



## Theodore Fornetti

February 25, 1922 - February 25, 2013

Dr. Theodore B. Fornetti, 91, of Iron Mountain, passed away on Monday, February 25, 2013 at his home.

He was born April 19, 1921 in Iron Mountain, son of the late Anton and Angeline (Carollo) Fornetti. Ted graduated from Kingsford High School in 1939 and was a lifelong resident of the area. Following graduation, he attended Marquette University School of Dentistry in Milwaukee, WI and obtained his Doctorate Degree in 1944. Ted was a U.S. Navy veteran and was stationed at various bases in the states during WWII. He re-enlisted during the Korean Conflict and eventually was honorably discharged with the rank of Lieutenant. Ted married Eleanor Campagnola on July 3, 1944 at St. Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Kingsford. He started his career in dentistry traveling to schools throughout northern Dickinson County to provide students with dental care. Ted went into private practice in 1948 which he continued until his retirement in 1980. For a few years following his retirement, Ted and his wife Eleanor volunteered their time to perform dental procedures on patients at St. Jude's hospital on the Island of St. Lucia. Ted and Eleanor were generous, community minded individuals, instrumental in the formation of Bay West College. They were also an integral part of helping to secure the land to build the current Carmelite Monastery. Ted was a faithful member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church and the Holy Name Society. He served as past president of both the Cloverland Dental Assoc. and the Rotary Club. Ted was

an avid outdoorsman and enjoyed hunting, fishing and spending time at camp. Over the years, he and his family planted thousands of trees at their camp and other properties in Dickinson County. Ted also enjoyed tinkering in his garage and most of all, spending time with family and friends.

Ted is survived by his wife of 68 years, Eleanor; five children, Judy (Don) Angera, Ted J. (Mary) Fornetti and Tony (Darlene) Fornetti, all of Iron Mountain, Tish (Don) Guintier of Lake Zurich, IL and John (Terese) Fornetti of Iron Mountain; 13 grandchildren, Jeff (Laura) Angera of Mt. Pleasant, Carissa (Don) Mahoney of Cincinnati, OH, Ted A. (Kristy) Fornetti, Paul (Angela) Fornetti and Kathryn (Adam) Husing, all of Iron Mountain, Nick (Kortnee) Fornetti of Kingsford, Andrea (Benjamin) Fornetti-Wilson of Paris, IL, Greg Guintier of Chicago, Mark Guintier of Lake Zurich, Daniel (Mary) Fornetti of St. Louis, MO, David Fornetti of Milwaukee and Julia and Peter Fornetti, both of Iron Mountain; 19 great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, David and Michael Fornetti.

The funeral liturgy will be on Thursday at 11:00am at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Iron Mountain. Msgr. James Kaczmarek will offer the Mass of Christian Burial.

Burial will be in the Iron Mountain Cemetery Park.

Ted's grandsons will serve as pallbearers.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Carmelite Monastery or Bay West College.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Theodore Fornetti online at [www.ernashfuneralhomes.com](http://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com).

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

# Previous Events

## Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 28. 11:00 AM (CT)

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church  
500 Blaine St.  
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

# Tribute Wall

SF

“ We will always have fond memories of Ted. He was a devoted father, husband and community member. We will always remember his 90th Birthday Party at the El Capitan and his large mounted buck that year. He will be missed by everyone.  
Steve Cory and Family

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**Steve Cory - Iron Mountain, MI - fiend** - March 06, 2013 at 12:00 AM

NF

“ So sorry to hear of "Doc's" death. I was so fortunate to have worked with him in my early years. He was a real inspiration to me. I will keep your whole family in prayers and I will always remember his wonderful smile and gentle nature.

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**Nancy McCarthy - Whitehall, MI - Family friend** - March 05, 2013 at 12:00 AM

ME

“ Dear Elenor and family,  
On behalf of the Parent Family you have our deepest sympathy. What a wonderful man and dentist. I will always be grateful for the opportunity he gave me when i was a sophomore working in his office. Gods blessing.  
Mary Ellen Parent Allen

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**MaryEllen Allen - Manitowoc, WI - Past employee** - March 03, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ *Eleanor and Fornetti family*

*We were sad to hear about Ted's passing. I have great memories of Ted first having my teeth fixed by the gentle man with a great smile. I remember living next door and babysitting for Judy and Ted. Ted always made sure that I got home safe. I remember him coming over to my dad's house to plow the driveway of snow when it was hard for my dad to do it. Mike got to know Ted after we were married. Every Sunday at church we would see the both of you and get a happy smile. What a loss he will be to many. He was a remarkable man and I'm sure he is in heaven smiling on us.*

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**Judy and Mike Roach - Green Bay, WI - previous neighbor and friend - March 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM**

PJ

“ *I am so sorry to here about your father, he was a very kind man and I had him for a dentist for all of my years growing up in Kingsford. I knew he was a great man of compassion, especially when you see all he did for the under privledged people. I know GOD blessed Dr. Fornetti with a long and fruitful life because of the blessings he provided for others. And now he is walking the streets of gold. RIP Dr. Fornetti.*

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**Paul Menghini - Roscommon, MI - Friend Of John - March 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM**

KW

“ Eleanor, Judy, Teddy, Tony, Tish, and Johnny.....my sincere condolences and prayers out to you. My memories of growing up next door to you will never be forgotten nor go unappreciated. Doc and Eleanor were so ever gracious to me throughout my young life.....putting up with me showing up (regularly) unannounced to swim in the pool, terrorizing your lawn with my minibike and snowmobile, and nearly killing ourselves over the lawn sprinklers in our football games! Such terrific memories. And Doc was always a gentle giant to me, probably too nice for what I often deserved. I write this with a heavy heart, for losing such a dynamic, loving, giving person is truly a loss to us all. Our faith insures us he is in a better place. Please celebrate his life, and know that I wish I could be there to reconnect with all of you. May God bless all of you.

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**Kim Novara - Palmyra, WI** - March 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Dear Eleanor and Family:  
We first met when we moved to Kingsford and Ted became our Dentist. Over the years we enjoyed your friendship. We will miss Ted's great smile and sense of humor. We extend our Sympathy, Love, and Prayers to everyone in the Family.  
Dave & Bonnie Arndt

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**Dave & Bonnie Arndt - St George, UT - Friends** - February 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Your light shines in the family you have raised.....simply a remarkable family filled with so much of Gods love and joy and generosity!!!! You will live on in the hearts of those who knew you,with such wonderful memories. Rest in Peace, Dr. Ted. Our sincerest and deepest sympathy to the Fornetti Family.  
Gods Peace,  
Mike and Debbie

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**Mike and Debbie Oberdorfer - Kingsford, MI** - February 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ To all of the Fornetti family, we are so sad to hear of Teds passing. He was such a wonderful person, who will be sadly missed by many. He was my dentist,froml when I was a child, until his retirement and then went on to Tony as my dentist for many yrs. I'm sure he was so proud of his sons and grandsons following in his footsteps to practice dentistry in his home town!! We are unable to be at his memorial service,but we send our deepest sympathy to all of you. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.  
Gods Peace,  
Mike and Debbie

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**Mike and Debbie Oberdorfer - Kingsford, MI** - February 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Dear Eleanor and family,  
I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Dr. Fornetti. I learned of his, and your generosity and met you when helping on the Bay West Yes committee, and it touched me deeply what he and your family do for this community. I am now a returning student at that beautiful campus, and will send up a prayer when I enter. I appreciate your kindness and friendship at church, I will miss his friendly face and smile. God bless~!

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**Mary Schultz - Iron Mountain, MI - friend** - February 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Dear Fornetti Family,

*We were saddened to hear about Dr. Fornetti's passing. He was a remarkable man and a true professional. He was our entire family's dentist as we were growing up. His contributions to the community are too numerous to even try to remember. Rest in peace, Doc. You're now with the angels.*

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**Rod and Cynthia (Corsi) Gordon - San Tan Valley, AZ - Friend** - February 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Our deepest sympathies for your loss

*-Timm, Mary, and Brooke*

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**Timm, Mary, and Brooke Fornetti - Iron Mountain, MI** - February 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Our deepest sympathies go out to all of you during this time.

*-Timm, Mary, and Brooke*

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**Timm, Mary, and Brooke Fornetti - Iron Mountain, MI** - February 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ They didn't have a picture of a tasty freeze cone so i lite a candle,tasty freeze is how i fondly remember Dr ted my first dentist 50 years ago,He was probably the gentlest men i ever met and i never feared going to him for dental work as he always gave me a little card to go across the street and get a tasty freeze cone when he was done, Rest in peace my friend you will be sadly missed by us here on earth and heaven is going to be a better place now that they have a good dentist.

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**Robert Plunger - sagola, MI - former patient** - February 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Dear Fornetti Family, my sympathies on the passing of Dr. Ted. I first met him while working on the Bay College project and was immediately taken by his generosity, his pleasant personality and smile. I consider him a good friend and I'm proud to have known him.

*John Marquart*

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**John Marquart - Shiloh, IL - Friend** - February 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MN

“ My dear Uncle Ted,

*It breaks my heart to hear that you are no longer here to give me bear hugs, and to say "O jees, you got so big!" I have loved you so much- you were ALWAYS so good to me and my siblings. I will miss your great smile, your voice, your hug. I have so many wonderful memories of spending time with you.*

*Auntie, Ted, Judy, Tony, John, Tish, you are in my thoughts. Mary O'Gara*

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**Mary O'Gara - Chicago, IL - niece** - February 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ *Dr Fornetti gave me my first job when I was only 14. He was such a wonderful man. I am so sorry for your loss. May the many wonderful memories sustain you in the days and years to come*

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**Janice Colantonio Pilon - Orlando, FL** - February 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ *Dear Fornetti family; The world is a better place because Doc was here. Please accept Pat and my condolences.*

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**Jack and Pat Richtig - Norway, MI - friend** - February 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TN

“ *Uncle Ted, I have so many great memories. You left a big footprint in life. You will be sorely missed.*

*Your nephew, Tim O'Gara*

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**Tim O'Gara - Arlington Heights, IL - Nephew** - February 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GW

“ *May the special memories of Ted be a source of comfort to you and your family now and always.*

*God Bless,  
Gina, Dean and Bryce Larson*

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**Gina Larson - Spread Eagle , WI** - February 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ *Our hearts are heavy, knowing how you feel. We will miss his smile. WE pray you find comfort, at this time of grief.  
gene & Gang*

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**Gene Levenburg - Iron Mountain, MI - Friend** - February 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ It was always a joy to run into Mr. Fornetti at some function around town. Always a smile and good conversation. He lightened the whole room. His legacy is that he left (taught by example) these same traits to his children. What a great family.

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**Steve Marek - Kingsford, MI** - February 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Dear Eleanor and Family,  
You have our sincere condolences on the passing of a Fine Gentleman. His legacy lives on in his family, a credit to both you and Ted! All of you will be in our prayers!!  
John & Cheryl Fuse

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**John & Cheryl Fuse** - February 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ What a wonderful man, with a smile that warmed everyone's heart that had the privilege to know him. He will be missed dearly by many. We will keep you in our thoughts & prayers.

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**David & Gail Machus - Iron Mountain, MI** - February 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

EF

“ IT HAS BEEN VERY SAD SINCE I HEARD ABOUT YOUR PASSING .  
MAY YOUR SOUL REST IN PERFECT PEACE

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**EDEN LEGRAND - ST.LUCIA WEST INDIES - FAMILY FREIND** - February 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

S(

“ Uncle Ted,

*I wanted to let you know that you will be greatly missed! I loved seeing both you and Auntie whenever we could get together. You had a great hand shake everytime and a smile on your face. I am going to miss you! My prayers are with Auntie El and the rest of the family.---Stephanie*

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**Stephanie Dennis (O’Gara)** - February 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ I have many fond memories of my friend and first dentist. He has shared so much of himself with others and will be missed by so many. He was a celebration of life and what it should be. My wishes to his family.

*Terry Strutz*

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**Terry Strutz - Green Bay, WI - friend** - February 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SI

“ Uncle Ted,

*You will be sadly missed, I will always remember your crushing hand shakes and your uplifting personality. Dad is always telling stories about his childhood in Iron Mountain with you and Eleanor. God bless.*

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**Seann O’Gara - Grayslake, IL** - February 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ *My condolences to the Fornetti Family. When I was 12 years old I developed my 1st cavity which was quickly repaired by Dr. Ted. My Mother used to do the laundry for him and I picked it up and delivered it on my bike. Dr. Ted was always smiling and treated everyone nicely.*

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**Ray Famiani - Kingsford, MI** - February 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ *Dear Eleanor and Family. Ted was an awesome man that we at Bay College will always remember. His compassion for education and the generosity you, Ted, and your entire Fornette family share radiates in the hearts of many, and will live on in future generations. My thoughts, prayers and deepest sympathy are with you all. Kim Carne, Bay College Foundation*

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**Kim Carne - Escanaba, MI - Friend** - February 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM