



"Wish" Wilfred Olson

December 28, 1952 - March 28, 2023

"Wish" Wilfred G. Olson, 70, of Iron Mountain passed away on March 28, 2023, surrounded by his family at Marshfield Medical Center- Dickinson in Iron Mountain.

He was born on December 28, 1952, to Glenn L. and Bernice M. (Smith) Olson. At 17 Wish enlisted into the United States Navy where he proudly served during the Vietnam war aboard the USS Intrepid Aircraft Carrier.

Wish married the love of his life and soul mate, Julie Brunner of Brillion, WI. They were married in Coeur d' Alene, Idaho on October 30, 1982, and they renewed their vows on their 5th anniversary at St. Pius Catholic Church in Coeur d' Alene, ID and again on their 25th anniversary at St. Mary's Queen of Peace in Kingsford. Together they celebrated over 40 years of marriage.

Wish loved working and building with wood, and he was an exceptional carpenter. He worked for Kellar Structures in his early years, and when he moved to Coeur d' Alene, ID, he continued his craft, building Mormon churches. After moving back to Iron Mountain, he worked at the Dickinson County Library until his retirement. During that time, he also had his own construction company, Creative Construction, building many porches and decks and renovating his family home.

Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers, Fred, Glenn Jr., and Gerald Olson; his sister, Sherry Stamatakos; and brother-in-law, Gerald "Nubby" Johnson.

Wish leaves behind to cherish his memory his loving wife, Julie; sons, whom he loved beyond words, Randy and Ray (Marie) Olson; his grandchildren who lit up his life, Michaela, Alana, Zachary, and Melody; and his sisters Judy Johnson, Brenda (Don) Voth, Gina Olson, and Patti (John) Spindt. He is remembered and cherished by several generations of nieces, nephews, friends and neighbors, who lovingly called him "Uncle Wish". He shared his heart with everyone he met, along with his buddies, John Blomquist and Tom Menza. Wish will also be sadly missed by his fur baby, Ringo, and Miss Molly Sparkles (departed).

A special thank you to Dr. McConnell and his nurse, Jean, at the VA in Iron Mountain who selflessly helped Wish with many illnesses, the Caregiver Support Program, the dedicated staff members in the Emergency Room and ICU for all of the compassion they showed Wish, and his family at Marshfield Medical Center- Dickinson Hospital.

Visitation will be from 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm on Sunday, July 2, 2023, at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home in Iron Mountain. A funeral service with military honors will follow at 2:00 pm at the funeral home. Fr. Mike Woempner will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts can be sent to Wounded Warriors Project in his name at <https://support.woundedwarriorproject.org/donate> or Wounded Warrior Project
PO BOX 758516 Topeka, KS 66675.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of "Wish" Wilfred G. Olson

online at <https://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com/>

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

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 2. 12:00 PM - 2:00 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/>

Funeral Service

JUL 2. 2:00 PM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home
901 Carpenter Avenue
Iron Mountain, MI 49801
(906) 774-7676
nashfuneralhome@gmail.com
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Tribute Wall

JD

“ I became part of the Olson, Johnson family when his sister Judy became my most trusted & endeared partner in the evolution of Kmart in Iron Mountain. Wish became a part of the Iron Mountain landscape & joined his brother-in-law Jerry(Nubby) & myself on many fishing adventures on Peavy Pond. After he worked at the library & worked on paid home improvement jobs, Wish & I spent many good times at Bimbo's enjoying a drink , playing pool, & having friendly banter with people like "Blue Gill Bill". I remember Wish & I splitting our \$500 winnings on a Super Bowl bet. His sister Judy, his wife Julie, & his brother-in-law Jerry became family. My wife & children have wonderful memories of the Olsons & Johnsons. Wish was misunderstood by many but, I got him!

John Daldin - August 09, 2025 at 03:42 PM

MA

“ Hi Julie, My deepest sympathies. I had posted while back our condolences but somehow they didn't appear. I have a beautiful memory of Wish singing "good morning beautiful" By Steve Holy to you and he said he loved the song because he was sure it was about you. May your memories be of comfort to you at this sad time. Mary Oman and Duane Hongisto.

Mary - April 24, 2023 at 12:59 PM

JO

“ I have many sweet memories of "Wish!"
Many years ago when his Uncle Wish died, he gave me a picture of The Immaculate Heart of Mary, that hung over his Uncles bed. He knew I would cherish it, and I surely have. I pray to her every day, and look at her beautiful picture, that he took time to give me! A blessing for sure.
Another time Wish was helping at my home, and he came up to my front door, breathless, holding in his hands, several rosaries and a sick call crucifix....he said "can I have these" I said sure, but where did you get them? He said...in your old rental. A man who sees the wisdom of rosaries, and a crucifix, surely was blessed by Our Father in Heaven and Our True Mother.....my love to him and all of his family..jerri Olson

Jerri Olson - April 12, 2023 at 03:58 PM

KT

“ Julie and family- our thoughts and prayers are with all of you- Jay and Karen Thekan

Karen Thekan - March 30, 2023 at 03:18 PM

RG

“ Julie and family, we are so sorry for your loss. We hope the many memories and close family will surround you and hold you close. Hugs..Rose & Kevin Guthrie

Rose Guthrie - March 30, 2023 at 09:49 AM

KK

“ Condolences out to you Julie and your family on your loss. From a couple classmates thinking of you. Kuch & Neighbor (Ken Kuchenbecker, Jeff Krueger)

Ken Kuchenbecker - March 30, 2023 at 09:02 AM

LN

“ Julie.... Wish was a friend to everyone... and very good carpenter.
Thinking of you and your boys and their kids. Hugs to you ... ❤️

Lenore Nelson - March 30, 2023 at 08:44 AM

JS

“ Julie I know words won't ease your pain, but know I am praying for
you & your family. Please accept my most heartfelt & deepest
condolences for your loss.

Hugs,

Judy Short

Judy Short - March 30, 2023 at 07:44 AM