



Curtis R. Frook

October 29, 1942 - November 10, 2012

Curtis Ralph Frook, son of Curtis L. and Adele C. (Anderson) Frook, left this world where he began it, Munson Medical Center, with family and friends at his bedside. Curt was born Thursday, October 29, 1942 becoming the fifth family generation having lived in Traverse City. His great great grandparents arrived here in 1866. Curt attended Elmwood and Willow Hill Elementary Schools, graduating from Traverse City Senior High School in 1961. He continued his education at NMC and then went on to California to attend Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara. He returned to Traverse City and became affiliated with Bud Moyer Photography. In later years he and Terry Burton went into business together. Curt's forty-five year career as a professional photographer finished as a sole proprietor.

In 1985, the Professional Photographers of America awarded Curt a Master's Degree in Photography for merits won on his images and articles he had written for professional magazines. He was also published in three photographic books. Curt received the PP of A's National Award for his "meritorious contributions to the profession of photography" in 1997. Having fulfilled the Board's requirements, he was presented the Brooks Institute Honorary Master of Science Degree in Professional Photography while he was their commencement speaker in 1992. During 1980 and 1981, Curt was president of the Professional Photographers of Michigan. He also belonged to the American Society of Photographers whose membership is by invitation only.

Curt was a Past Exalted Ruler of TC Elks Lodge #323, having served during the 1973-1974 Elk year. He also served a five year Trustee term. Curt was presented with an Honorary Life Membership in 1982 for his work in Elkdom. He was a member for over 47 years and was a fourth family generation member. He competed in all the ritual chairs, winning three best officer trophies. In May 2010, he received a special citation from the USA Grand Lodge Order of Elks for his dedication to the lodge and community over the years. Curt was also a member of the Eagles for over five years and had been a board member of the Leelanau Peninsula Chamber of Commerce.

Curt's family, friends and clients will remember him for his sincerity, dedication and humor.

Curt will be lovingly remembered by his devoted wife of 37 years, Karen Kay (Kucera) whom he married on Saturday, May 24, 1975. He is also survived by his brother and sister in law, Ron and Connie Kucera, his nieces and nephews, Anne Marie, Bethany Louise Kucera, Stacey Ann-Elizabeth (Jeffrey) Smith and Dustin (Dawn) Kucera, and great nephews, Sebastian Kucera, Brandon and Tyler Smith and Gabriel and Jeremiah Kucera. He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother Lawrence, his father and mother in law Frank and Connie Kucera, and a niece Marcia-Lynn Kucera.

Visitation will take place this evening from 5 until 8 p.m. at The Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home. The Funeral service will take place Wednesday at the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home beginning at 11 a.m. with an Elks service, to be followed by a service of celebrating Curt's life.

Memorial contributions may be directed to First Congregational Church of Traverse City, the Elks Michigan Major Projects Fund, which helps special needs children or to a charity of your own choosing.

Please share your memories of Curt by way of his online guestbook/tribute page at <http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com>.

The family is being served by Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Events

NOV **Visitation** 05:00PM - 08:00PM

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Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home
305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

NOV **Funeral Service** 11:00AM

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Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home
305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

Comments



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Karen and family

I was looking through some material in the studio and found a business card from Curt.

We remember him fondly from the St. Lucia photo workshop.

It was such a great experience for us working with great photographers like Curt through Professional Photographers of America.

He was memorable in many ways and we have never forgotten him and his sense of humor. So very talented and humble.

He will always be a part of our St. Lucia memories and we are so very sad to to have lost contact so many years ago. Charles Vandersluys



Charles JD Vandersluys - October 16, 2018 at 11:48 AM



“

Karen, I am so sorry to hear about the passing of Curt. I have been out of state and have just returned to this news. I think of Curt every day as I pass one of the photographs in my hallway that he took of my dog, Cody, and I, doing a hunting pose. Both of you were great neighbors for the years I lived across the street. I join you in your grief over your loss. Curt was such a great person. John Jensen. If I can help you in any way, please let me know. JGJ932@hotmail.com

John G. Jensen, Jr. - November 19, 2012 at 07:41 PM



“

Karen, Carol and I are greatly saddened by the loss of Curt. One of the sweetest kindest men that I've ever had the pleasure of calling a friend. His Indian Chief print is still hanging in our home and I look at it daily - truly a talented man. So many good times and laughs together with you 2 and you will both be in our hearts always.

Jim Lersch - November 16, 2012 at 01:43 PM



“ Curt was a generation ahead of me in photography but I saw his passion and love for the profession, a profession we shared for a long time. Curt was very talented and was always willing to share his knowledge with others. He will be missed and I know he is in a better place, where he can make many more beautiful images... God Bless you all in this time of loss.

Kindest regards,

Barry Rankin PPM

Barry Rankin - November 16, 2012 at 09:55 AM



“ KK, I am so sorry for your loss. My prayers and thoughts are with you as you say "goodbye " to Curt. He was a special man who will be greatly missed by not only his family but the community as well. he always had such a sweet smile and kind word for all that will leave a big void in our earthly community. God will be so glad to have him in Heaven. God be with you...Mary Jo Nichols Lee

Mary Jo Nichols Lee - November 14, 2012 at 11:49 AM



“ Karen,I was very sorry to here of Curts passing. I will always think of Curt as a sweet funny guy always quick with an old joke and a smile to share. He will be missed by many.I am sure he will be telling them to a new group of angels now. Sincerly, Alicia McQuater

Alicia McQuater - November 14, 2012 at 08:11 AM



“ Karen, my wife and myself are so very sorry to hear of your loss. I believe that we may have only met you once but we have known Curt for probably over 20 years. He was a great guy to be around. He always had new jokes to tell and was just fun. Sorry again to hear of his passing. He is at peace now for eternity.
Rich & Claudia Duzzi
Michigan Photographers Society

Rich Duzzi - November 13, 2012 at 11:39 PM



“ Karen. We are so so sorry that you lost this wonderful man so early. You know he was such a great support to me when I needed it and I could never thank him enough. Our prayers are forever going to keep you in them and our lives are extended to you. God bless. Mary & Deann



mary reid - November 13, 2012 at 04:48 PM



“ K.K. - I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. We are out of state right now until Thanksgiving, but wanted you to know you are in our thoughts and prayers. Curt had a beautiful gift in his photography. Because of him, so many of us have lasting, beautiful memories of our loved ones. May your memories help you through this difficult time.

Love,
Diane (Skudlarick) Wilson

Diane K. Wilson - November 13, 2012 at 10:11 AM



“ So sorry. Curt was a great guy. Also had a joke and always a great smile. You couldn't ask for a better cousin. Carl and Cindy



Carl Kucera - November 13, 2012 at 09:22 AM



“ My sincere condolences to family and friends. Dick Swan

Dick Swan - November 13, 2012 at 08:06 AM