



Jerry Auger

April 12, 1941 - January 18, 2021

Gerald Auger, “Jerry”, to those who knew and loved him, passed away peacefully on January 18th, at the age of 79 surrounded by his family.

Jerry was born April 12, 1941, the son of Edgar and Grace Auger. He met his wife, Kris, of more than 57 years at Ferndale High School. Best friends that married and followed a dream to live in Northern Michigan and start a business and a family. After moving to Traverse City in 1965, and purchasing the Beachcomber Motel, Jerry spent evenings plowing driveways to make a little extra money. Throughout his life Jerry’s entrepreneurial spirit took him down a path of developing new projects and purchasing existing businesses to breathe new life into them. Businesses such as Cutty Sark Harbor, The Embers, The Days Inn, The Traverse City Drive Inn, Shanty Creek and Schuss Mountain Resorts, The Beach Haus Resort, The Cove and Falling Waters Lodge and many others throughout the region. A modest man never looking for credit or accolades. He believed in a person’s word, honor, compassion, and a handshake.

Known for his business savvy but even more so, his sense of humor and warm heart. Those who knew him knew his generosity of spirit and his surprising ability to say just about anything that crossed his mind or struck him as funny. Over the years, Jerry has quietly support his community through projects like the Easling Pool, The Dennon Museum, and the Cowell Cancer Center.

An avid sailor, Jerry enjoyed many years sailing the Great Lakes with family and friends. His passion for sailing was infectious passing it along to his children, son-in-law and grandchildren. After retiring at the early age of 47, Jerry and Kris set sail for five years Down Island to follow his dream but always returning home to Traverse City and his family and friends.

Jerry is survived by his wife, Kris, his children Mike and Jennifer (Dave) Ringl, his grandchildren Jessica, Sarah and Michael Auger and granddogs Opie and Fletch. Jerry will be deeply missed just as he was deeply loved.

“In heaven, a sailboat just set sail, with Jerry at the helm and a cocktail in his hand!”

Memorial contributions in memory of Jerry may be directed Munson Hospice House.

Comments



“ Knew Jerry years back ago when we visited his family and grandparents in Oak Park and later his sister and family in Franklin, MI. Lost touch over the years, but still knowing that he and Kris were in the Cherry Capitol region and enjoy life up north. Sorry to hear about our cousin, Jerry, and the lose to his wife and family.

Our deepest sympathy,
Ron Raymond, Howell, MI

Ronald B Raymond - May 13 at 04:39 PM



“ I hadn't seen Jerry in decades, but I have many memories of him when we were kids. He used to ice skate on our back yard rink during winters in the Detroit area.

His cousin, Jane Raymond-Wood

Jane Raymond-Wood - May 13 at 07:15 AM



“ Just heard of Jerry's passing and remember what a talented and unique man he was. Regretfully, I never offered him the thanks he deserved for the early influence he had on my business career. Judy and I send Kris our sincere condolences.

Pat Corso

Pat Corso - January 25 at 04:53 PM



“ Great memories of Jerry and his good friend Jan Bonek. My thoughts and prayers are with you Kris and family. Sail on..... Jerry

Darlene Miller



Darlene A. Miller - January 24 at 05:38 PM



“ Being in the liquor business in the 70's & 80's Jerry was always open to placing my products (Smirnoff, Black Velvet, Don Q etc) in his many licensed restaurants/resorts.

Fond memories and great times.

Sail on in calm waters with a gentle wind

Steven Dornbos

T-C & Palmetto Florida

steven dornbos - January 24 at 08:13 AM



“ Our hearts and continued prayers go out to the family and friends who knew and loved this fine-fun man! Jerry had an infectious smile and personality that lit up the room. He almost instantly became the life of the event with many surrounding him to hear what he had to say! You could ask Jerry about anything and he would know about it and have excellent input! Peace love and blessings! Perry and Heidi Pentiuik

Perry Pentiuik - January 23 at 04:35 PM



“ Dear Kris, Mike and Jennifer I want to send you my condolences. I read on FB that Jerry passed away. During the time I lived in the States I spend many weekends and even Christmas at your condo in Travers City. I cherish very good memories at this time. And I always felt so very welcome! I still remember the Christmas period. You invited your friends over and make me feel accepted as a family member. I am still great full for that time. I want to wish you allot of strength in this difficult period.

Rob Koorn - January 23 at 02:51 PM



“ Jerry was a great guy to work for & with and treated me well. He was a strait shooter who told you like it was, but did it with humor and grace. He knew how to negotiate and get a deal done. I learned a lot working for Jerry and send my deepest sympathies to Kris, Jennifer, Mike, Dave & Family. Jerry and all of you are in my thoughts and prayers. Love, Sam

Sam Abood - January 23 at 01:31 PM



“ JERRY... A great friend... and wonderful traveling companion / Kris...
Filled / humor and enthusiasm ...
We will miss him GREATLY... but we have great memories of SO MANY
GREAT TIMES!!
Ken & Stewie Z

zacksKen / Stewie - January 20 at 07:10 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall

Mike - January 20 at 03:10 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Mike - January 20 at 03:10 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Jerry Auger



Jennifer Ringl - January 20 at 02:43 PM



“ The Center of Our Family

Jennifer Ringl - January 20 at 02:46 PM



“ I'm so sorry to hear of Jerry's passing. He was always a gentleman and loved his family dearly. He will be missed at table 4.

Wendy M Warner - January 20 at 02:34 PM



“ Kris, Michael, Jennifer and Dave. Jess, Sarah and Michael! I am so sorry for your loss! Jerry was truly the best! His smile and those blue eyes! Every conversation was memorable! Every meal and every happy hour! Sail away my friend! I will get to the family soon for hugs all around! 🤗

Lesley Goebel - January 19 at 07:48 PM



“ Uncle Jerry, I wish I could have gotten one more of your big bear hugs! They were the best and always made me feel welcome. We will miss you. Sail away.
Tammy and the Martinez clan

Tammy Martinez - January 19 at 07:31 PM



“ Just one more conversation in the driveway. One more smile. I wish I could have either, but I'm so glad to have had the conversations and smiles I have had Jerry. The only thing bigger than the hole in our hearts Jerry leaves behind is the bank of happy memories of his smiling face, laughter, and unending sense of humor even while facing impossible hills to climb.
I will miss you dearly, Jerry Auger. I'll hope that where you are they have sailboats, good scotch, and riding lawnmowers with hydrostatic transmissions.
My prayers and condolences to all the family and friends of such a wonderful man.

Bill O'Rourke - January 19 at 06:45 PM



“ Kris, Mike and Jennifer, please accept our deepest condolences for the passing of Jerry. We loved Jerry! He was such a great man and we enjoyed every visit we had with him. He had a great perspective on life and we feel privileged to have known him. God bless you Jerry!!! May the angels welcome you to heaven.

Connie Ahee - January 19 at 06:42 PM



“ RIP Jerry, and keep the wind blowing through your sails! As a close friend to your son, Mike, I've always admired Jerry. A very special person (Kris too) who had a can do attitude like no other. What a fighter, what an inspiration he's been to all that were honored to know him! May your boats bow continue in Due North for eternity!! Jerry Burke and Family

Jerry Burke - January 19 at 04:41 PM



“ For the few times I've been around Jerry, and the short time of knowing him, he made a large impression to me with his kind smile and friendly personality. My kids and I really liked him. A down to earth, simple man that had an amazing life and has a beautiful family.

My sincere condolences to the family, I wish you all peace, love and comfort.

-Nina Razo

Nina Razo - January 19 at 03:47 PM



“ Sail those big seas Jerry !!!! Sail in the winds !!!

Love to you and your family

Katie Williams Swoboda

catherine williams - January 19 at 03:14 PM