



Leon Long

September 4, 2010

INTERLOCHEN — Leon Dean Long, 71, of Interlochen, died Saturday, Sept. 4, 2010, with dignity and grace at Munson Hospice House after a valiant struggle with pancreatic cancer. He was born in Thompsonville, the son of Leo and Cleora Long. He was a graduate of Copemish schools. After graduation he moved to the Grand Rapids area, where he started his career and family. He later returned home to the Traverse City area. Leon retired from Consumers Energy after 40 years of service as a tree-trimmer, lineman, and supervisor in the automotive garage. After retirement he drove truck hauling fuel for Mutual, and also drove for Elmer's and Century Sun Metals. Leon was an avid hunter and fisherman, which took him to Canada, Montana, and Idaho. He enjoyed numerous outdoor activities and motorsports, loved to travel, enjoying new places and experiences. He especially enjoyed spending time with his wife and family. Leon became a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church, and was active in the congregation. He was also an active blood donor and has donated 13 gallons over time. He was preceded in death by his parents, Leo and Cleora Long; sister, Pauline Hazel; and sister-in-law, Ruth Long. Leon is survived by his wife of eight years, Ruth; and children, Cheryl (Jack) Hosko, Kimberly (Thomas) Bloom, Ronald D. (Jody) Long, Leon Matthew (Holly) Long; and stepchildren Michael (Janine) Schierbeek, Kimberly (Michael) Legge, Sean (Jennifer) Burroughs, and Jason (Denise) Kniat. He enjoyed spending time with his 15 grandchildren and one great-grandson. He is also survived by his brothers, Charlie Long, William (Yvonne) Long, Dale (Yvonne) Long. Many thanks for the cards, prayers, and well-wishes from family and friends as well as the excellent staff at the Hospice House. The family will be available for visitors and guests Tuesday, Sept. 7, from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. at St. Patrick Catholic Church, 630 W. Silver Lake Rd., Traverse City. A vigil service will take place at 7:30 p.m. The funeral mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 8, at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Traverse City. Memorial contributions may be made to the Hospice House c/o Munson Regional Health Care Foundation or to the American Cancer Society. Please share your memories of Leon and condolences with his family at his online guest book found at <http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com>. The family is being served by Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home.