



John D. Mitchem

June 12, 1944 - March 2, 2019

John Douglas Mitchem, of Niagara, died on March 2, 2019 at his home.

He was born on June 12, 1944 in Thorpe, West Virginia, son of Sherman and Hallie (Sexton) Mitchem. Family and friends fondly called him JD, his mother nicknamed him Sammy, and in later years his friend referred to him as the man in black, because his favorite attire was a long, black, leather trench coat and black Fedora hat. He came from a musical family and his instrument of choice was the drums, playing in local bands in his younger years. He also loved playing pool, trout fishing, finding treasures with his metal detector, and especially foraging for wild ginseng. He was a Vietnam veteran and a diesel mechanic by trade who loved cars "with speed." He enjoyed family gatherings but always said it wasn't a party without the ham sandwiches.

Survivors include his children, Andrew (Brianna) Mitchem, Mary Kay (James Kowalkowski) Mitchem, Adrian Mitchem, and their mother Lisa (Nelson) Mitchem; his grandchildren, Alex Mitchem, Austin Mitchem, Addison Mitchem, Ellie Mitchem and Cooper Mitchem, Madelynn Mitchem, Emma Kowalkowski, Sophie Kowalkowski, Chloe Mitchem; his siblings, Lois Brash, Charles (Sandy) Mitchem, Tony (Fran) Mitchem, Drema (Denny) Charette, Jeff (Diane) Presley, Belva (Scott) Gustafson, Jimmy (Ruth) Presley and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers, David Mitchem, Joe Mitchem and Frank Mitchem and his beloved dog Peanut.

Visitation will be at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home on Saturday, March 16, 2019 from 9 to 11 am with services to follow at 11 am at the funeral home.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of John Douglas Mitchem online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

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

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 16. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

MAR 16. 11:00 AM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall



“ 111 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Erickson-Rochon-Nash Funeral Home - March 15, 2019 at 11:39 AM

DR

“ *JD was a great Grede warrior and I was proud to have known him.*
Dan Ross

Dan Ross - March 08, 2019 at 10:31 AM

GG

“ *Gerri Gardiepy lit a candle in memory of John D. Mitchem*



Gerri Gardiepy - March 06, 2019 at 02:32 PM

MT

“ *Mary Jo Trepanier lit a candle in memory of John D. Mitchem*



Mary Jo Trepanier - March 06, 2019 at 12:40 PM

OW

“ *My sincere Sympathy to family and friends of JD..My love and prayers for Lisa, your children and grandchildren. Gods' love comfort and sustain you.*
Orice Walters



Orice Walters - March 06, 2019 at 12:06 PM

KO

“ *My deepest sympathy to the family of "JD". An amazing man, with amazing stories and an appreciated a good tune. Rest in Peace Friend. God's Speed.*

Kathy O'Connell - March 05, 2019 at 04:08 PM