



William Lee Calcari

December 8, 1934 - July 20, 2025

William Lee Calcari, 90, of Iron Mountain passed away peacefully on July 20, 2025, at The Florence Health Services Home after a battle with pancreatic cancer.

Bill was born December 8, 1934, on the family farm in Merriman. He was proud to always tell people he was born in a barn. Son of the Late Henry James Calcari and Alice (Collins) Calcari, Bill leaves behind one sister, Margaret Ida Calcari "Mickey" Fezatt.

He married Josephine Catherine Palluconi on August 30, 1958, in Iron Mountain at the Immaculate Conception Church. They were married one month shy of their 67th wedding anniversary. He always was happy to tell people, "Even the prisoners get out for good behavior before that!"

He and his wife had two children, Lou Ann (Randy) Duval and Mary Ann (Chris) Hofer, and two grandchildren, Joe and Nicci Hofer.

Bill learned to be a hard worker growing up on the family farm on highway M-95, milking cows, picking thousands of rocks, and driving a tractor at the age of 4. The day after graduation, his father saw to it that he had a job at Kingsford Chemical working on the line, sewing up the charcoal briquette bags. He would come home black and dirty each day for years. One day Josie

said to him, "Bill, how about taking the civil service test for the city of Iron Mountain?" which he did, and passed, and began his 30 year career at the city; he retired in 1990 being the street foreman. He also spent 12 years on the city council. During his time working at the city, he came across an ad for a class in upholstery for a Mr. Edgar Richards and enrolled. Mr "Bud" Richards saw that he had a knack for it, so he approached him and asked if he would want to do an apprenticeship with him and help him at his upholstery shop. Bill agreed and began working at the shop three nights per week after working his shift at the city. When he came home from work at 5:30 pm, he would eat supper and head to the basement where he upholstered furniture for family and friends and customers for many years. He also had several machines in the basement where he sharpened hand and circular saws for many local carpenters and friends. In his spare time, he had a workshop and continued to make oak furniture for his family and grandchildren and also many wonderful Christmas decorations and cut outs on his scroll saw.

In between all of his work, he always made time each weekend to take his family camping and fishing while his children were growing up. Bill worked three jobs to provide for his family and never once complained. He was never idle, and he always made sure he used every minute possible in his days. His generosity to his daughters to help remodel, paint, lay flooring and carpeting, hang pictures, new lighting, ceiling fans and curtains was tremendous. This was especially helpful to a daughter operating Duval's Resort, in which he was the backbone in remodeling. He and his wife worked for over 30 years helping clean and do yard work and laundry. He also helped saw lumber, dig up septic tanks, build kitchen and bathroom cabinetry for the cabins, lay flooring and carpeting, and fix everything that was broken. He also would help anyone in the neighborhood with fixing anything that was broken.

His smile was infectious, and he loved making people laugh. His generosity to family, friends, and people in the community will be greatly missed.

Visitation will be held from 9:00 am to 11:00 am on Wednesday, July 23rd at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home in Iron Mountain followed by a service at 11:00 am at the funeral home. Pastor Jim Danielson will officiate. Burial at Iron Mountain Cemetery Park will follow the service with a luncheon afterwards back at the funeral home.

Condolences to the family of William Lee Calcari may be expressed online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

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

Cemetery Details

Iron Mountain Cemetery Park

Cedar Ave
Iron Mountain, MI 49801
(906) 774-1212

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 23. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home
901 Carpenter Ave.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Funeral Service

JUL 23. 11:00 AM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home
901 Carpenter Ave.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Tribute Wall

DC

“ We are so very sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.



DEBRA LYNN CHENEY - July 25, 2025 at 10:39 AM

AR

Josie and family , I'm so sorry for your loss. Bill was an amazing wood worker. I will treasure my mahjong trays, decorative trivets, and Christmas ornaments all the more. After reading your well written obituary, I'm even more impressed with his life and his work ethic. His love for all of your family left you with wonderful memories through which he will live on in your memories to remind you he will be waiting for you in a life yet to come.

Alice Reed - July 27, 2025 at 06:16 PM

TL

“ Tom and Linda purchased the Simply Elegant Sp
athiphyllum for the family of William Lee Calcari.



Tom and Linda - July 22, 2025 at 08:47 PM



“ A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William Lee Calcari.

July 22, 2025 at 06:50 PM

CS

“ Carlberg, Eckman Family, Greg and Shari purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of William Lee Calcari.



Carlberg, Eckman Family, Greg and Shari - July 22, 2025 at 11:39 AM

AP

“ Anna Peterson purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of William Lee Calcari.



Anna Peterson - July 22, 2025 at 09:35 AM

AP

“ Anna Peterson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Lee Calcari.

Anna Peterson - July 22, 2025 at 09:35 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Lee Calcari.



July 21, 2025 at 10:41 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William Lee Calcari.

July 21, 2025 at 10:41 PM



“ What I remember most about Bill is the laughter. There was never a time I was around him that the room didn't burst out in joy. His humor, his warmth, and his light spirit made every gathering brighter.

*“Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.”
— Philipians 4:8*

Bill was all of those things and more. We will miss him dearly, but we will keep dwelling on the joy he brought to our lives.

Racquel B. - July 21, 2025 at 08:20 PM



“ Priscilla Mattson purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of William Lee Calcari.



Priscilla Mattson - July 21, 2025 at 07:19 PM

TF

“ Louann and Randy we are so sorry to hear about your father's death Louann but also rejoice in the new life that is now his. Our prayers are that God will keep all of you in his loving care and strengthen you for the days which lie ahead. In Christs Love Tom and Janice

Thomas Fruchey - July 21, 2025 at 07:15 PM

GB

“ What a wonderful and talented man who lived such an interesting life! Every time I stayed in the upper duplex, I always admired his cabinet work...so well made and finished, and how long they have lasted! Susan and I send our deepest condolences to Lu Anne and Randy and the entire family. You were so blessed to have him as your father and father-in-law. And thanks for sharing his wonderful puzzles with me! Prayers being lifted for you all.

Glen and Susan Bocox - July 21, 2025 at 06:29 PM

JC

“ Joy Carlson lit a candle in memory of William Lee Calcari



Joy Carlson - July 21, 2025 at 06:16 PM

MF

“ *Mattie, Larry, Cody, Jessica and Families purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of William Lee Calcari.*



Mattie, Larry, Cody, Jessica and Families - July 21, 2025 at 06:06 PM

MF

“ *Mattie, Larry, Cody, Jessica and Families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Lee Calcari.*

Mattie, Larry, Cody, Jessica and Families - July 21, 2025 at 06:06 PM

MB

“ *Mr and Mrs James Becket purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of William Lee Calcari.*



Mr and Mrs James Becket - July 21, 2025 at 05:51 PM

MB

“ *Mr and Mrs James Becket planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Lee Calcari.*

Mr and Mrs James Becket - July 21, 2025 at 05:51 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of William Lee Calcari.



July 21, 2025 at 05:48 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William Lee Calcari.

July 21, 2025 at 05:48 PM



“ The Lopez family. purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of William Lee Calcari.



The Lopez family. - July 21, 2025 at 05:41 PM