



Dale R. Hoornstra

October 28, 1948 - May 6, 2023

Dale R. Hoornstra, 74, of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, passed away Saturday, May 6, 2023, at My Michigan Medical Center - Midland, after a six -month long battle with Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML), surrounded by his loving family.

Dale was born October 28, 1948, to Russell J and Eleanore O. Hoornstra, in Sault Ste. Marie, MI. He graduated from Sault High School with the class of 1966. Dale started work with Michigan Bell Telephone Co. on April 8, 1967 and worked up to the day before he enlisted into the U.S. Coast Guard on his 20th birthday. Upon discharge in 1972 he returned to Michigan Bell and worked until retirement in 1996.

In 1979 Dale joined the Michigan National Guard, 1437th Engineer Company in Sault Ste. Marie, MI, until 1985, when he and seven others started the Reserve Unit at U. S. Coast Guard Group Soo. Dale was recalled to active duty several times. After 9/11 he was asked if he could serve on active duty for a couple of weeks and stayed 6 years, until his retirement as Chief Warrant Officer, CWO4. Dale served on the I-500 for 28 years and was Chairman for 4 years. He also served on the Sault Area School Board for 7 years, and Sault Ste Marie City Commission for 7 years. He owned Hoornstra Communication since 1996 until his passing. During the winter months Dale enjoyed spending time in his Kubota plowing snow for his many customers for over 20 years.

Dale was a very social person. If he met you once, chances are you were a friend for life. Whatever he had, whether it be a tool, trailer, Kubota, boat, vehicle, if you needed something and he had it, he would be right there to offer you the use of it, no questions asked.

On May 4, 1974, he married Rhonda Perron and together they had two daughters, Kirstyn Rae Beaulieu (Robert) and Staci Lynn Palo (Chad). They have 4 grandchildren, Evan Kyle (Betsy), Emily Wilson/Palo, Brynn Beaulieu and Iyla Beaulieu. He is also survived by Donald Stabile (Karen), who he always said was the "son he never had".

Dale is survived by his brother, Dennis (Rosemary) Hoornstra, of Lisle, Illinois, and a sister, Diane (Dick) Temmer, of Green Bay, Wisconsin. Also surviving is his brother-in-law, Steve Perron, of Sault Ste. Marie, MI, as well as many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Dale loved his family more than anything. He would do anything for them any time they needed something. He made sure anything they wanted or needed, they had. He loved being a Grandpa/Papa more than anything, and he so enjoyed spending time with his grandkids at Monocle Lake, or attending recitals, concerts, plays, sports events, whatever they were involved in.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Russell and Eleanore, his in-laws, Ernest and Elaine Perron, and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Visitation will be on Friday, May 12, 2023, from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., with the service to follow at the Central United Methodist Church in Sault Ste. Marie, MI. Burial will be in Oaklawn Chapel Gardens at a later date.

The family would like to thank everyone who reached out to Dale during these last six months, either in person, by phone, or with a card, to say they were

praying for him. Dale always tried to make sure to thank everyone. Dale and his family were so appreciative of the many, many people who were on his side. We would also like to thank his best friend and Doctor, John Ockenfels, for all he did for Dale for many years. A big thank you to all the staff in the Oncology Department, Dr. Sardar, the staff at My Michigan - Sault, in the Admitting Department and the Laboratory Department, as well as the Second Floor nursing staff, for all the wonderful care you all provided these last months. Dale always enjoyed getting to know and visiting with everyone and they became new friends.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the Vietnam Veterans, Soo Chapter, or to the Children's Shriners Hospital.

Tribute Wall

WK

“ To Rhonda, Kirstyn, Staci and the rest of the Hoornstra family, I am so sorry for your loss and apologize that I hadn't learned of Dale's passing until today. In the two short years I spent with Dale in SSM, we grew to be good friends and, I think, a heck of a Coast Guard team right after 9/11. Dale was instrumental in mentoring and introducing me to the SAIC in my duties. His personal and professional relationship with all the members of that international committee allowed the Coast Guard to quickly share information and posture all for better safety. Personally, my little family enjoyed trips out to the lake and watching Lake Superior State hockey with Dale. Either Dale or I would put my 2-year old on our shoulders and go out looking for chicks LOL. I have so many memories and will miss seeing him on my trips through Da Sault. Again, sincere condolences from the Kean family.



Wayne Kean - October 30, 2023 at 12:00 AM

BE

“ Sad to hear Dale passed away. A genuine nice guy with a great sense of humor and love of his family. He will be missed.

Bob

Bob Esson - June 09, 2023 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ I am so sorry to hear of Dale's passing. He was a great friend and mentor during my time at Group Sault. Invariably when I think of our time up north, I think of Dale. Peace and Comfort to his family.

Kevin Hall - May 24, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ Dear Rhonda and family,
I am so sorry to hear the sad news of Dale's passing. Sending our prayers and hugs. Think of you often.

Mary (Michaels) and Ernie Chambers - May 10, 2023 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Dear Rhonda and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Monocle lake won't be the same! We will keep him in our thoughts and prayers and his memories will live on! I'm so sorry I can not be there, but we will get together when I get home! We all loved him for his thoughtfulness, kindness, smile and generosity!! He was one of a kind!! 🙏💔

Jo Ann McQuiggin - May 10, 2023 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ Dale was such a great and friendly person to St. James Episcopal Church. Because Elaine Perron, his mother-in-law, woked here before me, Dale knew this building inside and out and would help with all the church phone issues. I am so sorry for your loss and will keep you all in St. James Prayers

Pam Briglio - St. James Episcopal Church - May 10, 2023 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ Dear Rhonda and Family, we are so sorry to hear of Dale's passing. He's been a fixture in this community for so long. As said in his obituary he was always willing to offer a tool or to use one of his "toys" to help us out. He gave me good advice when asked for; he always had a wave and smile when driving by; he was just a great neighbor. We're here if we can help in any way. So very, very sorry.



Linda and Rich Dalimonte - May 09, 2023 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ Dear Rhonda,
We are so sorry to hear of Dale's battle with leukemia and his recent passing. Please know that we care and will be praying for you as you adjust to life without your husband.
Dennis and Jane Kennedy

Jane Kennedy - May 09, 2023 at 12:00 AM

NL

“ Rest in peace and am very thankful for Dale's hard work and very caring ways. I was at work when he was working on the phones at Hearthside❤️🙏. My prayers for his family.

Nicole Long - May 09, 2023 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ Sorry you had to Leave us. You won't be forgotten. like your Father.we still think of him U are a chip off of him and like him u won't be forgotten. We will think of You a lot while driving by You Lovely home on Monacle Lake



Richard LeLievre - May 09, 2023 at 12:00 AM