



Donald Merle Marlatt

December 23, 1934 - October 14, 2021

Donald Merle Marlatt, age 86, of DeTour, Michigan, died on October 14, 2021, at Harborview Assisted Living. He was born on December 23, 1934, in Hartville, Ohio, to Merlin Guy and Nellie Pauline (Patton) Marlatt.

Don grew up in Afton, Michigan, before the family moved to River Rouge, Michigan, where he attended River Rouge Area Schools. He met Helen J. Bertchinger in 1953. They married on July 23, 1955, in Dearborn, Michigan. Don then served in the United States Army for a year before returning home to his family. They raised two children while Don worked for General Motors. In 1988,

Don retired and they moved to the Eastern Upper Peninsula. Since then he was the local gunsmith and volunteered for the DeTour Ambulance for over thirty years.

Don was a member of the DeTour Fire Department and a forty-year member of the Masons; Worshipful Master of Ancient Craft #567 in 1984 & Les Cheneaux #590 in 1995-1998.

Don loved guns, enjoyed watching westerns and cowboy movies, especially John Wayne movies. More than anything he loved and cherished his grandkids.

Don is survived by his wife, Helen Marlatt of DeTour; son, Jeffery (Mary) Marlatt of Raber, Michigan; daughter, Donna (Greg) Broniak of Oxford, Michigan; grandchildren, Michael Marlatt, Lindsay (Ryan) Burk, Cynthia Marlatt, and Kristen Broniak; great-grandchildren, Max Marlatt and Kinley Bryant; and beloved nephew, Doug Marlatt of Hale, Michigan.

Don is preceded in death by his sisters, Betty (Paul) Fox and Marlene (Bill) Hughey; brother, Vernon Marlatt; sister-in-law, Shirley (Irv) Straus; brothers-in-law, Houston "Mort" (Ann) Morton and Ronald "Bud" Morton.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Memorial Contributions may be made to the DeTour Ambulance Corp., 260 Superior St. P.O. Box 397, Detour Village, MI 49725

Galer Funeral Homes & Cremation in Pickford, Michigan is serving the family. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.galerfuneralhomes.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Donald Merle Marlatt*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *Donald Merle Marlatt*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *Donald Merle Marlatt*

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ *Helen and Family,
So sorry to hear of Don's passing. Larry and he always enjoyed
discussing their rifles, etc. over the years. You have our sincere
sympathy in this difficult time.
Larry, Jill Lucy and Family*

Jill Lucy - October 20, 2021 at 04:38 PM



“ *Helen and family, I am saddened to hear about Don. I have such
fond memories of him. He was a great mentor when I rode the rig
with him. My prayers are with you and your family. With deepest
sympathy, Marlene Thornton.*

Marlene Thornton - October 19, 2021 at 02:19 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss. He will be sincerely missed. Even though we didn't visit much. He was always in our thoughts. Love to you all John and Gay.*

Gay Coyle - October 18, 2021 at 07:10 PM

DS

“ *Don's passing is leaving a huge hole in the community, his church, and in the hearts of many, including us. We are sad and will always remember his many kind acts.*
Ken and Dianne

Dianne Schmitigal - October 18, 2021 at 03:54 PM