



Robert R. Helgren

August 29, 1933 - November 1, 2013

Robert R. Helgren,

80, of Kingsford, passed away peacefully on Friday, November 1, 2013 at his home surrounded by his loving family.

He was born August 29, 1933 in Negaunee, son of the late Reuben and Ellen (Sivula) Helgren. Bob was raised in Negaunee and was a 1951 graduate of Negaunee High School. He continued his education at Northern Michigan University and earned his Bachelor Degree in business in 1955. Bob married Mary Johnson on April 16, 1955. He worked in Negaunee for Jones and Laughlin Steel as Assistant Division Controller. In 1971 Bob, Mary and family moved to Iron Mountain, where Bob began his career as Business Manager for the Iron Mountain School System. He served as the Business Manager for 23 years, retiring in 1993. Over the years, Bob also ran a successful income tax business. He enjoyed traveling, camping, trout fishing, visiting the casino, camping at Rivers Bend and spending time with his family. He was a member of First Covenant Church.

Together, Bob and Mary raised six children. Mary preceded him in death on March 6, 2004. He was also preceded in death by his sister, Marge Tatrow. Bob married JoAnne Hosking Pugh on November 24, 2006.

He is survived by his wife, JoAnne; children, Kathy (Jim) Fleury of Iron Mountain, Kandy (Phil) Blom of Iron Mountain, Kristen Axberg of Kingsford, John (Valeria) Helgren of Jacksonville, Florida, James Helgren of Iron Mountain and Jeff Helgren of Kingsford; Step Children, Kenneth Pugh of Iron

Mountain, Robert (Sonya) Pugh of Iron Mountain, Patricia (Robert) Gedvick of Vulcan, Pam Pugh of Iron Mountain, Jerald (Becky) Pugh of Quinnesec and William (Dan Wheeler) Pugh of Canton, MI; Grandchildren, Brad (Karen) Ellis, Jana LaPoint, Jodi Ellis, Dean (Corrie) Ellis, Katie (Andy Gibbons) Ellis, Kevin (Heather Pfeiffer) Ellis, Jamie Pietrantonio, Nick Pietrantonio, Michael Tramontin, Ron Paul Axberg, Joseph Axberg and Cameron Allman; great grandchildren, Cody, Andie, Emma and Aiden Ellis, Paige, Brenden and Ryan LaPoint, Malakai Broesma, Brayden Pietrantonio; fifteen step grandchildren and two step great grandchildren.

Visitation will be on Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2013 from 10:00am-1:00pm at First Covenant Church, 125 East "H" St, Iron Mountain. Funeral services will follow at 1:00pm at the church. Rev. Peter Erickson will officiate. Burial will be in Iron Mountain Cemetery Park. Bob's grandsons will serve as pallbearers.

Condolences to the family of Robert Helgren may be expressed online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

Donations may be made to the Dickinson County Cancer Unit Loan Closet, OSF Hospice, or Cancer Research, in his name.

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

Cemetery Details

Cemetery Park

101 Cedar Ave.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 5. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

NOV 5. 1:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

SP

“ *When you first moved in and built a home on our baseball field and ice rink we were not happy (as we were little kids!). But you were a great neighbor and a great guy. My thoughts and prayers go out to Bob and his family.*

Steve Pozza - November 11, 2013 at 03:17 PM

SG

“ *To the Helgren Family: My condolences on the lost of your father. Bob was a kind man and I am grateful for all the rides to school on those stormy or below -0 days.*

With sympathy,

Steve Gendron

Steve Gendron - November 11, 2013 at 06:08 AM

WE

“ *To JoAnne and the entire Helgren Family..... My thoughts, prayers and condolences to you all. Bob and family have certainly been a fixture of Rivers Bend for which we are greatly appreciative of. Bob handled his adversity with a positive sense and class. He will be greatly missed by all. Will Erickson*

Will Erickson - November 05, 2013 at 11:40 AM

MS

“ *Dear Kandy and family, Many fond memories of all of you and your parents in my younger years at your house in Negaunee. My deepest sympathy to all of you. Mari (Lehto) Stanaway*

Mari Stanaway - November 05, 2013 at 11:24 AM

SC

“ To the family of Bob, I just want to say as neighbors, family friends, and business acquaintances, your father, husband, grandfather was truly a great man. He always had a smile and always had a story to share. I will always remember him building a home for his family on our neighborhood Ice Rink. But we welcomed the addition to the neighborhood. I am sure he is leaving soo many great memories to be shared.

Our condolences to the family.

Your family is in our prayers.

Scott & Brenda Pancheri

Scott - November 05, 2013 at 06:04 AM

SP

“ Scott & Brenda Pancheri lit a candle in memory of Robert R. Helgren



Scott & Brenda Pancheri - November 05, 2013 at 05:55 AM

SP

“ Thinking of the entire Helgren Family at this time of sorrow
~Steve Paulson~

steve paulson - November 04, 2013 at 11:13 AM

DL

*Kathy and Family,
So sorry to learn of your Fathers passing. I will keep you in my prayers.
With Sympathy,
Debbie (Argall) Luplow*

Debbie (Argall) Luplow - November 04, 2013 at 11:53 AM