



Paul Kenneth Alexander

July 5, 1963 - September 16, 2019

Paul Kenneth Alexander, 56, of Traverse City, formerly of Hancock, MI passed away September 16, 2019.

Hero to his baby girl, warrior to his son, confidant, best friend, companion and soul mate to his bride, Paul leaves behind his legacy, his memories, his love and his family far too early.

Paul was devoted, kind and without fail able to unconditionally love. He was the strength for all around him when they needed it and he was the support that was always welcomed and appreciated when life was just happening.

On the back deck of the house in the woods is where you could find Paul and his wife Vickie (Gauld) enjoying one another's conversation and company. He could always captivate a room with his gift of story-telling and his ability to make others laugh. He had a passion for the outdoors and could be found surrounded by nature most frequently. He had a deep appreciation for the simple things in life. He loved the trips that the entire family would take to their cottage up on Lake Superior and he and Vickie would dream of the day that they would retire back to the Upper Peninsula.

His strong presence, his wisdom, his humor, his devotion to his family, his kind and gentle ways and his pure heart will be missed always but never forgotten.

Paul leaves behind his wife Vickie, his daughter Abigail, his son Sam, his mother Eleanor, his sister Laura and his niece Lydia, his aunt Karen, as well as his mother and father in law Beckie and Dale Gauld and his sister in law Quincie (Don) Wend. Also missing him will be his beloved four-legged friend, Lou. They will all continue sharing, loving and remembering him.

He is now joining his father Kenneth and dear family-friend and fellow Yooper, Billie Jo Clark. He'll also be welcomed by other family, friends, and canine companions that too have moved on.

The family is planning a small remembrance gathering in the future to celebrate his life. Those wishing an expression of sympathy in Paul's honor may choose to donate to the Humane Society of the United States or the Sierra Club.

Comments



“ Dear Ellie,Laura and family,

I was so sorry to hear about Paul's passing.....I have such fond memories from high school with Paul and his buddies...Paul and I went to the prom in 10th grade together. I picked him up at his house because I had my license before he did. He was so kind,fun and smart....my deepest sympathies for your loss.....

Sincerely,
Laura Lepisto

Laura Lepisto - October 18, 2019 at 05:42 PM



“ to Paul's family. I grew up with Paul in Hancock . I played junior hockey with him and High School football . Paul was so fun and a great classmate, team mate and friend during those years. Kind Regards , Cliff Tervo

cliff tervo - October 02, 2019 at 11:55 AM



“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Vickie Alexander - September 30, 2019 at 09:40 PM



“ I have just learned of the passing of Paul. I try to keep up on the news etc. from the Copper Country and sometimes I don't check as often as I should. I was very saddened to read this. Paul was a good friend all through high school. He was my escort for Wing Ding our junior year. I wore his number 9 jersey (I believe that was the number) to the hockey game that Friday night (Bulldogs won) and I remember getting some dirty looks across the ice at the SDC from his then girlfriend. I only met Vickie a couple of times at Mike and Susies house in Hancock and thinking what an attractive couple they were. I will say a prayer for his beautiful family .He will be surely missed by many.

Lisa Halkola Shank

Lisa Halkola Shank - September 30, 2019 at 12:13 PM



“ I knew Paul's mom Ellie. She and I worked together at the Portage Lake Library when I was a high school student. Ellie spoke so proudly of her son. I'm so sorry for the family's loss. Jennifer Schnabel Brost

Jennifer Schnabel Brost - September 27, 2019 at 01:17 PM



“ I met Paul during my sophomore year at Tech but had played against him for years on the ice. Paul made the time at Tech fun and memorable. The two of us plus Keith K made our way through the med tech program and unfortunately went our separate ways. I frequently got updates from my Dad when he talked to Paul's parents across the fence on Harris Street. I heard a lot of pride in their words.

Rod Wakeham

Rodney Wakeham - September 26, 2019 at 12:38 PM



“ Only picture I have of the gang and I got that from Merv. But I have a couple million in my head. Lots of good times.



Robert Witting - September 25, 2019 at 12:50 PM



“ I will always remember that on quiet early mornings at work, much like today, we would all be clicking away on our keyboards, hard at work. Then out of the stillness, we would hear the guitar strings of Gordon Lightfoot. It was November 10th. We would peek across the cubicles and Paulie would sit back in his chair, have his arms folded across his chest and have a little twinkle in his eye. Being a true yoooper, Edmund Fitzgerald Day seemed a bigger holiday for him than Labor Day or Halloween. He followed this tradition for just about every year I can remember working with him. It makes us smile just thinking about it.

We will miss his lively stories of his adolescence, the pride on his face when he spoke of his family, and his mischievousness.

We are heartbroken to hear of his passing and we send our love and sympathies to your family.

Missy DiPisa - September 25, 2019 at 06:55 AM



“ Vickie - Abby - Sam

We knew him as "Al". We go back a longtime. As the years went by we did not see each other or stay in touch very often, but I will tell you as kids growing up we sure didn't miss many days when we were NOT together. Football, Hockey, Baseball, Golf we did it all together. Al - Merv - Tom - Woody pretty much if you saw one, the others were there too. So sad that we could not all spend just one more day together to laugh and tell stories we have told hundreds of times. Al was and still is one of the funniest people I have ever met, as matter of fact over the last few days Tom, Merv, Cindy B, my wife Susie and myself have shared some good laughs remembering all the fun we had growing up....we are so lucky to have such a great childhood in Hancock. Al was the best man in our wedding. I don't think I ever saw Al cry, but just as we were ready to start our wedding ceremony and walk down the aisle Al turned to me with tears in his eyes and gave me a huge hug...something I will never forget, not sure why we had that moment but glad we did. I have had many tears over the last few days looking back at that moment. Then of course the "real Al" came out and said something along the line of..."Christ we have to get it together"! I regret that I will not be able to come to say one last goodbye so this is my opportunity....goodbye old friend...I have a hard time feeling sad when we have so many great memories with you.

Mike "Woody" Aldrich



Mike Aldrich - September 21, 2019 at 05:18 PM



“ Beckie is a dear friend of mine. I wish this family strength as they begin to inch towards acceptance/adjustment.

Sally Cole - September 21, 2019 at 09:29 AM



“ Vickie and family, I am so sorry for your loss. There is not enough space below to share memories from the amount of fun, laughs and great times that i had growing up with Paul. He touched so many people with his unique way to make you laugh. He was dear friend that will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Paul Klemett

Paul Klemett - September 21, 2019 at 08:55 AM



“ Vickie, there are no adequate words simply my heartfelt thoughts and prayers are with you, the kids, and the rest of your family. 'Paulie' was my 'go to guy' in the Lab whenever I needed assistance at work. I so enjoyed working with, and getting to know, him. He was a 'get 'er done' kinda guy with a smile and good attitude in the face of a problem that needed to be worked out. Please know you're being held closely by many during these first days and weeks without Paul at your sides. May you continue to feel his love and strength and presence....

Shelle McGuire

shelle mcguire - September 21, 2019 at 02:16 AM



“ 14 files added to the album Paul



Vickie Alexander - September 20, 2019 at 03:55 PM



“ Thank you for sharing these pics, great moments of your family.

Barb Beyer - September 30, 2019 at 08:50 PM



“ I am so sorry, I will keep you and the kids in my thoughts and prayers.

Debi Ri-chard - September 20, 2019 at 11:07 AM



“ Vickie, Abby and Sam - I can't express how sorry I am for your incredible loss. I am heartbroken. All those that knew and loved Paul are as well. We moved into our Harris home in the fall of 68 -- Laura and Paul were the first neighbors we met, with Laura being the braver one and coming over first. I can still picture Paul looking over at us through the porch railing. Of course we became great friends - all of us. Memories of the Alexander family are weaved into the fabric of my early life and they are all great memories. From snowball fights, kickball games, skating at Terrace Park, leaf piles to relentless teasing across the street (especially when Paul washed the cars and especially the time he Windexed the windows first, before hosing down the car or the time he got stuck in the trunk - I had a field day with that). So many fun memories throughout our school years together -from being "Super Kids" together in 3rd grade to sharing our graduation party with other East Hancock seniors and all the shared classes and sporting events in between. Paul was the whole package - so smart, cute (!), athletic, funny and a kind, gentle soul. He loved to laugh and tease and I ate it up. He had a wonderful sense of humor and I remember how much he loved The Three Stooges (and loved to imitate them) and Benny Hill. We had many long conversations on that front porch, even after we were both in college and only saw each other sporadically. The bond never changed. He was a shoulder I leaned and cried on after my son was born with Down syndrome and needed heart surgery. I'll never forget his compassion and concern for me. I'm so grateful I knew him and could say he was my dear friend. I loved him like a brother and will miss him forever. Much love and prayers to you all.

Cindy Figures - September 19, 2019 at 04:52 PM



“ I am deeply sorry to hear of your loss. I am praying for you all - for your comfort and that God may be blessing you with good memories of your life together.
Sandi Pascarelli

Sandi Pascarelli - September 19, 2019 at 06:49 AM