



Daniel Lee Deering

March 15, 2019

Daniel L. Deering, 84, of Traverse City, Michigan passed away on March 15, 2019 in Knoxville, Tennessee. Born on August 28, 1934 in Traverse City, Dan was the son of Thomas and Eva (Satter) Deering. He grew up in Traverse City, attending Immaculate Conception Grade School, Traverse City High School and Northwestern Michigan College.

Dan held a deep respect for our Country and served in the U.S. Army in the mid-50's. He was stationed in Germany. Upon return, having worked throughout his youth side-by-side with his Father at the original Tom's Food Market on Eleventh Street, Dan was fully committed to the ongoing success of the business. The operation and growth of Tom's Food Markets was truly his passion. Dan also served on the Spartan Stores Board of Directors for over 30 years.

Strong and unassuming, Dan had great faith and lived with gratitude. He was a member of Immaculate Conception Church, attending mass regularly. Dan was one of the founders of the Father Fred Foundation.

Dan supported the greater Grand Traverse Community and contributed generously – many times anonymously. He focused on lasting, meaningful ways to enrich the lives of children. He believed in supporting our local economy – among other ways by purchasing from the area's local farmers and producers whenever possible. Dan had a deep appreciation for our cherry industry and enjoyed taking part, not only with sponsorship, but also participating with his 1930 Chevrolet Huckster, most recently driven by him in the 2018 Cherry Festival Heritage Parade with his daughters, Jane and Christy.

Dan and his loving wife of 35 years, Vicki, enjoyed working together at Tom's, traveling, boating, many motorhome trips, spending time at their Empire farm home and daily walks. In recent years, they loved spending the winter months at their Tennessee home.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon him.

Dan is survived by his wife, Vicki Deering. Also his five daughters: Christine (Larry) Kuhnke, Jane (Matthew) Zimmerman, Nancy (Ed) Sands, Carolyn (Tobin) Decker and Michelle (Ian) Sterling, as well as eight grandchildren, one great-granddaughter, a sister Evelyn (Howard) Sweitzer, two nieces and their families. He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, John Deering and an infant sister, Ellyn Deering.

Also surviving are Vicki's four children: Roxanne Fall (John) Haskin, Holly (Vaughn) Hincks, Douglas Fall and Richard Braden, along with their children and grandchildren.

Memorial services will be officiated by Father Anthony Citro and are scheduled as follows: Visitation with Family on Thursday, July 18th from 5-7pm at the new Immaculate Conception Elementary School Dining Hall. A Catholic Rosary will immediately follow at 7pm at Immaculate Conception Church. Visitation is also scheduled for 10-11am on Friday, July 19th at Immaculate Conception Church with a Funeral Mass immediately following at 11am. Burial will be at Memorial Gardens as a private family service. Arrangements have been provided by Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to Grand Traverse Area Catholic Schools or TART Trails.

Events

JUL 18 Visitation 05:00PM - 07:00PM
Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
308 Cedar Street, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

JUL 18 Rosary 07:00PM
Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
308 Cedar Street, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

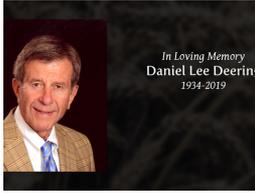
JUL 19 Visitation 10:00AM
Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
308 Cedar Street, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

JUL 19 Funeral Mass 11:00AM
Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
308 Cedar Street, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

Comments



“ An external video has been added.



Reynolds Jonkhoff Funeral Home & Cremation Services - July 18, 2019 at 08:23 PM



“ One of my first jobs as a teenager was working at Tom's on 14th Street. When the new bakery opened, I worked the late afternoon clean-up crew with two other close friends. At the end of every day, your father would come in and inspect our work. It was extremely painful, as every day he would point out things that we had missed in cleaning up the bakery. This went on for months, and every day we would work our hardest to pass the inspection, only to have your dad find something that was not right. I will never forget about six months into the job when he went through his normal detailed inspection not saying a word. After an agonizing 20 minutes, he turned to us, smiled slightly and said 'good job' and then walked out. It was at that moment that I learned a very valuable lesson about doing things right, taking pride in your work and always driving to get better every day. I have carried that lesson through in every position I have had since. I wish I could have been at the memorial service today, but circumstances did not allow this. Your father had a big impact on me and I am forever thankful for this.

Grant Fitz - July 19, 2019 at 11:14 AM



“ Connie Eaton lit a candle in memory of Daniel Lee Deering



connie Eaton - July 05, 2019 at 02:48 PM