



Brian Mertaugh DeWick

December 17, 1949 - May 5, 2025

Brian Mertaugh DeWick, age 75, of St. Ignace, Michigan, died peacefully on May 5, 2025. He was born on December 17, 1949, in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, to Lionel “Lee” and Frances Ann (Mertaugh) DeWick.

Brian grew up in Hessel, Michigan, and attended the Hessel School House through second grade before graduating from Cedarville High School. He went on to attend both Ferris State University and Lake Superior State University with great friends and had some equally great times. Throughout the course of his life, he worked alongside his grandfather, father, uncles, cousins, and brother restoring wooden boats and doing marine mechanics at E. J. Mertaugh Boat Works where his love for the water and boats took root. It was in St. Ignace that Brian met the love of his life, Elisabeth Luoma. They were married on October 9, 1982, beginning a life together marked by love, laughter, many Yooper adventures, and shared passions.

Brian was happiest outdoors—deer hunting, ice fishing, boating, tending his bird feeders, or spending time at the cabin. He also loved motorcycle rides across the US and Canada on his 1974 Honda, grilling on the deck, and was the chef in the household. Friends and family knew not to call during Jeopardy or Wheel of Fortune, and his nose could always be found in a book or the newspapers. A loyal sports fan, Brian proudly cheered on the Detroit Lions and Tigers, and all MI collegiate teams. Brian will be remembered for his

kindness and warmth, jolly laugh, work ethic, storytelling, and the joy he found in simple pleasures. He loved his wife dearly, beamed with pride of his daughter, and adored his grandson who inherited his trademark 'Mertaugh mulleys.' He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

Brian is survived by his wife, Elisabeth; daughter, Caroline (Kristopher) Franz; grandchild, Sawyer Franz; brother, Timothy DeWick; sister, Melissa DeWick; sister-in-law, Maria Flores; sister-in-law, Judith Donckers; and several cousins, nieces, and a nephew who will all miss him dearly.

Brian was preceded in death by his parents, Lee and Frances; sister, Maeve Fitzgerald; and several of his extended Mertaugh family.

A Memorial Gathering will be held on Saturday, May 17, 2025, at Family Life Funeral Homes, 24549 S. M-129 Pickford, MI 49774 starting at 10:00 AM. The Memorial Service will begin at 11:00 AM with a reception to follow at the Islander Bar in Hessel.

Condolences may be left to the family at www.familylifefh.com and donations in his name can be left to the Hessel School House, 3206 Cedar St, Hessel, MI 49745.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

MAY 17. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Family Life Funeral Homes - Pickford
24549 S. M-129
Pickford, MI 49774
(906) 647-3400
flfh@familylifefh.com
<https://www.familylifefuneralhomes.com/>

Memorial Service

MAY 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

Family Life Funeral Homes - Pickford
24549 S. M-129
Pickford, MI 49774

Tribute Wall



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Brian Mertaugh DeWick.



May 17, 2025 at 07:18 AM



“ Rochelle N. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Brian Mertaugh DeWick.

Rochelle N. - May 17, 2025 at 07:02 AM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Brian Mertaugh DeWick.



May 15, 2025 at 05:14 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Brian Mertaugh DeWick.

May 15, 2025 at 05:14 PM

DN

“ David G, Amy, MJ, Shelley, Dana, David M, Onel, Kaush, and Nate planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Brian Mertaugh DeWick.

David G, Amy, MJ, Shelley, Dana, David M, Onel, Kaush, and Nate - May 14, 2025 at 04:39 PM

DN

“ DG, AL, MJ, SH, DB, DM, OF and NP purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Brian Mertaugh DeWick.



DG, AL, MJ, SH, DB, DM, OF and NP - May 14, 2025 at 04:32 PM

DN

“ DG, AL, MJ, SH, DB, DM, OF and NP planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Brian Mertaugh DeWick.

DG, AL, MJ, SH, DB, DM, OF and NP - May 14, 2025 at 04:32 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Brian Mertaugh DeWick.

May 13, 2025 at 07:25 PM

DN

“ *Deb and Tom Nye purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Brian Mertaugh DeWick.*



Deb and Tom Nye - May 12, 2025 at 01:59 PM

TO

“ *Tom Ochs purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Brian Mertaugh DeWick.*



Tom Ochs - May 09, 2025 at 07:31 PM

TO

“ *Tom Ochs planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Brian Mertaugh DeWick.*

Tom Ochs - May 09, 2025 at 07:31 PM

TF

“ *THE WINDSOR FAMILY purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Brian Mertaugh DeWick.*



THE WINDSOR FAMILY - May 09, 2025 at 12:13 PM

NJ

“ I’m so very sorry for your husbands passing Liz and will pray that he is in Heaven with the Lord. May you find joy and peace with your memories. 🙏🙏🙏💗💗💗

neil jandron - May 08, 2025 at 05:43 PM

MF

So sorry to hear of Brian's passing. He used to tell he was wiser because he was one day older than me. We graduated in the class of 1968 and enjoyed many good times together. To his family my sincere condolences. I will miss him dearly...

Marty Fountain - May 08, 2025 at 10:22 PM

BS

The U.P. will not be the same for me without Brian I had many great times with him. I could always count on Brian and Liz ,both long time friends. May he rest in peace.
Bobby Snyder

Bob Snyder - May 14, 2025 at 01:06 PM