



## Larry Neal Porterfield

April 29, 1947 - March 15, 2025

With heavy hearts we announced the passing of Larry Neal Porterfield, age 77, of Rudyard, Michigan, who passed away peacefully in his sleep on March 15, 2025. Larry is survived by his wife of over 42 years, Donna Jean (Bennett) Porterfield; his children, Nathan (Laura) Porterfield, Heather (Tim) Pavlat and David (Winter Montalvo) Porterfield. He was a loving “Papa” to his grandchildren, Ayden and Lilyanna Pavlat, Liam Porterfield, David “Bubba” Porterfield and Myleigh Landry. He is also survived by his brother, Tony (Sharon) Porterfield; sister, Loretta (Phillip) Harris; several nieces and nephews, Tracy (James) Dean, Dana (Chris) Lands, Moses (Kate) Porterfield, Autumn and Jonathan Giovanna, Christopher (Burnadette) Bennett and Cassidy Bennett; and mother-in-law, Pearl M. Bennett.

Larry was preceded in death by his parents, Neal and Nita Jo Porterfield; father-in-law, Wallace C. Bennett; sister, Diane Carr; brother, Ricky “Petey” (Charlotte) Porterfield; and nephew, Israel Porterfield.

Larry was born and raised in Trumann, Arkansas, before he was drafted into the selective service and served 3 tours in the Vietnam War before going on to serve his country for over 20 years. Larry was extremely proud of his service and his country. He returned to the states and began a new life after marrying and eventually left the Rocky Mountains for the Upper Peninsula where he became an avid golfer and fisherman. For those who knew him he was an

avid fan of “his Razorbacks” and all things Elvis. He was never happier than when he was at family functions surrounded by those who loved him. Always the life of the party making everyone enjoy their time with him. He meant so much to so many different people and he will truly be missed. Life won't be the same without him.

If you wish to pay your respects, a Visitation will be held on Friday, March 21, 2025, at Family Life Funeral Homes, 4951 S. M-129 Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, from 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon. The Funeral Service will follow immediately at 12:00 Noon.

Condolences may be left to the family at [www.familylifefh.com](http://www.familylifefh.com).

Obituary as submitted by family

# Cemetery Details

## North Rudyard Township Cemetery

15141 S Tilson Rd  
Rudyard, MI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 21. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Family Life Funeral Homes - Sault Ste. Marie  
4951 S. M-129  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 632-4951  
fifh@familylifefh.com  
<https://www.familylifefuneralhomes.com/>

## Funeral Service

MAR 21. 12:00 PM (ET)

Family Life Funeral Homes - Sault Ste. Marie  
4951 S. M-129  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 632-4951  
fifh@familylifefh.com  
<https://www.familylifefuneralhomes.com/>

# Tribute Wall

MO

“ I am so sorry for your loss! I went to high school with Larry in Trumann,Ar. He was a great person and will be missed. My prayers are with the family.

Myra Osment - March 21, 2025 at 09:01 AM

DP

Myrna, Thank you for your kind words. Larry had a great passion for all things, Trumann.

Donna Porterfield - March 29, 2025 at 08:37 PM

JM

“ I knew Larry growing up in Trumann AR. We lived on the same street and all the kids played outside as much as possible. Larry was one of the gang. He was a fun little boy and I have enjoyed reconnecting with him through Facebook over the past few years. My condolences to his family. ❤️🙏

Jackie McBride - March 20, 2025 at 10:17 PM

DP

Thank you for reaching out, he had so many stories from childhood in Trumann. He loved it.

Donna Porterfield - March 29, 2025 at 08:36 PM

KF

“ I wish we could be closer! We are truly sorry for your loss. I remember Larry as such a sweet and fun loving guy! Our family loved spending time with Larry and Donna when we visited Michigan. I miss those days. I am thankful for our memories. Wishing you comfort and peace as you endure a difficult loss. Love you all! Love The Anderson Family  
♥Herman and Olive with the Fuentes Family ♥Sammy, Kari, David and Aidan

Kari Anderson Fuentes - March 20, 2025 at 07:45 PM

DP

Thank you for sharing your condolences with us. It's at times like these when we realize how important we all are to one another. Love y'all.

Donna Porterfield - March 29, 2025 at 08:34 PM

AP

“ Sending condolences to you and your family Donna. from Anne Papineau



Anne Papineau - March 20, 2025 at 12:21 PM

ER

Larry and I had become better friends in later years than growing up together in Trumann . We poked at each other over his Denver Broncos and my Dallas Cowboys. I had the pleasure a few years ago of picking him up at DFW Airport and having lunch with his daughter and grandkids. He always told me I had a open invitation to visit him in the Upper Peninsula. Yes , he will be missed .

Ed Raney - March 20, 2025 at 11:20 PM

DS

“ I just want your family to know that Larry’s kindness was felt and cherished. I appreciated seeing his smile when we saw each other at Pure Country. Sending comfort and love to all of his loved ones.

Denise Staricha - March 20, 2025 at 02:42 AM

DP

Thank you, Denise. Appreciate the care.

Donna Porterfield - March 29, 2025 at 08:26 PM

PB

“ Doing breakfast after church and getting a kick out of Larry ordering 5 course meals. I treasure every one of those sunday mornings with him.

Pamela Bernhardt - March 19, 2025 at 08:14 PM

DP

Those are good memories, Pam.

Donna Porterfield - March 29, 2025 at 08:25 PM

TM

“ The Sparkmans, Eric, Kurt, Mary planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Larry Neal Porterfield.

The Sparkmans, Eric, Kurt, Mary - March 19, 2025 at 05:22 PM

TM

“ *The Sparkmans, Eric, Kurt, Mary purchased the Meat & Cheese Wooden Gift Crate for the family of Larry Neal Porterfield.*



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**The Sparkmans, Eric, Kurt, Mary** - March 19, 2025 at 05:22 PM

MS

“ *Donna, I am so sorry about Larry's passing. Larry and I kept in touch for the las year or so, since I moved to Kentucky after Greg's death. Larry was an inspiration, sharing articles of faith and peace, he helped me to heal my soul after losing Greg so suddenly. I always knew I could cry on his shoulder and pray with him when I was feeling my loss. I pray you find peace in the fact he was such a wonderful friend to so many and I'm sure a great husband to you. He will be fondly remembered and sorely missed. God Bless you and your family!*

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**Mary Sparkman** - March 19, 2025 at 05:10 PM

DP

*Thank you so much Mary for reaching out. Your words have been a real comfort.*

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**Donna Porterfield** - March 29, 2025 at 08:18 PM

LA

“ *So thankful to have been able to see him... Thinking of all of you these days, and I know the Lord is, too. He has proven his care, and will continue to prove it to you all.*

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**Laurell** - March 19, 2025 at 03:00 PM

DP

*Laurels, We will forever share a unique memory of that day. I think it was part of a divine plan. Thank you for being there.*

**Donna Porterfield** - March 29, 2025 at 08:40 PM

TF

“ *The Aho and Stump families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Larry Neal Porterfield.*

**The Aho and Stump families** - March 19, 2025 at 01:49 PM

TF

“ *The Aho and Stump families purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Larry Neal Porterfield.*



**The Aho and Stump families** - March 19, 2025 at 01:49 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Larry Neal Porterfield.*

March 19, 2025 at 01:44 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Larry Neal Porterfield.*



March 19, 2025 at 01:44 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Larry Neal Porterfield.*



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March 19, 2025 at 12:10 PM