



John 'Jack' Truckey

January 4, 1931 - September 29, 2013

John “Jack” R. Truckey, age 82, passed away peacefully at War Memorial Hospital on Sunday, September 29, 2013 after a yearlong battle with cancer. He was born on January 4, 1931 in Marquette, Michigan to Willard and Siiri (Pirto) Truckey. Jack spent his formative teen years and graduated from St. Lawrence Seminary “the hill of happiness.” He then returned to his hometown of Marquette to work as a meat cutter at Red Owl Food Store, before entering the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. While home on leave, he married Ruth Dolkey on August 28, 1951, at St. John’s Church in Marquette, MI. He then attended Northern Michigan University, majoring in English and history, while working as a night watchman at Cliff Dow Chemical Corporation to support his growing family. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1958. When an opening for an English teacher came at Newberry High School, he applied for and got the job. While teaching, he went on to earn his master’s degree and worked four more years as a counselor. He then was hired as an admissions officer at Lake Superior State College in 1966 and was shortly promoted to director of the counseling center in 1968. In addition to assisting a great number of students in their college careers, he taught psychology classes. His daily contact with students through the counseling center was not the extent of his efforts on the behalf of youth. As scholarship chairman of the Sault Elks Lodge for 21 years, he helped numbers of students to receive college aid. He also volunteered for the American Cancer Society, and was Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus while in Newberry. He was a

secretary for the Michigan Education Association, Region Council 16, and a member of the Emma Nason Home Board of Directors. He retired from Lake Superior State College in 1986 and was honored with the title "Faculty Emeritus." Jack was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Parish, Elks Lodge 552, American Legion #3 and Sault Ste. Marie Country Club. He was a longtime volunteer for the Hospice of the EUP, the St. Joseph's Food Pantry and the Elk's Club Youth Committee. He is survived by his wife, Ruth, his five children: Julie (Bill) McLeod of Sault Ste. Marie, Jacquie Truckey of Colorado Springs, John (Debbie) Truckey of Sault Ste. Marie, Jodine Sicinski of Kewadin, and Jill (Tom) Coates of Sault Ste. Marie. Also surviving are ten grandchildren: Jillian (Austin) Miller, Maclver McLeod, Adam (Briana), Matthew, and Sarah Truckey; Madeline, Nicholas, and Samuel Sicinski, and Cecily and Tommy Coates. In addition he is survived by four great-grandchildren: Adelyn and Austin Miller, and Jackson and Lauren Truckey. Also surviving are four brothers and sisters: Robert (Dorothy) Truckey of Ishpeming, George (Sue) Truckey of Duluth, MN, Mary (Robert) Apple of Marquette, and Barbara Truckey of St. John's; and sisters and brother-in-laws Maryrene Truckey of Munising, Florence Kakkuri, Lorraine (Richard) Mutka, and Ellen Dolkey of Ishpeming. He was predeceased by his parents, his sister Patricia Wiseman, brother Willard Truckey, and brothers-in-law Thomas Wiseman, Harold Kakkuri and Clarence Dolkey. Being of French-Canadian and Finnish extraction, he often joked he was a "Half-Finished Frenchmen." He celebrated his Finnish heritage every year during lively St. Urho's Day parties at their home and later during their winters in Orange Beach, Alabama where Jack always led the singing. His "favorite place on earth" was their cabin on Neebish Island, which he purchased in a partnership with his long-time friend Jim Honkanen in 1977. There were many hunting and snowmobiling adventures and of course saunas, which Jack called his Finnish EKG. When he left LSSC, he left behind a bit of advice for the students to come: "Take your school work seriously, but don't take yourself too seriously." He and Ruth played hosts to many spirited Annual Finnish Summer Olympics at their

home. Jack had another piece of advice too: "Life should be fun." He made the lives of those he touched more enriched with his faith, discipline, knowledge and wit. Life was a lot more fun with Jack in it. Visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on October 3, 2013 followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 1:00 p.m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church with celebrants Father Norbert Landreville, Father Sebastian Kavumkal, Father Jose Maramattam, and Deacon Bill Piche. A celebration of this wonderful man's life will be held immediately following mass at the Elk's Lodge. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Hospice of the EUP. Online condolences may be left at www.clarkbaileynewhouse.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *John 'Jack' Truckey*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *John 'Jack' Truckey*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *John 'Jack' Truckey*

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ *I am so sorry to hear of Jack's passing. I have many wonderful childhood memories of Jack and Ruth and the family. I was always so excited to spend time with my Truckey cousins! Times were always fun when Jack was around. I know his death leaves a large hole in the hearts of many.*

Cindy Blacklaw Beauchamp - October 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of your dad. It had been a long time since I have last seen him. My sincere condolences. May peace be with you all. Jimmy Wray*

Jimmy Wray - October 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ I met Mr. Truckey as a LSSC student. He was so nice. I will keep you all in my prayers.

Lori Miller - October 09, 2013 at 12:00 AM

B(

“ Have many happy memories of time spent with the Truckeys and friends in the Soo. Jack was a wonderful human being and such a gift to everyone. I am sure he will be missed by many,many. Best wishes to all of you only wish I could have joined you in celebrating your great husband, Dad And Grandad. Betty porter (anderson) G

Betty Porter (anderson) - October 06, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ Dear Ruth and family, Best wishes to all of you as you deal with the loss of your husband and father. He has been such a positive force in his life and touched so many hearts. I have so many good memories of times spend with you all.,and can remember many good Finish jokes. Thanks for the memories Jack you will be remembered. Love Betty Porter (Andersn)

Betty Porter - October 04, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ Our condolences to your family. We had some great times in Orange Beach and will remember those times fondly. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family in this time of sorrow.

Tom Perry Family - October 03, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ Dear Truckey family, I am so very sorry for your loss. Jack was such a wonderful guy and I am fortunate to have had the chance to get to know him. He was so much fun. Please know my thoughts are with you all at this difficult time. With sympathy Gretchen

Gretchen Swinehart - October 03, 2013 at 12:00 AM

PF

“ As a graduate of Newberry High School's class of 1963, I remember Mr. Truckey fondly as a warm and sensitive man. I was privileged also to have him as one of my CYO high school instructors who taught religion, as I recall, with passion, but also with a sense of humor. He was a wonderful man, and my thoughts and prayers go out to his family and close friends. Patricia Foley

Patricia Foley - October 03, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ I am so sorry that I could not be there in person today to express my sympathy. Please know that you all have been in my thoughts and heart today.

Brenda Bennette - October 03, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ To cousin Ruth & Family: So sorry to hear of the passing of "Jack". He was such a kind-hearted man and will never be forgotten. He could brighten up any room by his uplifting personality and will be missed by all of us. Thinking of you all during this most difficult time. May "Jack" rest in peace.

Darlene, Gary Pepin & Family - October 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ As a Resident Advisor in Brady Hall back in the early 1970's, I had the opportunity to work with Jack at Brown Hall. His understanding and compassion for the students at LSSC was great and this led to a lifelong friendship that I had with Jack for the past 40+ years. I will miss Jack but I feel honored to have known him. I hope the Truckey family finds comfort that Jack was a great influence to many and a good friend to all.

Patrick G Manor - October 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ I was lucky enough to have Jack as my boss in the mid-70's when I tutored other students on a work study program at the LSSU counseling center. I loved working for him. I thought he was one of the dearest people I had ever met. I am sad to see the news of his passing. He surely has a special place in heaven. My deepest sympathies to his family and friends.

Anne Pancheri Papineau - October 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Dear Ruth and Family, Sending my prayers to all of you during this time. Jack will be remembered as a very close longtime Family Friend - all of you are. Thinking about Jack now in heaven with a new audience to share all his great FINN jokes and stories of Neebish Island days..the deer hunting stories, saunas bare a.. bend just all the great celebrations with the Truckeys. Hugs to all of you. Love, Scott and Diane.

Diane Honkanen - October 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

VR

“ Dear Ruth and Family of Jack, Our Deepest Sympathy to you on the passing of your husband, father, grandfather. Good memories of times together go way back to 1950. Good times with good friends.
Virginia and Louis Roncaglione

Virginia and Louis Roncaglione - October 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ It was an absolute pleasure to have spent time with you and your wonderful family. onward and upwards my friend, i have no doubt you've started the party on the other side. Ger

Ger Manley - October 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GA

“ What a full life...what a wonderful life. Having attended St. Lawrence myself and being from the U.P, graduate from Northern, and being a Grand Knight here in Virginia is about all that I have in common. I would need 30 more years to accomplish all that "Jack" did. May all the family be consoled with God's gift to you. May he rest in peace.

George Alexa - October 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ Our deest sympathy at this time of such a great loss. He was such a wonderful man. God bless you all.

Sally & t=Tom Gruss - October 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Mr. Truckey was my English teacher from many years ago in Newberry. He was a wonderful teacher and remembered by many. Sending prayers to his family.

Connie Hyde Sutton - October 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM