



Arthur L. Begeman

June 16, 1925 - August 23, 2014

ARTHUR "ART" L. BEGEMAN, 89 of Traverse City, passed away peacefully on Saturday, Aug. 23, 2014 at Munson Hospice House with his son at his side.

Art was born on June 16, 1925 in Lansing, MI to the late Leo "Pete" and Mabel (Newell) Begeman. On June 21, 1946 Art married the love of his life, Betty Jean Nye, in Lansing. Together they lovingly raised two wonderful children, Bonnie and Jim.

Art enlisted in the Michigan Army National Guard at the age of 17. After serving his entire career in the National Guard, he retired in 1980 as a Lieutenant Colonel. Art and Betty moved from Lansing to Traverse City in 1981.

He was a devoted member of Traverse City Elks Lodge #323, was a Past President of the Board of Trustees for the lodge, and served on numerous committees over his nearly 30 years with the organization. He was a life member of: Walter French Masonic Lodge #557, Valley of Grand Rapids Scottish Rite, and the Elf Khurafeh Shriners. He was a former member of the Traverse City Eagles.

His favorite pastime was to spend time with family, friends from the lodge, and his neighbors from "the hood" while enjoying a cold beer (or two). Art loved spending time outdoors, especially hunting and fishing. He spent many years enjoying time at his cottage in Kalkaska County and socializing with friends at Dingman's Bar. Art was a big fan of the Detroit Tigers, during their highs, and their lows. He was also a fan of Michigan State, and enjoyed watching Spartan Football and Basketball, especially "March Madness". Art became a fan of the Spartan Marching Band while watching his granddaughter, Ann, perform for four years.

Art will be fondly remembered as a good friend to many, a loving husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. His smile and kind soul will be remembered by all who knew him.

Surviving Art is his wife Betty of 68 years, daughter Bonnie (Stan) Simons of Traverse City, son James "Jim" Begeman of Traverse City, granddaughter Ann Marie (Blake) Holt of Holt, great granddaughter Erin Nicole Holt, sister Bonnie Smith and many other nieces, nephews and friends.

Art is preceded in death by his parents, step-mother Grace Begeman, granddaughter Amy Lynne Simons, and his very special mother-in-law Maxine Nye and her dog Tippy.

The family is especially thankful for the wonderful care that Art received from Thirlby Clinic, Bay Area Urology, and the Munson Hospice House.

An Elks memorial service celebrating Art's Life will take place at 3 p.m., on Thursday, Aug. 28, at the Traverse City Elks Lodge # 323. Military honors will also be performed by The Traverse City VFW Post #2780. On Saturday, Aug. 30, a brief service will be held at 1:00 p.m. at the Deepdale Memorial Gardens Chapel in Lansing, followed by his interment.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Munson Hospice House or to the Traverse City Elks Scholarship Fund. Please sign Art's online guestbook at <http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com>. The family is being served by the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home.

Comments



“ Dear Betty, Bonnie and Stan, and Jim, I was so sorry to hear about Art's passing. I will always remember his wonderful smile, his kindness and his sense of humor. I enjoyed the many times I shared with Art and Betty at the Elks. I wish I could be there, but know that you are all in my prayers. May God give you comfort and strength.

Sandy Murray

Sandra Murray - September 02, 2014 at 01:27 PM



“ Very sorry to hear of Art's passing, fondly remember the times long ago on Edwin Place. May God comfort you during this time and the days ahead.

Bruce, Betty, Ken, Kathy and Jeff Enyart

Jeff Enyart - August 30, 2014 at 02:17 AM



“ Always a tender hug and click of the mug! My dear friend and family Mom and dad, I knew this day would come but nev.er are we ready. You were there for me so many many times. I just today found out about your passing. Lost is how I feel that I couldnt be there to share your families memories. Hold on mom, Jim, bonnie and stan..and all those beautiful children. You will be together again.. We love you all.

Dean And Mary Reid

mary reid - August 28, 2014 at 07:24 PM



“ Mary Reid lit a candle in memory of Arthur L. Begeman



mary reid - August 28, 2014 at 07:18 PM



“ Dear Betty and family:

Hold on to all those beautiful memories in your heart. When a rainbow appears in the sky, know that he is smiling down and letting you know he is at peace now. Our prayers are with you all.

Love

George and Lois Nienhouse

George and Lois Nienhouse - August 28, 2014 at 06:41 PM



“ Jim and Bonnie,

I was saddened to read about your dad's passing. I remember him as a very nice, friendly person. I hope your memories of him will ease the pain of his loss.

Jerry Scarborough

Jerry Scarborough - August 28, 2014 at 11:06 AM



“ I worked with Art for many years and served in the Maintenance Battalion with him. I never worked with a more amiable, knowledgeable, and great all around person. My sincere condolences to Betty and the family. He will be truly missed by his military comrades. Rest in peace old soldier.

Joe & Cindy McDowell - August 28, 2014 at 08:22 AM



“ To Betty and Family, May God Grace you with Great Memories to give you comfort at this time of loss. Love and Prayers Howard and Colleen

Howard and Colleen Becker - August 28, 2014 at 08:18 AM



“ The family of SFC Larry D. Reed wish to convey our condolences to the husband and father of LTC Begemen. Larry spent many hours with LTC Begemen as a member of the Michigan National Guard.

Barbara J. Reed Wambold - August 28, 2014 at 07:00 AM



“ My memories are so many. Visiting you at the shop when I was little, fishing, going to the cottage, froggin', snowmobiles and motorbikes. Christmases and family reunions. Teaching me to tie my shoes without using my thumbs. Our family trip to the U.P. Wise words of wisdom. Covering my insurance payment so I could have a car in college. Coming to Spartan Football games, just to watch me perform with the band. How you told everyone that my baby's due date was June 16th (instead of June 14th) because you wanted her to be born on your birthday...I'm sorry she picked the 12th instead. ;) The look on your face when you held your great grand-daughter for the first time, and all the spoiling that has happened since. How you still called me "Mite" when I last saw you just a few weeks ago, and told me you loved me when I left. I could sit here for days and write my memories and it still wouldn't be long enough to share everything and how much you meant to me. I know you are sitting in heaven with Great Grandma, enjoying a cold Stroh's light (or two, or four, or more...) and watching Bob Barker, no longer held hostage by your body that just couldn't do what you wanted it to any longer or the awful disease that took your memories from you. You are whole and complete and happy. For that, I am grateful, but I will miss you each and every day and carry you always in my heart. Love always, your Mighty Mite

Ann Holt - August 27, 2014 at 12:17 PM