



Robert Anderson, M.D.

October 24, 1932 - October 24, 2010

Robert L. Anderson, M.D., 78, of Iron Mountain, died Sun. October 24, 2010 at Aspirus Hospital in Wausau. He was born on January 31, 1932 in Menominee, MI.

Robert graduated from Menominee High School in 1950 and served in the U.S. Navy, being stationed in both Washington D.C. and Key West. Following his honorable discharge, he attended Northern Michigan University and then graduated from the University of Michigan Medical School. As the top pathology student, he received the Carl Wellar Award.

Robert became the first pathologist on staff at Dickinson County Memorial Hospital. He loved his career and was very dedicated to it. He became a member of the “founding fathers” and helped provide the solid foundation and courageous vision from which the current Dickinson County Healthcare System has grown. He was the county’s first Medical Examiner, a position he held for forty years. He served as the Iron County Medical Examiner and Chief Pathologist for the Iron County Community Hospital for many years. He also served at the VAMC where he was the Chief Pathologist for ten years. He was affectionately called “Dr. Bob” by his colleagues and on Dec. 11, 2008 the hospital dedicated the “Robert L. Anderson MD Laboratory”. He served in many leadership roles within the medical staff. He completed a term as Chief of Staff and Vice Chief of Staff, was the Chairman of the Physician recruitment

Committee, and was the Blood Bank Committee. He originated the Tumor Board and served as a member of the Infectious Disease Committee and the Credentials Committee. In 1999 he was awarded the Excellence in Service Award.

Bob was a life member of the Kiwanis Club and had served on the Advisory Board for the Salvation Army. He was involved with the International Child Care-Grace Children's Hospital in Haiti. He had a strong faith and was an active member of the First Covenant Church in Iron Mountain. Bob held many offices within the church, sang in the choir, and was also involved in Bible study and Sunday School.

Bob enjoyed fishing, woodworking, painting, reading, and music.

Robert married Verna Peterson in Iron Mountain in 1957 and she preceded him in death in 1996.

He married Yvonne "Bonnie" DeBoer on July 27, 1997 in Kingsford.

Robert is survived by his wife Bonnie, eight children Heidi (Jeff) Gustafson of Green Bay, Kirsten Anderson, M.D. (Michael Bennett, M.D.) of Ada, MI, Erik (Margaret M.D.) Anderson, M.D. of Wausau, WI, Kirk (Debra) Townander of Libertyville, IL, Mark (Katherine) DeBoer of Killarney, Ireland, Linda (Robert) Plumley of Iron Mountain, Judy DeBoer of Marquette, MI, and Deborah (Robert) Stapleton of Savage, MN, fifteen grandchildren Erik, Brent and Kathryn Gustafson, Kelsi and Gustaf Anderson, Soren, Kirsten, and Arwen Townander, Jason (Sejal, M.D.) Bennett, M.D., Aaron Bennett, Amy (Ryan) Emmrich, Edward Plumley, Jr., Tressa, Tony, and David Mattioli, and Elise and Maxwell Stapleton, and four great grandchildren Alaina and Rohan Bennett, and Sophia and Sasha Emmrich.

He was preceded in death by his mother Katherine Wickman Anderson.

Visitation will be Thurs. from 4-7pm at Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home and Fri. from 10-11am at First Covenant Church. Funeral services will be Fri. at 11am at the church. Rev. Peter Erickson will officiate. Burial will be in Cemetery Park.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to International Childcare-Grace Children's Hospital in Haiti, The Salvation Army in Iron Mountain, or Covenant Point Bible Camp in Iron River.

Condolences to the family of Dr. Robert L. Anderson can be expressed online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

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

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **28.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

Visitation

OCT **29.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Covenant Church
125 East H Street
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Funeral Service

OCT **29.** 11:00 AM (CT)

First Covenant Church
125 East H Street
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Tribute Wall

JF

“ Bonnie and family, so sorry to hear of your great loss. I was so privileged to be there at your home when you were married, remember our good times in the choir, God is great, he will take care of you. In God's love, Joyce Akkanen

Joyce Akkanen - Iron Mountain, MI - church family - November 06, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TI

“ Linda, We are sorry to hear of the loss of your father. I certainly remember hearing your dad's name as I grew up in Iron Mountain. Please accept our sympathy in these difficult times. We will keep you and your family in our prayers.

Tom Scott and family - Glencoe, IL - November 02, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ We send our thoughts and prayers. Wishing we could be there to celebrate the life of your husband, father and grandfather. May the peace of Christ be with you today and in the coming weeks.

Mat and Kate Klemp - Grand Rapids, MI - Friends of the Family - October 29, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Dear Bonnie & Family:
What a shock to hear about Dr. Bob. My mom and dad (Palmer & Gladys Spalding) who have now passed used to tell me of all the good times they had with Bob & Verna. I had also given Dr. Bob my Brittany Spaniel (Freckles) quite a few years ago, which they loved like their own child. My prayers are with you as we will surely miss Dr. Bob.

Margie Spalding Pratl - Iron Mountain, MI - Friend - October 28, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ I only met Bob and Bonnie a couple of times but I still have many fond memories of the tales they would both tell about their trip to England to see Mark DeBoer, a best friend and husband to my sister Kate DeBoer.

Bob had a great sense of humour and I will never forget the tales of fire and smoke coming out the back of the hire car in England as Bob left the handbrake on after leaving Heathrow airport, London!!

I wish all Bob's family and friends all the very best and they are in my thoughts and prayers at this time.

James, Joy, Maria & Sienna

James Pilsworth - Shrewsbury - Brother-in-law to Mark DeBoer - October 28, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Dear Bonnie and family,
I am so sorry to hear of your loss! I remember when Dr. Bob gave me a tour of his laboratory while I was in college, and deciding whether to go into the medical field. Little did I know at that time I would end up with a career in pathology! My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Sue (Mannigel) Brown and family - San Diego, CA - friend - October 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ *Bonnie, this is so hard to believe!! Very recently, I saw Dr. Anderson at the hospital and he greeted me with his warm smile. I am so sorry for this deep loss. My prayers and thoughts are with you and with all who knew and loved him. God's blessings to you, Christine Burns*

Christine Burns - Channing, MI - DCHS Family - October 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ Dear Bonnie and family,

I'm so very sorry to hear about Dr. Bob's passing. He was a true gentleman who will be missed by many. May you feel the comfort of God's comforting arms holding you close. You are in my prayers.

Barbara Carlson - Plover, WI - friend - October 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ To the family of Dr. Bob. Kirsten. Heidi, Erik, Kirk... My heart goes out to you, I am so sorry about your father! He will surely be missed by so many. His wonderful grandchildren, you, your spouses, friends... I have so many memories of your dad, and I was so lucky that He was a friend of mine for so many years. Your mom Verna will be so glad to see him! Praise God in heaven that we have this to look forward to! Your dad and mom helped me so much during my time of loss of my mother, There comfort was a blessing to me! You had the best father ever! I can't even put it in words what a wonderful man he was. You are so blessed! Please take comfort in knowing that so many prayers are with you at this time > Love all of you so much. God bless you ...maureen julian pasten AND family

maureen julian pasten - woodbury , MN - friend - October 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Dear Bonnie and Family,

My deepest sympathies to you and the family on the passing of Bob.

During my visits to your home over the past 15 years, I will always remember Bob's wit, humor and organization.

Bob always made sure that we had our same seat assignments for each meeting that we had at the home.

We all will miss Bob and I will miss his friendship, professionalism and dedication as a physician.

My prayers are with all of you.

Dave Wagner

Dave Wagner - Appleton, WI - Friend - October 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ *"Grandpa Bob" brought so many wonderful memories into our lives. We will never forget his love and playfulness. Grandpa Bob will remain in our hearts forever.*

With deepest sympathy, Tom, Tressa, Tony, David

Tom Mattioli - Madison, WI - son-in-law - October 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RN

“ I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. Dr. Bob and his mother lived across the street from me and my family, so I've known Bob (Bobby) for as long as I can remember. Bob told my father, a couple years ago, that he was his Spiritual father when he was saved at the Salvation Army in Marinette, WI. May God give you his Peace and Love.

Ruth A. Becker - Menominee, MI

Ruth A. Becker - Menominee, MI - Childhood neighbor - October 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ A very special man that I will share the loss with his family, patients, and friends

Bernice Bennett - Grand Rapids,, MI - Kirstens Mother in Law - October 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Dear family of Dr. Bob:
Our sincere sympathy to you in the loss of Dr. Bob. He was a true Christian leader in our community. We appreciate all his wisdom and leadership in the Evangelical Covenant church, when we lived there. May your many good memories comfort you in your loss.
Jim and Ruth Brandt

Jim and Ruth Brandt - Sun City Center, FL - friend - October 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DN

“ Dear Heidi & family,
Thinking of you & praying for God's comfort during this difficult time.
May you find peace in knowing someday you'll be together again in
a perfect setting. Your sister in Christ from Covenant Point

Denise Nault - Norway - October 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ To the Family of Dr. Bob,

Our most sincere condolences.

Donna's Mother, Flo Larson, and Dr. Bob's Mother were very good friends in Menominee -- both through the Baptist church and the neighborhood. Donna remembers some wonderful visits to Iron Mountain -- especially the skiing together. Also, Donna remembers her three-year-old son, Jathniel, making great friends with a HUGE Irish setter? -- so much so that they slept together on the floor overnight.

During that same visit her five-year-old son, Jehoash, became fascinated with a Lego motor Erik had.

We also had a mutual friend, Debbie Olsen, of Kingsford, MI, and Green Bay. It was from Debbie we learned of Dr. Bob's homegoing.

Revelation 14:13 is most appropriate at this time.

*Love & blessings,
Ted & Donna Loy*

Ted & Donna (Larson) Loy - Normal, IL - Menominee friends - October 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ *What a wonderful man, and amazing legacy. My heart goes out to the family. He will be missed by many.*

Michelle Sparks - Santa Rosa, CA - friend - October 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ *Truly a great loss.
We had the privilege of working for many years with Dr. Bob in Community Concerts. Always a very giving man and a rare gentleman,
It was a blessing for us to have been able to work with him.
It was obvious he also had the total respect of the medical community.
Our blessings and prayers to the family.*

Mick & Donna O'Brien - Williston, ND - friend - October 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM