



Warren Joseph Pollard

March 29, 1935 - April 23, 2020

Warren Joseph (Joe) Pollard, 85, of Iron Mountain, passed away on April 23rd in Florida where he had a winter home. He was born and raised in Iron Mountain to Wilmer Joseph and Margaret Pollard.

Joe began working for the Wisconsin Michigan Power company at age 16 and was a loyal company man until he retired after 46 years. A hard worker, he proudly shared his stories of restoring people's lights despite horrible weather conditions. At his retirement party, he treated all in attendance by singing the Reddy Kilowatt jingle.

Joe married his high school sweetheart, Sharon R Wills, in 1952, and they were married for 66 years before she passed away in 2018. After raising 5 children and becoming empty nesters, they wintered in Florida, traveled, and enjoyed countless visits with their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. They especially enjoyed their time at camp. Joe took great pride in grooming his lawn to a park-like appearance and mowing a wonderful wide path for the family to enjoy walks. Joe and Sharon meticulously made ongoing improvements that would ensure the camp's lasting strength for years to come for their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, all of whom cherish this peaceful, beautiful escape to nature. Together, they enjoyed hours and hours of fishing from their boat on the beautiful rivers and lakes in the area. Joe was a great golfer and enjoyed golfing in both Michigan and Florida.

Joe proudly proclaimed that he was “loquacious,” always crediting Sharon for knowing big words. He was also very proud of his grandchildren’s efforts to show him how much they loved him, including making special visits (often with great-grandchildren in tow), taking rides on his tractor and performing other chores at camp, and even hand-writing out the words to one of his favorite songs, What a Wonderful World by Louis Armstrong. He loved to share his rendition by often singing it anywhere for friends, as well as for his family around their campfire.

Joe often said that he “never met a stranger.” This statement was never more evident than by the lasting friendship that was formed over a gas pump. During a drive to Montana with Sharon, he stopped to pump gas and in chatting with the man on the other side of the pump, discovered that they too were heading to Montana. Bidding each other safe travels, they continued on their way. When they stopped for dinner, who should they happen upon but the gas pump guy and his wife! They joined each other for dinner, found out that they had both been linemen, and were great friends for many years.

Joe recently told a dear friend that when his time came, he would be able to say that he had had a good life. And he did.

He is survived and loved by his sister Anne (Robert) Knox and brother Frank (Diane) Pollard; his children Lynda (Deb) Pollard-Baker of Hersey MI, Peggy (Steve) Miller of Oswego IL, Sharyl Pollard of Lakeland FL, and Todd (Marilyn) Pollard of O’Fallon IL; 8 grandchildren; and 7 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, grandson Justin Miller, daughter Mary Ellen Waligora, and his best friend and wife, Sharon.

Family graveside services will be held at a late date. Memorials may be made

to the American Heart Association.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Joe Pollard online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

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

Tribute Wall

JC

“ I new Joe from a young age as my father and Joe new each other. Joe helped him with power company issues on different projects my dad did. My favorite memory was when I was living in Montana while attending the University of Montana. One hunting season I was with a relative of mine by Helena. We went to a bar out in the middle of nowhere. I after being there a while had to use the men’s room. I used a urinal in the middle of to others occupied by a couple of older hunters. The guy to my left looks at the guy to my right and says
” Hey — I want you to meet a friend of my son Todd, Jim Carollo.” It was quite a surprise that I never forgot. We talked for quite a while by the bar later. Joe was on a hunting trip in the middle of nowhere and he made my day. I saw him occasionally over the years and Montana was talked about. Rest well my friend you are missed.

James Carollo - June 02, 2020 at 11:22 PM

IP

“ Joe & Sharon Pollard were our Florida next door neighbors since 2015. They were such good & wonderful friends and we enjoyed doing many activities together. They both are & will be missed! Rest in peace Joe & Sharon. 🙏❤️😭

Itene & Bruce Pomella - June 01, 2020 at 02:29 PM

RG

I lived next door to Joe and Sharon, the other side from Irene and Bruce Pomella!, since 2004. They were great neighbors and will really be missed very much. They were good friends with my husband and I. When I was taking care of my husband who had Alzheimers Joe tried to help as much as he could which was very much appreciated. He was always there if I needed him. RIP Joe and you're finally with the love of your life, Sharon. Many times you mentioned how hard it was without her and how much you missed her. Well now you two are together again. Loved you both very much. Rest in peace.....Roe Giles

Rosemarie Giles - July 14, 2020 at 08:35 PM

TP

“ *I remember Dad reading St Luke's nativity account to us one Christmas. It's one of my fondest memories. RIP Dad*

Todd Pollard - May 12, 2020 at 02:37 PM

DC

“ *Sorry to hear that Joe passed away. Talked to him many times at the golf course and i fixed his fishing reels when they needed repair. My prayers go out to all the family and i'm sure in heaven he has already caught the biggest fish and has a few hole-in- ones. god bless.*

Donnie Curran - May 04, 2020 at 03:29 PM

JR

“ John and I enjoyed Joe and Sharon whenever we ran into them. Such an outgoing, welcoming couple. John worked at WE with Joe. I knew them most of life as they lived across the street from my grandmother Olson and Aunt and Uncle Inez and Helmer Freeman. My dad, Charles Cesario also worked at WE a couple change in ownerships ago. My dad played Santa for my cousins one year and, when he left, we were waiting for him and waiting for him. Only to learn later he'd gone across the street for a drink with Joe. Good memories of good people.

John Raffin - April 29, 2020 at 08:17 PM

CS

“ I have known Joey(Sharon) and his family for many years. There was never a time when he would run into you that he didn't give you a hug. He was a very special human being. He always had smile on his face. After he lost Sharon I saw Joey and he said to me “I miss my best friend!” Now you're together again Joey, walk hand in hand into the sunset!
My deepest condolences to the family.
Cheryl Schorman

cheryl schorman - April 29, 2020 at 03:03 PM

TL

“ To the Pollard Family,

I am so sorry for your loss! I will miss Joe at our morning coffee times at McDonald's and Hardee's. He was a joy to be around and always had a story or two. On several occasions, our coffee group went to his camp and thoroughly enjoyed our visits there along with Joe's venison sausage and Italian sausage. He will definitely be missed by me and the others in our group!

Terry Lidbeck

Terry Lidbeck - April 29, 2020 at 12:17 PM

BO

“ Janet and I would like to extend our heartfelt condolences to Joe's family and loved ones and also to all of his friends and admirers and I know that he had a train load of them. It's true that Joe never met a stranger. I'm proof of that. I'm the guy that Joe met at a gas station in Glendive, Montana. He engaged me in a friendly conversation and the rest is history. God works in unconventional ways and we met up again and a bond was formed. It was probably the commonality of our profession as power line workers that caused us to click. We shared many hours of stories about our adventures on the job. We also shared the love of the outdoors and being in the woods and playing golf (or as I do, play golf in the woods) Janet and I looked forward to visiting Joe and Sharon each winter in Florida. The last two years we really missed Sharon. Joe and Sharon were the type of people that you would like to live near to, so you could engage them on a regular basis. They will forever occupy a special place in our memory box. One of my regrets is that we never got over to Iron Mountain to visit them and visit the cabin. Joe proudly shared photos of that beautiful abode. Also I regret never being able to schedule a round of golf with Joe. I miss you Pal, hittem straight, what ever golf course that you're playing.

Buck O'Quinn - April 28, 2020 at 10:26 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Warren Joseph Pollard.



April 28, 2020 at 07:07 PM

OW

“ To all of Joe and Sharon's children and siblings my deep and sincere sympathy. Another west sider has entered his heavenly home along with so many that lived within a few blocks of one another. I remember the day Joe came to visit Harlan and I; Yes it was in a duplex at 515 East B St. that was our first home. He told us then that he and Sharon wanted to get married; and they soon did. Then later they ended up buying that home on B St. :)



The Pollard family and the Walters families were friendly neighbors through the 40's and early 50's when life was simpler; but caddying and golfing at Pine Grove, just 3 blocks away, was so much a part of life. Joe was always a likable guy by all who were privileged to know him. It was good to see him whenever through the years. I am saddened to learn of his passing but assured he has already been welcomed by Jesus to his new home.

My heartfelt prayers are with each of you knowing this is a difficult time when families can't be together because of a Pandemic. May God's comfort and love embrace you as you shelter in place knowing Joey is at Peace. Keep the happy memories of loving parents. Stay safe
Keeping you in prayer.

Orice Walters-- and on behalf of the Walters children who many of you grew up with.

Orice Walters - April 28, 2020 at 01:47 PM

JG

Joe & Sharon were our friends. Played a lot of golf with Joe and had breakfast with him whenever we were in the same area of the UP. (always remember the ordering of "burnt" Toast . Great people - loved them a lot. RIP Joe & Sharon.
Jerry & Donna Van Goethem

Jerry Van Goethem - April 30, 2020 at 05:56 PM

 Cheryl
Tram

“ My deepest sympathies to the Pollard family. My heart breaks for all of you in the passing of Joe. He was a very special kinda guy. I grew up on the Eastside and have known the Family for along time. Joe and Sharon were Family to many people. I will always remember there smiles and hugs when i saw them. Joe, Sharon and Sissy are now reunited and watching down on the Family. RIP Joe, you will truly be missed by so many. Cheryl LaFave Tramontin

Cheryl Tram - April 28, 2020 at 08:36 AM

CT

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Cheryl LaFave Tramontin - April 28, 2020 at 08:35 AM

LR

“ So sorry to hear of Joe’s passing. He surely will be missed. A wonderful man. I al the granddaughter of Charlotte Wills Carlson.

Lori Reynolds - April 27, 2020 at 07:05 PM