



Les Underwood

July 20, 1954 - December 1, 2013

Les Underwood

59, of Channing passed away from a massive heart attack on Sunday, December 1, 2013 at Dickinson County Hospital. Les was born on July 20, 1954 in Lapeer, Michigan, son of the late Laverne and Mable (Gibbs) Underwood. He was a graduate of Alanson High School in 1973. Les married Jana VanHoven on July 2, 1977 in Brutus, MI, they have lived in the Iron Mountain area since 1981. He loved to work and began working early in his life, learning to operate heavy equipment for his father's excavating company. Les owned and operated Underwood Excavating for many years. He spent part of the last year working as an operator in North Dakota for Mikkelsen Bros. Construction.

Les loved to play pool and over the years has been active in several local pool leagues. He enjoyed hunting and fishing, especially salmon fishing on his boat in Lake Michigan. He was a loyal fan of the Detroit Lions and Tigers. More than anything, Les loved to spend time with his family. He was incredibly proud of his three children and he did everything he could to support them. His wife Jana was the love of his life, and together they shared in countless memories.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his mother and father in law, Mary and Leonard VanHoven.

Les is survived by his wife Jana; children, Adam Underwood of Redondo Beach, CA, Haley Underwood of Chicago, IL and Zak Underwood of Walled Lake, MI. He also is survived by his brother and sister in-laws; Jay and Nancy VanHoven, Jill and Sanford Washburn, and Jane and Bill Butsic. Along with several nieces and nephews.

The visitation is scheduled for Friday, December 6, 2013 from 10:30 am to 12 noon at Trinity United Methodist Church in Iron Mountain. Memorial service will follow at 12 noon at the church. Rev. Paul Mallory will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in his memory to: Moving Mountains Adaptive Program, 1004 N. Evergreen Dr. Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Condolences to the family of Les Underwood may be expressed online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

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

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 6. 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Trinity United Methodist Church
808 Carpenter Ave.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Memorial Service

DEC 6. 12:00 PM (CT)

Trinity United Methodist Church
808 Carpenter Ave.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Tribute Wall

YT

“ *Jana, Les is in many of my memories. What a great friend. I will never forget coming to visit you both, but being slowed down by a great northern storm. I thought I would be spending the night in a cold, shut down airport in Mnomonee (sp?) but my angel (Les) came and rescued me. We are thinking of you and your family. Love Eve and John.*

Yvonne Taylor - December 10, 2013 at 10:37 PM

JF

“ *Zak,
So sorry to hear about Les. We all get caught up in the things we're involved in and don't take the time to stay in touch. You've been a great friend of the family and are always welcome whenever you're in town. Our thoughts are with you and yours.*

John and Patty Edlebeck and Family - December 10, 2013 at 08:31 AM

VS

“ *Jana..Craig and I were so saddened to hear about Les. I can't believe we didn't hear about it. I just happened to check the Daily News and read about Les...all the times we saw each other and said we were going to get together and didn't..I hope that you still get this message..Love, Val and Craig*

Val Smith - December 09, 2013 at 09:30 AM

JF

*Zak,
So sorry to hear about Les. We all get caught up in the things we're involved in and don't take the time to stay in touch. You've been a great friend of the family and are always welcome whenever you're in town. Our thoughts are with you and yours.*

John and Patty Edlebeck and Family - December 10, 2013 at 08:27 AM

KC

“ So sorry to hear about the passing of Les. We grew up together in Alanson and had our own trials and tribulations as adolescents but we survived and it sounds like Les turned into a wonderful husband and father. I remember camping at Maple bay many times. Even though we drifted apart and went our separate ways I'll never forget our happy days in Alanson. RIP my old friend!

Kelly Thomas Casey - December 08, 2013 at 09:01 PM

RW

“ Jana, I know it's been a hundred years or so but just read about your husband Les's passing and wish to express how sorry I am for your loss. May god hold you close to his heart during these trying times.

Ray Wickstrom, Gladstone Mi

Ray Wickstrom - December 08, 2013 at 06:10 PM



“ Dear Jana and family,
We were so sorry to hear about Les. We will keep you in our thoughts and prayers. Hope to see you soon.

*God bless you all,
John and Maria Hyrkas and family*

Maria Hyrkas - December 07, 2013 at 10:31 AM

JW

“ Keeping your family in our thoughts and prayers. Joe and Lisa Witynski and Family.

Joe and Lisa Witynski - December 06, 2013 at 09:48 PM

BD

“ *Jana, So sorry to hear about the passing of Les. You two were wonderful neighbors during the time you lived next door to us. Hugs and prayers, Brenda and John DeAmicis*

Brenda DeAmicis - December 06, 2013 at 04:57 PM

MM

“ *Mary Meyers lit a candle in memory of Les Underwood*



mary Meyers - December 06, 2013 at 04:47 PM

KA

“ *Jana and family,
I am so sorry to hear of Les' death, I sure wish I could make it for the services. I met Les when he and his folks were moving into the apartment above Mable's salon. I helped with what I could, then Les and I just chummed around after for many years. I remember fishing with him on the Crooked River, and Les caught a nice smallmouth that he kept even though bass season was at least a week away. Mable came down to check on him, saw the bass, and made Les throw it back. Les was not happy to say the least. I still can't figure out how Mable knew that bass season wasn't open yet. We were ice fishing on Maple Bay when a pressure crack went under the shanty scaring the heck out of us. After a few minutes of looking at each other Les says, "Well, let's go check the tip-ups!" So many fond memories, so little time. Again, my deepest sympathy for your loss.*

Kelly M. Croff, Alanson,Mi. - December 06, 2013 at 08:36 AM

CP

“ *Jana I just found out about Les. I am so very sorry for your loss. May you find strength and support in your family, friends, and faith. He will me missed. Mom asked me to send her condolences too. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Carol & Steve Persons and Momma Muggs

Carol Persons - December 06, 2013 at 08:27 AM

WR

“ *There are never any words at a time like this...however, Hecker's words may be that Les was assisting her at pool the other night! She and I have been sharing stories of our times with Les and how much he meant to us and to his family. Our thoughts & hearts are with all of you.*

Wendy Ryan - December 05, 2013 at 06:53 PM

LF

“ *Lori & Dan McVannel + Family lit a candle in memory of Les Underwood*



Lori & Dan McVannel + Family - December 05, 2013 at 06:00 PM

JP

“ *Jana, very sorry for your loss. You are in our prayers. Jim & Jan Peterson*

jim peterson - December 05, 2013 at 04:54 PM

AM

“ I was very sorry to hear about Les. We were good friends for the short time I knew him, and I thought highly of him. We were pool buddies. I got to know him at Dr Pool and we were partners at the Pirates Cove the last few years and did very well together. He will be greatly missed. My condolences to the family. Sincerely, Alex Mantas , Garden MI

Alex Mantas - December 05, 2013 at 02:03 PM

AG

“ Alma First Church of God purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Les Underwood.



Alma First Church of God - December 05, 2013 at 12:44 PM

WD

“ My condolences to Les' family. Les and I went to Petoskey High School together. I remember him as one of the good guys! Wes Dilworth, Boyne City, Michigan

Wes Dilworth - December 05, 2013 at 10:46 AM

MA

Les and Ernie are shooting pool in Heaven!!! Too young, too soon. My deepest condolences.

Marianne - December 05, 2013 at 03:15 PM