



Max Coburn

May 5, 2019

Max Coburn passed away May 5, 2019. He was born July 1, 1934 in Vassar, Michigan, to Roy Samuel and Hazel (Turner) Coburn.

St. Ignace was his family's home, however Max was born when his family was temporarily camped in support of Alpine (road) Construction. At 10 he worked for the St. Ignace Fish Co. until becoming busboy/dishwasher at The Tea Room at age 13, where he met & fell in love with his future wife, Anita Lepinsky.

After graduation from LaSalle High School in 1952, Max attended Michigan College of Mining and Technology/Michigan Technological University, working as gas station attendant during school and for State of Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) during summers.

After graduating with a Civil Engineering degree, as 2nd Lieutenant in US Air Force, he married his only love, Anita in 1956. They moved to Lansing where he worked for MDOT until his Air Force assignments, which included bases in Missouri, Nebraska, and Thule, Greenland.

Active Air Force commitment fulfilled, 1960 saw his return to Michigan, living wherever he was needed by MDOT as Project Engineer for multiple road and bridge construction projects, (moving 13 times in 8 years, then 3 moves after longer stays in Milan, Willis, and Munising) until returning to St. Ignace in 1984 as Chief Engineer of the Mackinac Bridge until retirement in 1992. Max worked with Straits Diesel, Inc. repairing yacht engines until shortly after his wife's passing in 2000.

Max was an active member of his communities - including Lutheran Churches, Lions Club, Kiwanis, and Rotary. He donated over 20 gallons of blood in his lifetime, and supported Gift of Life, American Heart Association and Right to Life. He enjoyed bowling, fishing, hunting, chess and card games, reading, traveling and finding answers to every question that popped into his inquisitive mind.

Max leaves 4 very fortunate children and their spouses: Sheryl (Mark) Hitsman, Mark (Sally) Coburn, Jeffery (Susan) Coburn, Colleen (Mike) Klamm; 8 grandchildren, Ian, Sarah Hitsman; Matthew, Kristianna Coburn; Jenny (Bryan) Celano, Lynn Coburn; Lacey (Jordan) Young, Bonnie Klamm; 3 great-granddaughters: Jessica, Ave Marie, and Regina. Multiple nieces and nephews from his 11 cherished brothers and sisters, who predeceased him, have been pleased to call him Uncle.

He will be greatly missed by his family and many friends, who benefited greatly from his knowledge, generosity, kindness, support and unconditional love, but we take comfort in knowing he is in Heaven happily with his wife, Anita.

Services were held Friday, May 10, at 11 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in St. Ignace with Pastor Dave Tielbar officiating. Visitation was from 9 a.m. to time of the service at the church.

Burial was in Gros Cap Cemetery beside his wife.

Dodson Funeral Home of St. Ignace assisted the family with arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ *Max Coburn*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *Max Coburn*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *Max Coburn*

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM