



Gilmore Some

March 22, 1929 - January 19, 2015

Gilmore R. Some passed away January 19, 2015 with his family at his side. Gil was born March 22, 1929, one of 13 children of Agnes and Harold Some. He was 85. Gil lived most of his life in Sault Ste. Marie after growing up on Neebish Island. He left the Sault in 1963 to seek employment downstate. There he found the love of his life, Margie Ensign. The two were married in 1970 and moved to the Sault in 1975, when Gil assumed management of The House of Lighting retail store. A natural salesman, Gil spent most of his working life in some aspect of sales. His personality lent itself to sales. He was a people person, and made friends easily. At the center of most events, Gil was a great organizer and turned most activities into a competition. Gil was involved in many activities, from golf, to fishing, card games and his beloved Lake Superior State athletics. His summer activities centered on “bingo, bango, bongo” at various golf courses, mostly at The Crossings in the Sault. Mostly, Gil loved people and the community. Gil always integrated sports, teaching and mentoring into his life. Over the years, he dedicated time to youth bowling and hockey in his early years, to the Lakers in his later years. Gil said many times that the best job he had, the one he enjoyed most, was as Equipment Manager at Lake Superior State. The Director of Athletics, Bud Cooper, hired Gil in 1981 after Roy Forrest departed for active duty with the U.S. Army. Gil worked with all the Laker athletics teams, but focused on hockey, traveling with the team in the 1980s and '90s. He was a fixture at the Norris Center, and spent many hours training students to deal with equipment

issues, washing and drying uniforms, ordering equipment, repairing gear and assisting all the Laker teams. Known as "The Cat" to the hockey players, Gil endeared himself to the Laker teams of the 1980s and '90s. Every hockey road trip, Gil would either be on board the bus or would come out, prior to departure, with a joke for the players. He was famous for his "skate lace story," which always emitted a groan from the players but was popular with the veterans and all new material for the freshmen. Gil traveled when the Lakers were in a tournament or the playoffs, and was manning a bench door for all home games and as many away contests as he could make. Always positive, he was a back-slapper and cheerleader on the bench. The coaches appreciated Gil's enthusiasm and the players loved him. He was a big part of NCAA championship teams in 1988, 1992 and 1994. Gil was known for his chili feeds for hockey and other teams and staff. He called these events "Gilly's Chili" and had a couple of such events each year, always at his place at Lake Superior Estates. Over the years, Gil and Marge stayed in touch with most ex-players....they attended weddings and players' family events. They became close with many Laker athletes, especially hockey players and their families. The Laker family was very important to Gil. Gil was revered by the hockey players and considered an important team cog by the coaches and staffs, be it Frank Anzalone's staff in the 1980s, Jeff Jackson, Scott Borek or Jim Roque in the '90s and into the 2000s. He was ever on the door(s) at home games and most road series. He retired in 1995 but maintained his hockey presence well into the 2000s. Even when the frailties of advanced years forced him to forsake his bench role, Gil was at many a Laker practice and every home game right into 2014. Gil leaves behind his wife, Marjorie; seven children: Brenda (Jay) Welch of Sault Ste. Marie; Wanda (Robert) Marchant of Sterling, VA; Richard B. (Sally) Somes of Sault Ste. Marie,; Debra (David) Harwood of Brimley; Daniel (Debbie) Ensign of Dallas, TX; Harry (Lisa) Ensign of Belleville, MI; Susan Rhodus of Inkster, MI; Sixteen grandchildren: Wendy (Kevin) Ball; Jason (MaryAnne) Welch; Marci (Larry) Hatfield; Joey (Frank) Marchant-Tambone; Kristi Clemow; Ree Somes; Rachael (Jeff)

Morency; Courtney (Daniel) Winberg; Kira (Morgan) Mudge; Sara Coats; Benjamin Ensign; Eric Ensign; Trey (Marti) Ensign; Jason (Kasey) Ensign. Also surviving are 27 great grandchildren: Jamie Ball, Taylor Ball, Lyndsey Welch, Molly Welch, Tucker Welch, Jordan Stebelton, Justine Hatfield, Jared Hatfield, Olivia Roberts, Jack Roberts, Anthony Tambone, Martina Clemow, Ree Clemow, Jacob Morency, Sydney Morency, Dillyn Winberg, Tyler Winberg, Aria Mudge, Eli Mudge, Hanna Coats, Bella Coats, Garret Ensign, Easton Ensign, Natalie Samples, Tyler Samples. Gil also leaves behind his brothers and sisters: Mildred Radley of Longmont, CO; Wayne (Jenny) Somes of Sault Ste. Marie; Sharon Woodruff of Richardson, TX; Richard (Noreen) Somes of Lenoir, N.C. Brothers and sisters in law: Annette (Wayne) Hilston of Electra, TX; Ronald (Joan) Brining of Fairfield Glade, TN; Douglas (Liz) Brining of South Lyon, MI; Dorothy (Bill) Weston of Crossville, TN and many nieces and nephews. Gil was predeceased by his son, Ronald Ree Somes, and his brothers and sisters: Jack Somes, David Somes, Eva Jane Harris, Emily Brooks, Rosemond Anderson, Harold Somes and Audrey King. Please join the family for services to be held at Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home on Saturday, January 24, 2015 with visitation from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. The funeral service will be conducted at 2 p.m., with Mr. Tom Cash officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Gil Somes Scholarship Fund at Lake Superior State University. Online condolences may be left at www.clarkbaileynewhouse.com

Tribute Wall



“ Gilmore Some

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ Gilmore Some

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ Gilmore Some

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ Marge - I was very sorry to hear of Gil's passing. We were in Kalamazoo and unable to attend the service. As I'm sure you know, Kurt (Miller) and family were very fond of Gil and, when the '94 Lakers were inducted in the Laker Hall of Fame in August, the players went to visit with Gil. Kurt was extremely sad to see Gil's failing health as he was always such a bubbly energetic person. Pete and I would like to extend our sympathies to you and your family. Kurt and Tracie's son, Keegan, who is currently living with us as he plays hockey for the Soo Eagles, said he saw "Gilly" when the team was at Tendercare (he thinks that is where he was but wasn't sure) during the Christmas holidays.

Pete and Susie Verrett - February 01, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ To Marge and the entire Somes family: I am grateful to have had Gil (and Marge) as a part of my life. My introduction to the Soo and LSSU was with Gil and Marge as my hosts during my interview to be an assistant coach for Laker Hockey. Little did I realize at the time, that it was the beginning of a beautiful friendship that I cherished. Gil was more than just a good friend, he was family. He was a the best of what a man should be. I loved the man. When I heard he had passed, I lost a part of me. I am grateful that I got to visit him last August for one last hug. Margie, I am sorry that I could not be there for you but you are in my prayers. Call any time. I will visit you in the spring. Jeff (Jackson) "Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal."

Jeff Jackson - January 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Margie Jim and I are so sorry to hear about Gil We are in Florida right now and I will be in contact with you when we get home. My thoughts and prayers are with you now. Marion

Jim & Marion Hank - January 24, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ Margie, our thoughts and feelings are with you at this difficult time. Cherish all the memories and love shared for so many years. I remember fondly dinners with you and Gil at your home. Little did I know then as a student that these are the most important times and represented what Gil was all about. A good meal, quick with a joke and a smile on his face and in his eyes when in his company. I'm am glad I was able to get back to the Soo for the 25th anniversary. I will miss his calling me "Huge" as he greeted me. With love and respect, Craig.

Craig Hewson - January 23, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ Aunt Margie - I am so sorry to hear about Uncle Gil. I have many found memories of the trailer and also of the large family events over the holidays. Remember the cats and when they chased me onto the toilet... He was a kind man. Reading the comments from the hockey team is such a testament to what kind of man he was. My thoughts and prayers are with you and the family. Love Kim Brining

Kim Brining - January 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ My sincerest condolences to Gil's family. He truly was one-of-a-kind and left lasting memories that will bring a smile to Laker faces for years to come. My heart aches for Margie and all of his family and hope they find comfort knowing what a special man he was.

Jenny Larke - January 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM