



Wesley Thomas "Tom" Edwards

April 7, 1927 - February 9, 2018

Wesley Thomas "Tom" Edwards, 90, of Aurora, WI, passed away peacefully on Friday, February 9, 2018 at the Oscar G. Johnson V.A. Medical Center in Iron Mountain.

He was born April 7, 1927 in Aurora, son of the late Wesley and Myrtle (Bolander) Edwards. Tom graduated from Kingsford High School and enlisted in the United States Navy where he served his country for two years. Upon his honorable discharge from the U.S. Navy, Tom moved back to the area and worked alongside his father in Aurora at their Shell service station, where he later began a used car lot. In 1968 he purchased the GM dealership in Iron Mountain, and the business continues to this day as Edwards Automotive under the management of his sons and grandsons.

Tom married his high school sweetheart, Lenore "Lu" Kleiman in 1947, and they began raising their 7 children on their family farm. They taught their children to be hard workers, always busy with chores and caring for their many animals. Tom passed this joy of country living to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, who still enjoy adventures on the farm in Aurora, WI.

Tom's leisure time was always filled with sports. He played on the local softball and baseball teams for years, bowled in the leagues at the Recreation Lanes, and took up golf in his forties. Golf remained a passion the rest of his life and he won numerous trophies in many tournaments. He was a long-time member at Pine Grove Country Club in Iron Mountain, Oak Crest Country Club in

Norway, and Apache Wells Country Club in Mesa, Arizona.

Tom's life was characterized by generosity, a competitive spirit, and an ambition to make a better life for his family. From his service in the Navy to his business savviness, from his crazy golf skills to his deep love for his "gal" Lenore, Tom has left a wonderful legacy of a "never quit" life.

Tom is survived by his wife of 70 years, Lenore "Lu" Edwards of Aurora; seven children, Dale (Rose) Edwards of Breitung Township, Jean (Joe) Panek of Aurora, Donn (Kathy) Edwards of Kingsford, Jody Edwards of Mesa, AZ, Dan (Sue) Edwards of Iron Mountain, Julie (Bruce) Ekstrand of Glenview, IL and Jeff (Miriam) Edwards of Breitung Township; a sister, Bertie Lou Steger of Tucson, AZ; 19 grandchildren; 24 great grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Tom was preceded in death by a grandson, Jacob D. Edwards.

Visitation will be held on Thursday from 3:00 to 6:00 pm at the Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home in Iron Mountain and on Friday from 9:00 to 11:00 am at the First Presbyterian Church in Kingsford. Memorial services will follow at 11:00 am on Friday at the church. Rev. Michael March will officiate. Burial will be in the Homestead-Aurora Cemetery in the spring.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the family who will establish a vocational scholarship at the Dickinson-Iron ISD Career & Technical Education Center in Tom's memory.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Tom Edwards online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home of Iron

Mountain with the arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Homestead-Aurora Cemetery

1372 Osterberg Parkway
Niagara, WI 54151

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **15**. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home
901 Carpenter Avenue
Iron Mountain, MI 49801
(906) 774-7676
nashfuneralhome@gmail.com
<https://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com/>

Visitation

FEB **16**. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Presbyterian Church
395 Hamilton Avenue
Kingsford, MI 49802

Memorial Service

FEB **16**. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Presbyterian Church
395 Hamilton Avenue
Kingsford, MI 49802

Tribute Wall

DM

“ Tom and Lu were neighbors to my parents, Tom & JoAnn McNamara, in Apache Wells 25 years ago on Barber Drive. They became good friends and Tom's wonderful outgoing personality matched perfectly with our Irish father, Tom.

Tom was a fine man who lived a great life of consequence with his bride Lu and will be sadly missed.

Our condolences to everyone.

Jodi & Dan McNamara

Daniel J McNamara - February 15, 2018 at 08:42 AM

BB

“ Dear Lu and family. Sorry to hear of Tom's passing. Am glad that I was able to share some moments with you and Tom at the Cousins Reunion last year. The obituary captured his love of life so well. Over the years I have thought of Tom as a strong personality with a delightful sense of humor. Happy memories to each of you.

With love from Betty Bolander from Georgia

Betty Bolander - February 13, 2018 at 08:40 PM



“ Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Wesley Thomas "Tom" Edwards.



February 13, 2018 at 12:05 PM

CB

“ Dear Lu,
Hearts hurt when loved ones slip away - they say a hug is the shortest distance between old friends - I wish I was there to give you one.
Carol Bergstrom
God be with you all.

Carol Bergstrom - February 12, 2018 at 07:26 PM

JA

“ Jean, Sorry to hear about the passing of your father. He sounds like was a very special person, who lived a full life. I see where you get your passion for your farm. Thanks so much for your gift of music.
John Allard

John Allard - February 12, 2018 at 04:20 PM

DB

“ I have many memories of Tom from my younger years. He and my brother Leroy were like brothers when they were young. Tom used to spend a lot of time at our farm which was 10 miles due south of Aurora. He and Leroy used to race time to see who could take a tire off a car wheel and put it back on and pump it back full of air. Tom usually was the winner as he got more practice from working in his Dad's gas station. Tom and Bertie Lou would be there many times in the summer during hay making season helping out. I also remember when he got his pilot's license, He would fly over the farm and look for deer to chase with his plane. He chased our horses one time but my Dad wasn't happy with him over that as it really made the horses spooky. I remember him as being a daredevil and always ready to scare the heck out of you. He will always be in my memories as one of my favorite cousins. God bless you Tom and may you rest in peace!!!

Don Bolander - February 12, 2018 at 02:03 PM

MB

“ We were saddened to hear about Tom, but were glad to have seen him twice last year - at the 'cousins' picnic in Aug., and a cousins' funeral in Nov.

I remember how when he must've been in high school or soon afterwards when we visited his dad's gas station, he would always want to throw me up and over his shoulders until his Mother intervened! Always a kidder.....such family memories.

We are in AZ and unable to come north until we fly home in late April. Hope to see you, Lu, in summer.

Love and hugs to all, Margaret (Peggy) and Walter Baker

Margaret and Walter Baker - February 11, 2018 at 06:37 PM