

## Lyle "Graz" Shipman

April 18, 1957 - November 5, 2024

Lyle Ritchie "Graz" "Baashkoweng" Shipman, age 67, of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, died peacefully on November 5, 2024, at Butterworth's hospital in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He was born on April 18, 1957, in Sarnia, Ontario, to Stanley G. Aquash and Carolyn G. Shipman.

Graz grew up on Walpole Island First Nation, Ontario. He met Adrienne and they married on December 16, 1978, by the Snye at Bkejwanong, Ontario. Graz was a pipe carrier in the region of the Great Lakes, teaching traditional ways, and active in community service for the tribes. His mother recognized his talents as a young boy and encouraged him to be an artist. Graz was self-taught and created extraordinary paintings, drawings, carvings, and various traditional items.

A proud graduate of Bay Mills Community College, he studied Human Services and was elected to serve as Student Body President. He received honors in Best of Show at the Sault Arts Festival and the Sault Se. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Juried Art Show.

A kind, giving and compassionate man, Graz enjoyed traditional powwow dancing, riding his bike, walking in the bush, and spending time with children, teaching them traditional ways, and serving the People. He loved his family, friends, and traditional way of life.

Graz is survived by his wife, Adrienne; daughter, Summer Sky Ailing of Sault Ste. Marie, grandchildren, Justice Ailing; brothers, Kenneth Shipman Sr. Walpole Island, Ontario, Lorne “Kelly” (Gail) Shipman Bay Mills, MI, Gene “Ben” Shipman of London, Ontario, Lyndon Shipman of Elliot Lake, Ontario; sisters, Andrea Shipman of Toronto, Ontario, Cheryl Aquash of London, Ontario, Alanna Shipman of Elliot Lake, Ontario, and Angel Shipman; brothers-in-law, Lynn (Marsha) Ailing, Lee (Rennel) Ailing, Lon Ailing, Leslie (Tracy) Ailing; many nieces and nephews; and many others he taught that were so dear to his heart.

Graz was preceded in death by his parents, Stanley and Carolyn; brothers, Clint Shipman, Mitchell Aquash, and “Boss” Kale Shipman; sister-in law, Kim Santigo; brother-in-law, Lance Ailing; sister-in-law Deb Milliken and niece, Ndawnis Shipman.

Visitation will begin on Thursday, November 7, 2024, at 7:00 PM. at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building, 11 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, MI, and continue with ceremony until the final viewing and burial on Saturday, November 9, 2024, starting at 10:00 AM.

Graz’s final resting place will be at Mission Hill Cemetery in Bay Mills, Michigan.

Family Life Funeral Homes assisted the family with arrangements. Condolences may be left to the family at [www.familylifefh.com](http://www.familylifefh.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Mission Hill Cemetery

Bay Mills Township  
14740 W. Lakeshore Dr.  
Brimley, MI 49715

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 7. 7:00 PM - 11:59 PM (ET)

Niigaanaagiizhik Ceremonial Building  
11 Ice Circle  
Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783

## Visitation

NOV 8. 12:00 AM - 11:59 PM (ET)

Niigaanaagiizhik Ceremonial Building  
11 Ice Circle  
Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783

## Traditional Ceremony

NOV 9. 10:00 AM (ET)

Niigaanaagiizhik Ceremonial Building  
11 Ice Circle  
Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783



# Tribute Wall

DA

“ *Deepest Sympathy to his loving wife Adrienne an to his siblings an entire family  
Cousin Graz you was the only one that called me Perry lol for many years .  
From your cuz Doris Aquash an Rozz Sands an family .*



DA - November 07, 2024 at 09:43 PM



“ *3 files added to the album The Man, the Myth, & the Legend*



Awaasii Catfish - November 07, 2024 at 05:57 PM

RI

“ *My love my heart*

Riinii - November 07, 2024 at 12:58 PM

CL

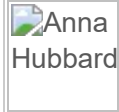
*I know you two found your soul mates in each other. So sorry for your loss!*

Corrina Lafrenier - November 07, 2024 at 02:46 PM



Sorry Riinii. 😞

Patty VerWiebe - November 07, 2024 at 02:49 PM



Anna Hubbard

*Condolences Riinii. You and the family are in my prayers.*

**Anna Hubbard** - November 07, 2024 at 02:53 PM



*My greatest memories of Graz are the ones when he would be out riding around the sault on his bike. stopping by to check on me, our long talks were special to me because he would make me think and teach me things that i did not know. Graz was highly respected man in my heart. he told me how he promised my mother that he would watch over me and help me in time of need, and he did that. My heart aches for Auntieeee Mum and Summer Sky. I love you and will see you soon. Bamapii my friend, my teacher, and my confidant.*

**Awaasii Catfish** - November 07, 2024 at 05:53 PM



CS

*Baa Maa Pii. "Gikawaabmin. N'zaagin ❤️🌹❤️ Cousin Graz." Cousin Rennie & Cindy Shipman, Bkejwanong FN Walpole Island, ON.*

**Cindy Shipman** - November 07, 2024 at 06:46 PM



DA

❤️🇨🇦 xoxo

**DA** - November 08, 2024 at 10:22 AM