 2020, at St. Rose Church in Channing, Mi. The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 am with Fr. Janusz Romanek officiating. Burial will be in the Sagola Township Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, a memorial will be established in his memory. Condolences to the family of Jack Carey May be expressed online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

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

Cemetery Details

Channing Cemetery

Byers Rd.
Channing, MI 49815

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 31. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Rose Catholic Church
703 Bell Ave.
Channing, MI 49815

Mass of Christian Burial

JUL 31. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Rose Catholic Church
703 Bell Ave.
Channing, MI 49815

Tribute Wall

FP

“ I didn't meet Jack until after he had retired from the MSP but I always enjoyed seeing and chatting with him at the monthly Retirees Breakfasts. He will surely be missed.

Deepest condolences to his family and friends.

*Frank Pierce
MSP Retiree*

Frank Pierce - August 04, 2020 at 09:18 AM

RF

“ Robert And Susan Topp Family lit a candle in memory of John Robert Carey



Robert and Susan Topp Family - August 03, 2020 at 08:31 PM

DD

“ We are saddened by your loss Jim, and after reading your father's obituary, I can see teh apple did not fall far from the tree. A man of the highest integrity. God bless the Carey family.

*Danny & Doris Dructor
American Loggers Council*

Danny Dructor - August 03, 2020 at 02:49 PM

RB

“ Sir thank you for your service to this Great Country and to this Great State. I pray that the Good Lord is holding you and your family close.

Ralph Boudreau, Jr. MSP Retiree

Ralph Boudreau - August 02, 2020 at 01:19 PM

CB

“ I thought of Jack's family all day yesterday. Feeling close to everyone even though far away. Jack was a special person. I appreciate the times I spent with him and his family. I especially appreciate the times spent alone with Jack. Those times made me feel special. He was always willing to help fix something that needed figuring out. He was also willing to help me with things that posed a challenge...like rounding up chickens in the rain to send off to the butcher. It was an event where Jack threw out a few cuss words (after going down in the mud), but later showed tears of laughter hearing JoAnne and Barb tell the story (they had been watching through a window).

My heart goes out to Jack's family...he was a special person.

*With Love,
Chris Boyd*

christine boyd - August 01, 2020 at 06:45 PM

JK

“ So very sorry for your loss. I never met him but he sounds like he was a very special and wonderful man. May your wonderful memories sustain you all at this difficult time. Deepest sympathies to all who loved him.

Julie Kopecko - August 01, 2020 at 08:28 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Robert Carey.



July 30, 2020 at 04:21 PM



“ So sorry for your loss. I will always picture him in his uniform, back in the day as a state trooper in Wakefield.

Lorrene Randall - July 30, 2020 at 12:13 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Robert Carey.



July 30, 2020 at 12:00 PM



“ Our deepest sympathies to the Carey family. John was the nicest man to me when I first got to the Wakefield Post. I enjoyed talking with him. When my pipes froze that first winter he was right there with his heater to help me. Russ & Jeri Rich

Russ Rich - July 30, 2020 at 11:05 AM



“ Sending loving thoughts and prayers to Jack's family. We sure enjoyed being neighbors during our stays at Sawyer Lake.

Mary Hicks - July 30, 2020 at 10:44 AM

BM

“ *Big Snow Resort & Badger Sportsman Magazine purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of John Robert Carey.*



Big Snow Resort & Badger Sportsman Magazine - July 30,
2020 at 08:42 AM