



## Edwin W. Earl

September 13, 1939 - February 27, 2019

Edwin W. Earl, 79, of Grawn passed away on February 27, 2019 at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City after a long battle with heart disease.

Edwin was born on September 13, 1939 to Gladys Fae (Poland) and Harley M. Earl in Durand, MI.

After the death of Edwin's father in 1949 the family moved to their cottage on Duck Lake, then subsequently resided on 6th street in Traverse City.

Edwin graduated from Traverse City Central High School in 1956, attended Northwestern Michigan College for two years and then Michigan State.

In May of 1986 Edwin married his loving wife Loretta (Lori) Lovell, daughter of Katherine M. (Woog) and Thomas J. Lovell, Sr.

Edwin's career started in 1960-1965 on the Ludington Car Ferries with two years in the Peace Corps. While working for the Ludington Car Ferries he was invited to train for the Peace Corps which resulted in a two-year appointment (1963-1965) in North Santander, Colombia as part of Colombia VII in the Rural Agricultural Community Development in the Andes Mountains.

After Edwin's return from the Peace Corps he returned to Ludington, MI and continued his Maritime career with the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Car Ferries.

With the down turn of Lake Michigan car ferry freight apparent he switched his Maritime employment to Great Lakes vessels and some salt water vessels from 1966-1973. During this period, he attended Master Mates and Pilots training in Toledo, Ohio and was awarded his 1st Class Pilots license, unlimited tonnage.

At that time when he had the best job on the boat in April of 1973 he was invited to train

for the United States Border Patrol. Upon completion of training at the Border Patrol Academy in Los Fresnos, Texas, he was assigned to Yuma, AZ with 102nd Class of Border Patrol in July, 1973 as a Border Patrol Agent.

In July, 1979 he was promoted and transferred to the Detroit Station of U.S. Border Patrol as Agent in Charge. Eventually he was promoted to Deputy Chief and Chief of the Detroit Sector in charge of all Border Patrol operations in the states of Michigan, Indiana, Ohio and Illinois.

In 1996 Edwin retired and returned home to Duck Lake in Green Lake Township. Ed had such a love for life and people and in retirement continued to connect to people. Ed enjoyed retirement pursuing passions of fishing, boating, gardening, birding, bicycling, and traveling. One of the greatest joys was he always gave more than he took in and was a mentor and role model for so many people.

Edwin was a Charter member of the Interlochen Eagles, F.O.E. 3503 and a life member of the Traverse City Elks B.P.O.E. 323, Grand Traverse Audubon Club and Kingsley Sportsman Club.

Edwin is survived by his wife Loretta (Lori), sister Janet Hicks of Okemos, brother-in-law, Keith Borgerson of Grawn, sister-in-law & brother-in-law, Charlotte & Ron Koss of Morro Bay, CA, sister-in-law, Judith Lovell of Sterling Heights, MI and his beloved nieces and nephews and their children.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother, Harley W. Earl & his wife (Ruth Kiessel Earl), sister, Mary L. Borgerson and his brothers-in-law, Albert Hicks and Thomas J. Lovell, Jr.

In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to a charity of your choice.

Friends are welcome to visit with Edwin's family from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 3, 2019 at the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home, 305 Sixth St., Traverse City, MI 49684.

A funeral service honoring Edwin will take place at 11:00 a.m., with visitation at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, March 4, 2019 at the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home. Rev. Fr. Gregory McCallum will officiate.

Please feel free to share your thoughts and memories with Edwin's family at his tribute page at [www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com](http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com).

The family is being cared for by the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home Cremation Services.

# Cemetery

---

## **Cornell Cemetery**

West 4 Road

Buckley, MI,

# Comments

---



“ An external video has been added.



**Reynolds Jonkhoff Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - March 03, 2019 at 11:01 AM

---



“ Worked with Ed in Border Patrol in Detroit. A finer man and officer I have never known. Marrying Lori was his greatest accomplishment however.  
Ron Dowdy

**Ronald Dowdy** - March 11, 2019 at 01:42 PM

---



“ Neta (Sieffert) Jewell lit a candle in memory of Edwin W. Earl



**Neta (Sieffert) Jewell** - March 03, 2019 at 09:59 AM

---



“ As a young Border Patrol Agent in the Detroit Border Patrol Station I had the honor of working for, and alongside, Ed from when he got there in 1979 to when I left in June, 1982. He was known to all of us in the Detroit Sector affectionately as "Uncle" Ed. As I am typing this I have a smile on my face as my mind is flooded with memories of my time with Ed. My recollections of travelling throughout Michigan on detail with Ed, and just day to day work in Detroit are as fresh in my mind as if it were yesterday. The best part of travelling on the job with Ed was at the end of the day when we shared a FEW beers, shared stories of our lives and the job, and listen to Ed's laugh that was deep and from the heart. I'm sure most of us can say we meet people in our life who leave a lasting impression (good) on us and I can assure you Uncle Ed did with me. Ed earned and deserved the respect given him by the agents in the Detroit Sector and throughout the Border Patrol.

My condolences to Ed's wife and family.

**Jim Kunkle** - March 01, 2019 at 09:24 AM

---



“ I had the great pleasure of working with, and for, Ed in the Detroit Sector during my 5 1/2 years at the Trenton, MI Station. I had tremendous respect for Ed and always thoroughly enjoyed his company. I know Ed always had the best interest of his PAs at heart.

Ed and his family are in my thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

Jim Higgins

**Jim Higgins** - February 28, 2019 at 05:10 PM

---



“ I first met Ed (Uncle Ed as he was known to many) when I returned from the Border Patrol Academy to Yuma, AZ in 1974. We worked together for the next four years. My fondest memory of that time was when we worked as instructors for a Border Patrol basic training class (118b) that was conducted at Yuma because the regular Academy in Glynco, GA was full. Ed was the law instructor and I taught PT and Firearms. That was a unique experience. In 1978, I left Yuma for Chicago and Ed transferred to Detroit in 1979. Little did I know that our paths would cross again. In 1980, I transferred from Chicago to Port Huron, MI as the Patrol Agent in Charge. For the next four years, Ed and I worked together again in the Detroit Sector. In 1984, I was selected as the Deputy Chief in Detroit and then as Chief Patrol Agent in 1985. It was my great privilege to select Ed as my Deputy Chief in 1986; a promotion that he long deserved. After I transferred from Detroit to the Border Patrol Academy in 1987, Ed was selected as the Chief Patrol Agent, a position that he held until his retirement in 1996. I always looked forward to seeing Uncle Ed at the yearly INS conferences where we would catch up and reminisce. I was very fortunate to have known and worked with Ed for over 20 years. He was a true professional and was respected by his co-workers who he truly cared for and protected. He was and will always be my friend. Rest In Peace amigo.

**Chuck Huffman** - February 28, 2019 at 07:44 AM