



Rodney Massa

April 22, 2009

SAGOLA - Rodney J. "Rat" Massa, 51, of Hwy M-95 Sagola, died April 22, 2009, at his home.

He was born on Jan. 31, 1958, in Iron Mountain. Rod grew up in Kingsford and was a 1976 graduate of Kingsford High School.

After graduating, he went to work at Wallys Auto Salvage. Rod was significant figure at Wally's where he worked as sales supervisor for the past 33 years.

Rod was a longtime member of U.P. Bearhoundsmen, U.P. Whitetails and Ducks Unlimited. He loved to ride his Harley and was active with the Riders for Veterans Group which took part in many of the motorcycle processions for returning veterans.

Rod was an avid hunter and fisherman his entire life. He enjoyed his time at camp where he shared his love of the outdoors with his many camp friends. Those who knew him respected his passion for the outdoors.

Rod was an avid race fan. For the past few years he traveled to Texas motor speedway to watch Nascar. In his early years Rod raced three-wheelers, snowmobiles and motocross. He was a frequent figure at area motocross tracks where he photographed and supported many young riders.

Rod is survived by his mother, Betty Massa of Kingsford; his sister, Melanie (Jan) Groeneveld of Kingsford; two nephews, Justin and Jacob Groeneveld of Kingsford; many aunts, uncles and special cousins including, Dawn, Cindy and Debbie and a very special friend, Tami Okler-Goyen of Iron Mountain.

He was preceded in death by his father, George, an infant sister, Carol Ann and his nephew, Jordan Groeneveld.

Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday at the Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home.

Funeral services will follow at 2 p.m. at the funeral home. Rev. David Anderson will officiate.

Burial will be in Iron Mountain Cemetery Park.

Pallbearers will be Mike Mainville, Tom Inglese, Dave LaVarnway, Jay Hoffman, Matt Hoffman and Mike Hoffman.

Condolences to the family of Rodney Massa can be expressed online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

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

Tribute Wall

TM

“ *We miss you buddy!*

The Crew - Iron Mountain, MI - May 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *I remember how Rodney picked on kids in elementary school. He got after one girl so much about her acne that she had to switch to another school. His taunting stayed in her mind for years. I hope that he was able to abend that situation before he died.*

Julie Smith - August 17, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GA

“ *Melanie and Family We are so sorry for your sudden loss of Rodney. Rat was one of kind, one of the true good guys, couldn't help but smile and be happy when you ran into him somewhere. He really had a way with the kids too, my boys loved him. Rat truly will be missed and we pray you will find some comfort in all the wonderful memories you have of him.*

Geno, Paula, Geno Jr, & Tony Alessandrini

Geno, Paula, Geno Jr. & Tony Alessandrini - April 25, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DA

“ *We are so sorry to here of about his passing. He was a good person who loved the outdoors. Our prayers go out to the family.*

Daniel and Cynthia Absolon - April 25, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BT

“ I would just like to extend my deepest sympathy to Rodney's family. I last seen Rod at our 30th class reunion, great to see and talk to him and classmates. I have some photos frm the event, and would be more thn happy to make some copies for friends and family at your request. Take care and may the lord help you get through this time of sadness. Sincerely Bruce Tippett!

Bruce Tippett - April 25, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Our Thoughts and Prayers go out to Rodney's Family. He will truly be missed. May He Rest In Peace. He was a good friend and he will be truly missed.

Donald and Tina Struebing - April 25, 2009 at 12:00 AM