



Richard Joseph Bauer

October 16, 1923 - March 18, 2023

Richard Bauer, 99, of Hardwood, passed away March 18, 2023, after a brief illness.

He was born October 16, 1923 in Niagara, WI to Joseph and Hannah (Strauss) Bauer. As a young boy, the family moved to Kingsford where he met Phyllis, who would become the love of his life.

In 1933, during the Great Depression, the family moved to Hardwood, establishing a homestead. Richard graduated from Felch High School in 1941. He served in the US Army during WWII in the Pacific Theatre through the early occupation of Japan. Richard began writing of his military experiences on December 7, 2000; the 59th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. The first of 3 editions of his memoirs was published in 2018 in collaboration with Perry Ball, the son of a friend he met during basic training in 1943. Many of the men he served with stayed in contact throughout their lives.

In 1948, he married Phyllis Christensen, who insisted they farm before accepting his proposal. They purchased the neighboring property to the homestead in Hardwood and gradually expanded their farm working side by side into their nineties. They shared a love of the land, nature, animals and hard work and instilled those values in their family. Their partnership lasted 72 years until Phyllis' passing in 2020.

In addition to his wife, Richard was preceded in death by his parents, siblings, Dorothy and Robert, a niece, nephew and son-in-law Milt.

He is survived by his daughters, Janet (Robert) Green and Gale Brinkman, grandchildren R.J. Bauer-Green, Megan (Sean Kirkpatrick) Brinkman, Mike (Marshonnie) Brinkman and great-grandchildren Crew and Millie Kirkpatrick and several nieces and nephews.

The family would like to express their appreciation to the Doctors, Nurses and staff at Marshfield Dickinson, Oscar G. Johnson VA and especially Optalis (formally Manor Care/Promedica) for the excellent care they provided.

Per his wishes, no services will be held.

Memorials may be directed to Tri Township Preservation Club (Breen, Felch, Westbranch), Almost Home Animal Shelter of Dickenson County, Friends of the Dickinson Co Public Library or Friends of the Escanaba Public Library.

Remembrances may be posted on the Erickson-Rochon and Nash funeral home page, www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

The Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain is assisting the family.

Cemetery Details

Foster City Cemetery

Hwy M69
Foster City, MI 49834