



Peter Dominic Rigoni

March 29, 1936 - February 20, 2023

Peter Dominic Rigoni, 86, of Iron Mountain and formerly of White Pine, passed away on Monday, February 20, 2023, at Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain. Peter was born on March 29, 1936, in Ironwood, Michigan, son of the late Dominic and Annette Rigoni. Peter married the love of his life, Geri (Powell) Rigoni, on October 9, 1965.

Peter graduated from Luther L. Wright High School in Ironwood, Michigan in 1954. After high school he worked as a seaman on the Great Lakes before joining the U.S. Army where he served in Korea. After being honorably discharged, he attended Gogebic Community College and the University of Wisconsin Superior, graduating in 1962 with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. He went on to obtain his Master's in Education from Northern Michigan University in 1969. He worked for one year for the Milwaukee Public School System. He then took a job working for the White Pine School District where he taught, coached, and was an administrator, retiring in 1993. He was also a basketball official for thirty-four years where he shared many memorable times with his partner, John Gravier. Their stories of being escorted out of gyms, traveling through snowstorms, and many stops on the way home were priceless. Peter and Geri resided in White Pine for 56 years where they raised their daughters and were extremely active members in the community. Peter was a member of the White Pine Lions Club, Legion Post 462, White Pine Industrial Committee, Renaissance Committee, Gogebic

Range Beagle Club, V.F.W.-Wakefield, Piave Club-Ironwood, and The White Pine Green Thumbs. In addition to being an educator, coach, and referee, Peter had a passion for politics and was the Carp Lake Township Supervisor and Tax Assessor from 1982 to 2000.

Peter was an avid hunter and loved hunting at his camp that he shared with his former student and dear friend, Mark Pierpont. He later hunted and bagged many monstrous bucks at his best friend's, Dave Koski, family camp in Wakefield. Peter was a master fisherman who loved to steelhead fish in the Big Iron River and fish for walleyes in Lake Gogebic. He had many fishing buddies over the years who all were special to him. He enjoyed hunting and fishing, especially with his son-in-law, Dale, and the son that he never had, Mark Mielcarek. During retirement, Peter and Geri camped for years at Lake Gogebic, enjoying some of their best years together and making wonderful lifelong friends and memories.

Peter was an active and present grandfather attending their sporting events and activities. Nothing brought him more joy than watching them on the field, court, and rink.

Peter is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Geri (Powell) Rigoni, who lovingly cared for him so he could be at home as long as possible; his daughters whom he adored, Maria (Curt) Kohls, Donna (Dale) Ward, Tricia (Paul) Meneguzzo; his grandchildren whom he was so proud of, Hillari (Corey) Runsat, Tony (Kameron) Ward, Nicholas Woosmann, Dylan Woosmann, Noah Woosmann, Molly (Collin) Hirthe, Abby Meneguzzo, and Michael Meneguzzo; his loving sister, Donna Barto; his many special cousins, his Powell in-laws, nieces, and nephews who were so dear to him; and lastly, his greatest joys in his final year, his three great-grandchildren, Grayson and Hayden Hirthe and Harper Runsat.

Peter is preceded in death by his parents, Dominic and Annette Rigoni; mother-in-law and father in-law, Armond and Nellie Powell; numerous brothers-in-law and sisters-in-laws; nieces, nephews, cousins, and many special friends.

We would like to thank Rhonda and Jayde from Arms of Angels and the hospice nurses at the V.A. for their loving care.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the family in Peter's memory for local athletic organizations.

A visitation for Peter will take place on Thursday, March 2, 2023, from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home in Iron Mountain. A service will follow at 1:00 p.m. at the funeral home with Father Mike Woempner officiating.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Peter Dominic Rigoni online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

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

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 2. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home
901 Carpenter Avenue
Iron Mountain, MI 49801
(906) 774-7676
nashfuneralhome@gmail.com
<https://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com/>

Funeral Service

MAR 2. 1:00 PM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home
901 Carpenter Avenue
Iron Mountain, MI 49801
(906) 774-7676
nashfuneralhome@gmail.com
<https://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com/>

Tribute Wall

SM

“ *Sixth Grade with Mr Rigoni and Jr High Football with Coach Rigoni were nothing if not challenging, intense, and a total joy. I always wondered if all the stories my Dad and Uncles told about the young Pete Rigoni growing up in Jessieville were true... hopefully not all of them. Condolences to the Rigoni Family.*

Steve Mukavitz - March 07, 2023 at 04:50 PM

DK

“ *Our sympathy to your entire family for the passing of Pete. We hold fond memories of Pete with the many conversations about fishing on Lake Gogebic and the Big Iron River. Dale & Pam Karttunen, Green, MI*

Dale & Pam Karttunen - March 03, 2023 at 10:38 AM

LC

“ *Love You All, Mike Carli purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Peter Dominic Rigoni.*



Love You All, Mike Carli - March 02, 2023 at 08:19 AM

DC

“ To Geri, and cousins Maria, Donna, Tricia and your families... Sue and I are very sorry to hear about Peter's passing. Although our lives have been separated, we hold you in our hearts. I'll always remember when we were kids together: the camper mischief, the skiing at the Porkies, the visits in Ironwood, and Pete cheering me on at my first ever track meet in White Pine. I was maybe fourteen. Fond memories of youth always include you guys. Love you all...
David and Sue Carli

David Carli - March 01, 2023 at 11:18 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Peter Dominic Rigoni.



March 01, 2023 at 09:24 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Peter Dominic Rigoni.



February 27, 2023 at 08:53 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Peter Dominic Rigoni.



February 27, 2023 at 08:31 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Peter Dominic Rigoni.*



February 26, 2023 at 02:54 PM



“ *Our prayers are with the family. Pete was a great man who will be missed. God Bless. Jean Marczak Clarence Cook & Chuck Fortin*

Jean Marczak - February 25, 2023 at 07:53 PM



“ *I have many fond memories of Pete from the years that I taught with him in White pine. I feel fortunate to have known him and to have taught with him.*

Bruce Belmas

Bruce Belmas - February 25, 2023 at 02:18 PM



I think of Pete and Geri often, as he was a groomsman at our wedding, and a friend that we enjoyed so much as we had many get togethers in the early days of raising our children. As a fellow teacher we had a lot in common. May your happy memories bring you peace. May the love he had for his wonderful wife Geri, and beautiful and sweet daughters, Maria, Donna, and Tricia be a legacy to a man who loved so deeply and cared a lot about others. God bless all of you! Ann Ramsay

Ann Ramsay - February 27, 2023 at 09:56 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Peter Dominic Rigoni.*



February 24, 2023 at 01:18 PM



“ *Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Peter Dominic Rigoni.*



February 24, 2023 at 10:25 AM



“ *The Ikola Nieces and Nephew purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Peter Dominic Rigoni.*



The Ikola Nieces and Nephew - February 24, 2023 at 09:58 AM



“ *With deepest sympathy from Bonnie and Tony Trolla, Lake Gogebic. May your travels over us take you to the safe presence of heaven with the Lord our savior. Safe travel Pete and get the net, fish on. Geri and family stay strong as you have shown and God bless you All. Thanks for the memories. Definitely going to miss you. God's bless and thank you for your friendship and nice to know you. Definitely going to miss you.*

Tony and Bonnie Trolla - February 24, 2023 at 09:35 AM



“ Prayers, hugs and love being sent to Geri, the girls, family and friends! My sisters Connie, Karen, myself and my brother David did our share of entertaining in Mr Rigoni's classroom! He wanted to make sure he was able to help his students. With his great sense of humor and hard work, we were blessed with a great educator! Much love to you all. :)

Cyndie Wierzbicki - February 24, 2023 at 12:29 AM



“ Joy Carlson lit a candle in memory of Peter Dominic Rigoni



Joy Carlson - February 23, 2023 at 02:41 PM



“ Condolences to the Rigoni family. So sorry for your loss



William Uren - February 23, 2023 at 02:23 PM



“ Mary Hintze lit a candle in memory of Peter Dominic Rigoni



Mary Hintze - February 23, 2023 at 10:43 AM

EF

“ Eugene Fiszer lit a candle in memory of Peter Dominic Rigoni



Eugene Fiszer - February 23, 2023 at 10:36 AM

EF

“ My deepest condolences to the family of Peter Rigoni. I will cherish the good times we had and will miss my friend.

Eugene Fiszer - February 23, 2023 at 10:35 AM



“ Sending prayers for a great man. Pete and I fished together hundreds of days and thousands of hours. He lived and enjoyed life. He loved his family and friends, a good story and being out doors. More than once I netted big, silver lake Superior run Rainbows for him and the smile on his face lit up my heart.

Jim Mildren - February 23, 2023 at 10:35 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Peter Dominic Rigoni.



February 23, 2023 at 10:24 AM

JM

“ *Heaven will be rocking now! I would love to be a fly on the wall to see what antics he and Rudy Perhalla Sr. get into!*

I am so sorry for your loss, he was a great man! RIP Peter.

Jean Minier-Perhalla - February 23, 2023 at 10:21 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Peter Dominic Rigoni.*



February 22, 2023 at 10:47 PM

WB

“ *Bart Starr once said that among the best criteria for assessing one's character was seeing how that person treated someone who could do absolutely nothing for them. My sixth grade teacher - who will forever be "Mr. Rigoni" - seemed the personification of this all too rare quality, treating "prince and pauper" with equal warmth, civility and good humor. On a personal note, he was one of few who in my youth I wanted to impress. I don't know if I did, but that's not the point. My sincere condolences to the entire family.*

William P. Bekkala - February 22, 2023 at 09:31 PM

DO

Some people just put a smile on your face and warmth in your heart. Mr Rigoni did that for me and so many of his students and acquaintances .

He was a man of conviction,determination and did it all with kindness and humor. I had the privilege of babysitting for Mr Rigoni s lovely children.They were a joy to be around and even in times of discipline Mr Rigoni did it with love and a touch of humor. He will be deeply missed in the White Pine Community. Sending my love and condolences.

Debbie

deborah olsrn - February 23, 2023 at 07:26 AM

LP

“ Geri and family, we were so sorry to hear of Peter's passing. He was a fun person to be around. I'll remember our days of carving together. He'll be missed by so many people, he was really up front with his friends. May he rest in peace, and may the good Lord hold you all in his loving arms as he's holding Pete now. Our deepest sympathy, love and prayers.

Frank and Lucia



Lucia Pairolero - February 22, 2023 at 08:47 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Peter Dominic Rigoni.



February 22, 2023 at 08:45 PM

EL

“ *It's been said that the measure of a man is best determined by how many people he positively influenced. If this is the metric, Peter D. Rigoni stands tall and will live in the hearts of many for years to come. Deepest condolences to his wife, daughters and other family, as well as so many friends, colleagues and former students.*

Eric Luttinen - February 22, 2023 at 07:39 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Peter Dominic Rigoni.*



February 22, 2023 at 07:29 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Peter Dominic Rigoni.*



February 22, 2023 at 05:49 PM