



William "Bill" J. Saxton

October 4, 1940 - January 28, 2019

William "Bill" J. Saxton, 78, of Traverse City, passed away Monday, January 28, 2019 at Munson Hospice House.

Bill was born on the family farm in Kingsley on October 4, 1940 to the late Oliver and Rosetta (VanPelt) Saxton. He graduated from Kingsley High School in 1959. Honorably, Bill served in the Army Reserves.

On April 24, 1965, he married Esther Marie Sharnowski at the Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Cedar, MI. Together they lovingly raised four wonderful daughters.

Bill worked as a carpenter for many years. He loved bowling, fishing, time with his family, and dancing with his wife.

In 1988, Bill suffered a closed head injury after a devastating fall off of high scaffolding. Only given a few years to live, Bill beat the odds and lived many years longer than any doctor thought possible. Esther took amazing care of him over the past 30 years. Every Tuesday, up until last May, they would meet their friends at Leelanau Sands Casino for live polka music and dancing. He continued to enjoy dancing, even in his wheel chair.

Bill could always be seen in a funny statement tee and will always be remembered for his sharp sense of humor that never diminished.

Surviving Bill is his wife Esther of 53 devoted years; daughters, Michele (Angelo) Vozza, Marie "Roxanne" Saxton (Saul Dobson), Rebecca Saxton (Jim Jeffery), Barbara Saxton; grandchildren Angelo III, Dante, and Massimo; siblings, Wayne Saxton (Mae), Vanita Heim, Valita (Raymond) Wolf; beloved grand-dog Sammy, and many other family members and friends.

Bill is preceded in death by his in-laws, Dave Heim and Donna Saxton.

The family would like to extend their sincere gratitude to Kelly and Rusty Ackerman of the French Manor and Todd Neinhouse of Agevix for years of love and care for Bill.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held for Bill on Saturday, February 2, 2019 at 11am with a visitation held one hour prior at St. Francis Catholic Church. Burial will take place in the spring at the Grand Traverse Memorial Gardens. In lieu of flowers, the family wishes for one to pay it forward to the Munson Hospice House. Kindly share thoughts and memories with Bill's family at www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com.

Cemetery

Grand Traverse Memorial Gardens

3575 Veterans Drive
Traverse City, MI, 49684

Events

FEB 2 **Visitation for friends and family** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

St. Francis Catholic Church
1025 S. Union, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

FEB 2 **Mass of Christian Burial** 11:00AM

St. Francis Catholic Church
1025 S. Union, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

Comments



“ Esther,
May our loving Lord wrap His arms of comfort and strenght around you and your family, You are in my thoughts and prayers. So sorry for your loss.

Darlene Miller (adoration friend)



Darlene Miller - February 03 at 01:23 AM



“ Bill's obituary brought back so many memories. Esther, Michele, Marie, Becky, Barb, and families, I have such fond memories of your husband/dad. Mark used to marvel at his strength. So sorry for your loss. God's peace be with you.

Janice - February 01 at 12:04 PM



“ I still remember when he came up to Ellsworth after my dad passed away, grabbed our motorhome and me, and took me smelt dipping and then in the fall took me to the UP bear hunting with the family. I will mis him.

Charlie Van Pelt - February 01 at 12:01 PM



“ Esther and Family, we spent many a great day at the Cottage with the Saxton's, Heim's and Strange's! Our prayers of comfort and Peace for you all. Larry King(Bob's oldest son)

LARRY R KING - February 01 at 07:39 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of William "Bill" J. Saxton.



January 31 at 10:06 AM