



Norman Clark

July 8, 1931 - June 10, 2017

Norman Clark, 85 passed peacefully with family on June 10, 17 in Traverse City, MI.

Norman is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Alice Clark (Sensenbrenner), his sons Daniel Clark and Tim Clark (Susan Tschiggfrey), his daughter Judith Clark (Dan Elskens), and grandchildren Logan, Liesel, Stella, Julia, and Etienne.

Norman graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts from Wayne State University, and served his country in the U. S. Army. After serving in the military, Norman worked for General Motors as a draftsman. In 1970, the family moved to the Gladstone, Escanaba area where Norman began teaching drafting technology and opened a drafting laboratory at Bay de Noc Community College. Partnering with local industry enhanced the education of his students. He received his Master's Degree in Education from Northern Michigan University. At Bay de Noc he found his true calling, always very proud of the success of his students in the drafting and CAD fields. Many times, he proudly remarked that his students were more successful than himself. He was a strong advocate of vocational education.

He retired after teaching 22 years moving to Lake Ann, Mich. to spend more time with his grandchildren. Throughout his life and in retirement, he continued his painting and love of photography, particularly the waterfalls of the Upper Peninsula.

Norman overcame a tremendous battle with an upper spinal cord chordoma and participated with The Chordoma Foundation giving support and comfort to other chordoma survivors.

A memorial is being held on Saturday July 8, 2017 at Cordia at Grand Traverse Commons, 600 Cottage View Drive, Traverse City, Mich. 49684. (231) 995-5266. Visitation at 11 am, service at 12 pm with reception to follow. Donations in Norman's memory can be made to William Bonifas Fine Art Center, 700 First Avenue South, Escanaba, Mich. 49829 (906) 786-3833. <http://www.bonifasarts.org>. Kindly share thoughts and memories with Norman's family at <http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com>.

Comments



“ I went to Wayne Univ and Norm was one of my favorite friends. I will always remember his telling me how he would take the bus to school carrying. His rifle for his class No one worried it seemed so normal then. I have his watercolor hanging and the placemats for the table with his photographs. I will be 85 this December. Would anyone there want me to send them Norms terrific watercolor? It has a red frame and is about 36x24. Norm was such a terrific human being. I will tell our few remaining.

Classmates about his June departure

Thank you

Vivian Wiitala

vivian Wiitala - September 14, 2017 at 04:56 PM



“ Dearest Uncle:

I will always remember what you taught me about being a warrior: about how to stand up for yourself and your family. Thank you for sharing your medical issues with me and teaching me how to be a better patient advocate.

Thank you for your devotion to my Aunt Alice. Being present at your 50th Wedding Celebration and listening to you ask her to marry you again was a highlight for me and my daughter Gillian.

Thank you for sharing your photography with me, both in person when I would visit and digitally through the Internet. The beauty of your photography will be with me forever.

Thank you for blessing me with three wonderful cousins: Dan, my friend who is like a "brother" to me, who helps me weather life's storms; and Tim, who is raising two beautiful girls who are most certainly destined for the Sciences; and lovely Judy, the child who seems to have inherited your trait of being so completely Compassionate to those in need.

Thank you for being a "second father" to me when I needed it most. On multiple occasions, your friendly voice and wise counsel over the phone reminded me of my own dear father.

Love always, your niece, Mary Clark

Mary Clark - July 06, 2017 at 10:54 AM