



Marvin Peter Besteman

July 1, 1942 - May 28, 2019

Marvin Peter Besteman, age 76, of Rudyard, Michigan, died Tuesday, May 28, 2019, at Hospice House of the EUP. He was born July 1, 1942, in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, to Marvin and Geraldine (Hesselink) Besteman.

Marvin lived his entire life in Rudyard. Growing up with his father operating a saw mill, Marv began working at the saw mill when he was young, doing whatever jobs his age allowed. He graduated from Rudyard High School with the Class of 1960 and went on to earn an Associate Degree in Accounting from Davenport College. Marv's degree in accounting, helped him with all the finances for both of his businesses. It didn't take him long to realize he didn't like sitting indoors behind a desk, so he returned to the family sawmill business. Marvin married Dolores Jean Kelderman on May 27, 1967, in Rudyard where they made their home and raised four sons. He worked with his father at Besteman Sawmill for many years, eventually taking over. While still in high school, he began making maple syrup as a project for FFA. His Besteman Maple Syrup business has grown over the years with the help of the whole family.

Marvin served on the Kinross Township Board for 42 years, starting in 1976 until he resigned just last fall, and was named "Township Clerk of the Year" in 1988. For 25 years while on the Kinross Board, he was also on the Board of Directors of the Michigan Township Association, serving as its President in

1993 and then for 18 more years, on the Board of the Michigan Township Participating Plan where he also served as President for one year. Marvin was also an active member of the Christian Reformed Church in Rudyard.

Marvin enjoyed watching his children and grandchildren play various sports at Rudyard Schools. He was at every game cheering them on. He was also an avid hunter and fisherman (although he never ate the fish). Marvin taught all of his boys to hunt and fish and they all continue to enjoy those sports. He loved all outdoor activities. Marvin was a good friend and neighbor whose door was always open for coffee, conversation, and a meal.

Marvin is survived by his wife, Delores of Rudyard; sons, Douglas (Jill) Besteman of Kinross, Michigan, Mark (Barb Podleski) Besteman of Rudyard, Dean (Jennifer) Besteman of Rudyard, and Marshall (Rachael) Besteman of Rudyard; grandchildren, Cole, Tate, Madisyn, Brandon, Brooklynn, Jared, and Emma. He is also survived by sisters, Mary (Howard) Kouw of Zeeland, Michigan, Virginia (Fred) English of Tomahawk, Wisconsin, and Irene (Arden) Den Blyker of Gallup, New Mexico.

Marvin was preceded in death by his parents; and brother, Roger Besteman.

Services will be held Monday, June 3, at the Christian Reformed Church, 17970 S. Tilson Road in Rudyard. Visitation will be held from 11:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. with the funeral service beginning at 2:00 P.M.

Burial will be in North Rudyard Township Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be directed to Christian Reformed Church Building Fund, 17970 S. Tilson Rd., Rudyard, MI 49780 or Take 5 Program Adult Day Care, Community Action Agency, 524 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Cemetery Details

North Rudyard Township Cemetery

15141 S Tilson Rd
Rudyard, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 3. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Christian Reformed Church
17970 S Tilson Rd
Rudyard, MI 49780

Funeral Service

JUN 3. 2:00 PM (ET)

Christian Reformed Church
17970 S Tilson Rd
Rudyard, MI 49780

Tribute Wall



“ *Marvin Peter Besteman*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *Marvin Peter Besteman*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *Marvin Peter Besteman*

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Marvin Peter Besteman.*



June 03, 2019 at 02:24 PM

NB

“ *I will always remember Marv as being friendly with a kind word always. Having taught three of your boys I came to know your family well. With deepest sympathies...Nancy*

Nancy Berkompas - May 31, 2019 at 04:59 PM



“ Bob and I loved coming to the Besteman's Sugar Shack in the Spring to help with the canning and stoking the fire to boil the sap! Marv seemed the happiest when he was taking people on tours of the shop and explaining the maple syrup process. He and Dee were our U.P. buddies and treated us like family even though we were from "down below". Won't ever forget their visits to Sugar Island and our wild golf cart and boats rides. Rest in peace, Marv. We'll miss you!

Joy Jones
Burnips, MI

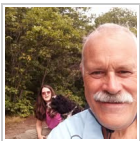
Joy Jones - May 31, 2019 at 02:07 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Marvin Peter Besteman.



May 31, 2019 at 01:42 PM



“ I went too ask about the 1965 Mustang in the field and he sold it too me. I brought it back too life and was a hoot too drive down too college. I want too thank you for all lessons and being part of the fabric of my life.

Bill Howland - May 31, 2019 at 08:33 AM

SG

“ *When I began working for Marv in 1999 the first thing he said to me "speak your mind and then let it go" I still hear and live by those words to this day.*

I am sorry for the loss of Marv he was a great leader in our community and is sadly missed.

Sheila Gaines

Sheila Gaines - May 30, 2019 at 09:48 AM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Marvin Peter Besteman.*



May 29, 2019 at 10:26 PM

MC

“ *Our prayers are with you through this difficult time. Knowing you for the last thirty years is a blessing to us. We remember Kevin telling us about your family inviting he and Sheila for meals while they going to college. We enjoyed listening to Marv stories about the sawing and maple syrup business. Marilyn and Herb*

Marilyn and Herb Chamberlain - May 29, 2019 at 07:21 PM