



Laurence Robare

April 15, 2006

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IRON MOUNTAIN - Laurence "Blacky" Robare, 93, of 1003 West A St. in Iron Mountain, died Saturday, April 15, 2006, at the Florence Villa Nursing Home. He was born on March 26, 1913, in Ishpeming, the son of the late Joseph and Jenny Robare. Blacky was a graduate of Ishpeming High School.

He was a well-known amateur boxer in the Upper Peninsula, with a career that extended for 14 years, from 1929-42, and included more than 200 opponents.

Blacky entered the United States Army during World War II in 1944. He served with the famed Merrill's Marauders in the China-Burma-Indian Theater of Operations. Blacky was first scout for the Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion. His unit fought with the Mars Task Force in a long range penetration, which resulted in opening an important stretch of the Burma road. Blacky worked at the Iron Mountain VA Medical Center until his retirement. He also worked as an alderman in the 4th ward for the city of Iron Mountain. He was past state commander of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and was the VAVS representative for Michigan and Wisconsin. Blacky was also a former UPA recreational leader and DAV administrative board member.

He is survived by his companion, Evelyn "Dolly" Romagnoli of Iron Mountain; his son, Joseph (Cheryl) Robare of Texas; a daughter-in-law, Janet Robare of Illinois; 12 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Loretta; a son, Laurence; a

brother, Earl; a granddaughter, Susan; and grandson, Johnny.

Visitation will be Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home.

A memorial service will follow at 11 a.m. at the funeral home. Monsignor James Kaczmarek will officiate.

Burial will be in the Ishpeming Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Laurence Robare online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

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

Tribute Wall

MD

“ I just learned of the passing of Uncle Blackie. Loretta and my dad, Myron(Mike) were brother and sister. We had been trying to find out where Uncle Blackie was, as my Christmas cards always were returned. I have childhood memories of Joey and I hope if you read this you will remember my sister Kristin and me also. I have many pleasant memories of the times with your dad and Aunt Retta. All the dogs they had and the fun times. He lived a long life. I hope he was blessed with good health and much happiness until the end. You have our sympathy. God Bless, Marsha

Marsha (Strengberg) Duellman - June 11, 2006 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ PDC. Blackie Robare was one of my dearest friends and a true gentleman.. I will always remember him..Bill....

Bill McNeal - April 22, 2006 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ I am so sorry to hear of the death of Laurence. If there is any thing I can do-please contact me.

Peggy Smith-DAVA State Commander - April 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM