



Eldon Dale Schwartz

March 27, 1931 - February 19, 2015

Eldon Dale Schwartz, 83, of Traverse City, died Thursday, February 19, at Culver Meadows Adult Foster Care Home, after an extended illness.

Dale was born March 27, 1931 in Hemlock, Michigan to Eldie C. and Gladys M. (Day) Schwartz. He grew up on his parents' farms and graduated from Remus High School where he met his future wife, Donna Lough.

After High School Dale worked for Dow Chemical and toured America with the Dow Male Chorus.

When the Michigan Department of Conservation (DNR) advertised job openings, Dale found his true calling, and moved to Fremont as a Fire Officer and eventually a Conservation Officer. He devoted his career to protecting Michigan's wildlife and natural treasures and upholding its laws for over 35 years in Newaygo, Presque Isle, and Grand Traverse Counties. In 1973 he received the Officer of the Year Award from the Shikar Safari club International. His last post was as Area Law Supervisor in Grand Rapids.

Dale is survived by the love of his life, Donna Mae (Lough) Schwartz, his wife of 64 years; his daughter Cindy (Steve) Brant of Manistee, sons Tim (Gail) Schwartz and Tad Schwartz of Traverse City; twelve grandchildren, and 32 great grandchildren, all of whom he inspired with his love of God and His creation. He is also survived by his sister, Betty (Bob) LaLonde of Jackson, Wyoming, and many brothers- and sisters-in-law, nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother, four sisters, beloved son Tom Dale Schwartz, and grandson Tsgt Matthew S. Schwartz.

A memorial service will be held at 2:00 P.M. on Sunday, February 22, at the Traverse City Church of Christ on Rennie Street. The family has requested that gifts in Dale's memory be sent to Mountain States Children's Home, 14780 North 107th Street, Longmont, Colorado 80504.

Comments



“ Dale is class act from the beginning. I have many great memories of him from instructing the judge on DNR law to walking up on a hunter on frost covered dry leaves without making a sound. He is honest and cares for his loved ones. I have been blessed to know him.

Don Sudekum - March 05, 2015 at 09:56 AM



“ dale is an was the greats game officer this state ever had. he was a true fried for the years in Newaygo co. my dad an dale had great times in there years as law-men. Thomas an lila muma. (Kenneth muma retired sheriff Newaygo co. pass in 1999. lois muma retired ncsd pass in 2009)

thomas muma - February 25, 2015 at 07:11 AM



“ My dad, Bob Jones, considered Dale a great man and true friend. My inlaws, Bev and Ed, are dear friends of Dale and Donna. Much love to you Donna, and your kids and grandkids. May God's tender love wrap around all your family and give you comfort.
Kim and Dale Dyer

Kim Dyer - February 23, 2015 at 09:40 PM



“ My sympathy to all the family. Dale was a wonderful man. He was so thoughtful and kind. He will be missed by all who ever knew him.
Jean McCormick

Jean McCormick - February 23, 2015 at 08:21 AM



“ My deepest sympathy to all of the Schwartz family. Cindy, I know you were a loving and devoted daughter who will miss your father greatly. Peace be with you. Kathy Austin



Kathy Austin - February 22, 2015 at 11:36 AM



“ It was 1955 when I walked into the Muskegon Field Office of the Mich. Dept. of Conservation. I was 18 years old and it was my first day as a Forest Fire Lookout , having just driven up from the family farm in Calhoun County. One of the first guys I met as I walked into the office was Dale Schwartz, who had been sent down from Fremont to help fight wild fires in the county. I learned that Muskegon county had the most wild fires of any in Michigan. Dale was one of the most friendly guys I ever met in the Department. I remember one time Dale and I were out checking on a fire we had had the previous day, and walking along the fire line made by the V plows checking for any hot spots still burning when he bent down and picked up an oak tree leaf. He said “watch this” as he lite the leaf with a lighter. The leaf burst into flames as if it had been soaked in fuel oil. I remember that little lesson as if it had happened yesterday. I was always proud to work in the Department with guys like Dale Schwartz and retired from the DNR in 1988. Dale Randall White Pigeon, Mi.

Dale Randall - February 22, 2015 at 09:09 AM



“ There is a moment in time for everyone when you realize how fragile life is. When you realize how delicate the balance between life and death is. When the strongest become the weakest. When the faithful become full of doubt. When the child becomes the adult. When the son becomes the father and the daughter becomes the mother. When parents stop taking care of their children and the children start taking care of the parents. When love is tested and grows stronger each time it is tested. When someone you can not imagine living you life without is suddenly taken. When you realize time does heal a wound but every wound leaves a scar in the form of a life long lasting memory. When you realize life is death and death is life. When you realize that happiness does not come without sadness. This is that moment in time when all of these things are realized. This is the true definition of life.

Thank you Grandpa for being such an important part of my life. You have been an invaluable presence in my life. You have left a wound that will heal in time and turn into a beautiful scar. Thank you for sharing part of your life with myself and my family. You and grandma are and always will be an important part of our lives.

Love you..... Jeremie

Jeremie Schwartz - February 22, 2015 at 07:19 AM



“ Thank you for not being afraid to show your love for God to all your friends, family and the rest of the world. Really going to miss you. Love you, Uncle Dale

Bill & Sherri Herold and family

sherri herold - February 21, 2015 at 12:06 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Dale Schwartz Memories



Bill Robison - February 21, 2015 at 10:49 AM



“ Aunt Donna and Uncle Dale have always been loving and kind - two of my favorite people on this Earth! Uncle Dale and I had many adventures - riding his Olds 88 - track down DNR perps - walking the woods and steams - hours of storytelling - always a kind word and a huge smile! Men's chorus at Dow - Church in the Wildwood - Colorado - Blanchard farm - Tetons - memories forever! He taught me much about how to communicate and deal with people. God rest his soul!

Nephew Bill - February 21, 2015 at 11:03 AM



“ Will never forget his laughs and love for his Lord. His love for family came in a close second to the Lord. Always felt welcome in his home, enjoyed great times with him and Donna. He will be missed. God bless those grieving.

Don Karen Britt - February 21, 2015 at 09:47 AM



“ You were always there for our family. I have so many memories. But a couple that i will always cherish is you walking me down the aisle and also listening to all your DNR and farm stories. Love you Uncle Dale!

Pam and Troy - February 21, 2015 at 09:25 AM