



Lester Champagne

October 29, 1927 - October 29, 2011

Lester "Les" Champagne, 84, a resident of Manor Care in Kingsford, died Saturday, October 29, 2011 at Dickinson County Memorial Hospital in Iron Mountain. Les was born December 27, 1926, in Brooks, MN, son of the late William and Regina (Dagenais) Champagne.

He married Donna Lefebvre on April 8, 1948, in Oklee, Minn and she preceded him in death on February 14, 2008. Les was employed at Grede Foundry as a maintenance supervisor for many years, retiring in 1988. He was a member of St. Anthony Catholic Church in Niagara. Les was always willing to help family or friends and he could fix almost anything. He was an avid Green Bay Packer fan and enjoyed making various crafts and attending craft shows. Most of all, Les enjoyed spending time with his family.

He is survived by eight children, Terrence (Sandie) Champagne of Muskego, Wis., Wayne Champagne of Kingsford, Sandra TenEyck of Denver, Colo., Lori (Robin) Bargo of Iron Mountain, Scott (Judy) Champagne of Ephrata, Pa., Kathy (Jim) Anderson of Marinette, Wis., Karen Champagne of Indianapolis, Ind. and Jody (Paula) Champagne of Iron Mountain; 18 grandchildren, Matthew Champagne and Janette (Matthew) Wenzel, Tara Champagne, Kristy Ferrin, Karla Thompson, Angela (Michael) Adam, Jennifer (Nathan) Raiche, Lindsey Bargo, William and Robert Champagne, Dylan Sensenig, Christopher and Daniel Anderson, Amy (Michael) Lippert, Ashley Faulk, Rachel Luokkala,

Amanda Harlock, and Jordan Champagne; 13 great-grandchildren, Hannah Wenzel, Nicholas Thompson, Michelle Bargo, Logan and Landon Adam, Kolbe, Jozef, Marcel, Jerzy & Gemma Raiche, and Gary, Elijah & Ella Faulk; two brothers, Rupert Champagne of Sacramento, CA and Harold (Mona) Champagne of New Berlin, WI; two sisters, Rachel Teloh of Racine, WI and Joyce (Roy) Thiebert of Mentor, MN; three sisters-in-law, Carol (Lee) Hagelee of Edina, Minn., Marilyn (Donovan) Stonouse of Thief River Falls, Minn. and Eileen (Mark) Walsh of North St. Paul, Minn.; a brother-in-law, Michael (Peggy) Lefebvre of Henderson, Nev.; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Visitation will be held on Thursday from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home in Iron Mountain. Parish prayers will be recited on Thursday at 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Funeral services will be on Friday at 11 a.m. at St. Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Kingsford. Fr. Michael Woempner will offer the Mass of Christian Burial.

Burial will be in the Homestead-Aurora Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial will be established in his memory.

Pallbearers will be Daniel Anderson, Matthew Champagne, Mike Lippert, Nathan Raiche, Mike Adam, and William Champagne.

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

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

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 3. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

NOV 4. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church
432 Edsel
Kingsford, MI 49802

Tribute Wall

DF

“ Lester’s good nature, generosity, and kindness will be missed. Lester was always ready with a joke, and a smile. His house was always open to friends, and acquaintances. His passing will surely be felt by many.

Karen, Kathy, Jody, although I am unable to be there to offer comfort to you in these days after your fathers passing. Please know that I’m thinking of you in this time of sadness.

Dave Peters - Spring Hill, KS - friend of family - November 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Your dad/grandpa always had and always will have a special place in my heart. He was Awesome!! My thoughts and prayers go out to the whole family. Cyndi (Gig) Michaud

Cyndi Michaud - November 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ We were given the opportunity to meet lester champagne in march of 2011 when we travel to iron mountain with karen champagne. We spent every day we were in town visiting him and even was able to spend st patty's day/his twin daughters' birthday with him. Seeing his face light up when family was around him was a wonderful feeling. We are truly sorry for your lost...He will missed.....also I wanna leave my favorite memory we were walking down the hallway taking him back to his room and we all sung the fishy song. Thats a song I will never forget. RIP Lester!!!

Jordan & Shannon Hasche - indianapolis, IN - family friend - November 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ *My deepest sympathy to you all. I won't forget how good Les and Donna were to my Uncle Frank Corsi, when he was Les's roommate. Donna was there every day unless there was a bad storm....he was such a nice man...I still saw him when I would visit my mother in law...so he will be missed.*

Cynthia Gordon - Iron Mountain, MI - Friend - October 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM