



Paul David Freedman

January 26, 1944 - March 6, 2008

Mr. Paul David Freedman died on March 6th, 2008, from accidental injuries suffered at his Shallows home in Sault Ste. Marie. He was a Viet Nam Era Veteran, having served in the U.S. Navy for four years, earning the Navy Achievement Medal, Navy Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, five Commander's Commendation Awards, and numerous service medals. He was a founding member of the Beverly-Fairfax Community Patrol in Los Angeles, California, was Executive Director of The Beverly-Fairfax Chamber of Commerce for eight years, and a member of The Hollywood Chamber of Commerce. He was also advisor to the Fairfax High School and Community Adult School in Los Angeles. During the 1970's, Paul was the host of "Artistic Ventures" on CJIC Television and also hosted radio interview programs on CKCY-AM and CKCY-FM radio in Sault, Ontario. He also worked many years in the public relations department of the Stratford, Ontario Theatre Festival, was manager of the Gartshore Music Company and the Gartshore Conservatory of Music, and was Public Relations Director for the Algoma Music Camp on St. Joseph Island. He also managed the Allied Arts Council in Sault, Ontario and was a founding member of the Sault Area Arts Council in Sault, Michigan. Mr. Freedman was very active in political affairs in both California and Michigan. His participation involved Public Relations Director for Mayor Tom Bradley of Los Angeles, as well as campaign manager for several L.A. City Council members. During his work with the city of Los Angeles, he was designated a "Distinguished Member of the California Press

Bureau." In Michigan, he worked on campaigns of former State Senator Mitch Irwin, State Representative Pat Gagliardi, Senator George McManus, and several Sault Mayoral and City Commission candidates. Paul received numerous community service awards from former President Ronald Reagan, former California Governor George Deukmejian, and U.S. Senators Alan Cranston and John Glenn. He served under former Michigan Governor Milliken on the Michigan Council for the Arts Advisory Board. He had received in excess of twenty separate awards from the city and county of Los Angeles and the State of California for his many contributions to non-profit groups, and the California Legislative Assembly passed a Resolution honoring him in 1989. Following his service and employment in California, Mr. Freedman returned to Sault, Michigan to pursue a writing and service-oriented career. In the Sault, Paul was a member of the Chippewa County Historical Society where he conducted numerous interviews for the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs. His extensive list of actions for the Oral History Program included the Puller Stadium 60th Anniversary, the Sault Fire Hall 100th Anniversary Centennial Celebration, which he initiated, and the Kemp Industrial Museum interviews regarding Sault Industrial History. He also spearheaded the calendar project for "Historical Sault Ste. Marie." He created the "Beneath the Shining Light" book about the Whitefish Point Lighthouse, and the eloquent biographical sketch of the lighthouse longtime resident, Ms. Bertha Rollo. Additionally, he was the leader and initiator for the Sault's "Verna Lawrence Appreciation Day." He was also an Originating Member of the Sault Environmental Awareness Group "C.A.R.E.," and a Property Tax Protestors group in the Shallows area. In addition to being a Founding Member of the Soo Area Arts Council, Paul was official photographer and philanthropist for the Alberta House Arts Center, a Board Member of Soo Community Theater, and an active member of the Crisp's Point Lighthouse Society. He was co-organizer for the McKinley School Reunion, which brought together many present and former Sault residents and school attendees. He was a 29-year member of the Elks Club (BPOE), and twice honored as the "Elk of the Year."

Paul was a Life Member of the "Vietnam Veterans of America," and a State of Michigan appointee to the Chippewa County Veterans Trust Fund Committee. He has served on the Seal Trust Fund Board of Directors and the Chippewa County Remonumentation Committee. And he was twice selected by readers of The Evening News as "Best Volunteer Worker" and once selected by readers as the "Best Civic Leader." He was pre-deceased by his life-companion Shin Kim, his father and mother, Lourya and Ruth Freedman, and his brother, Dr. Lourya K. Freedman. He is survived by his twin brother Lt Colonel (ret.) Gary M. Freedman of Jonesboro, Georgia, his sister Beverly Tankersley of the Sault, and six nieces and nephews. Mr. Freedman will be cremated, with a Memorial Service at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home, Wednesday, March 12. Visitation will be from noon until 2 p.m., with the Memorial Service at 2 p.m. Internment of ashes will be in the Freedman Family Remembrance Area at the Shallows in July 2008. The family requests remembrances to the American Cancer Society.

Tribute Wall

CH

“ Remembering you today, Paul. Certainly miss my favorite uncle.

Christopher - March 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ Many, many thanks for the kind comments in the Guest Book for Paul. He was my twin brother, whom I will miss greatly. I have sent email photos of Paul's Memorial Service to those who listed their email address, but some have not. If you would like to see the photos, please provide me your email address. Warmest regards.
Gary Freedman

Gary Freedman - April 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

KI

“ I will always think of Paul walking in the woods, sharing his passion for history, sharing his personal stories and memories, and most of all making me laugh...bamapii

Kim - April 02, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ I talked to Paul on the phone a few times, and we exchanged e-mails after my wife and I visited Sault Ste. Marie and Whitefish Point in October, 2003. He traded a copy of the book, "Beneath The Shining Light" to me for copies of some photos my dad had taken at Whitefish Point in 1927 and 1928.

He invited us to visit him on our next trip to the area, and we fully intended to do so. For various reasons, we haven't made that next trip yet.

We looked forward to meeting him because he sounded so interesting. Now, we are sorry we did not get that privilege.

He told us about a walking stick he had that had supposedly been used by John Dillinger. He was afraid it might end up in the trash if something happened to him. I encouraged him to attach an identifying tag to it.

We are so sorry to learn of his passing.

Don & Betty Courtney

Donald F. Courtney - March 29, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BN

“ I got to know Paul as a much younger man hanging out in the shallows with people like Dave Paquin and Paula Stern. Paul was a fixture that will be missed in the shallows and the Soo and in life overall. He was everywhere and into everything, and always gave so much of his time and love to all around him. Over the years as I grew older Paul always had a smile and a good word any time we ran into each other somewhere in the Soo..It is an emptyier world that his passing has left.

Bob Newcomb

Bob Newcomb - March 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ Paul was a close friend and I too shared in playing card games with Paul and Angie Badenski from time to time. I also drove Paul to the Crisp Lighthouse Historical Society annual summer fundraiser where would spend the entire day. Paul was involved in so many organizations and always a giving person. I join many others who feel the loss with deepest feeling and sorrow.

Paul Warrick - March 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ Paul was mt uncle. I remember when I was young I asked if he was real family. He said no, I replied I'm glad because I like you but I don't have to. He taught me many things like how to make a mixed drink by counting and how to make the breakfast of champions!

Randi Stern - March 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CI

“ Paul, we hardly knew ye! This is how I felt after I read Paul's obituary. What an accomplished fellow he was. Having had no connection with Paul since High School and college I had no idea what he had achieved and what a giving and caring person he was. In recent years Paul had a great influence on my mother, Garnett Baumler, and their mutual friend Angie Badenski, mostly thru their card games.....I often heard them comment they weren't sure if they were there for the cards or for the laughter. It was obvious, at least in my mind, they were there for the laughter. We'll miss you Paul!

Cliff Baumler II - March 14, 2008 at 12:00 AM

HY

“ I am so sorry about Paul, Gary. I remember you both with fond memories of all our school years together at McKinley School and good old Sault High. It's sad when someone we love dies but it also reminds us that God is great and He has provided for us in the future. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time.

Hazel McKinney Yates - March 13, 2008 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ For Gary and Family
We'll all miss Paul and his wonderful sense of humor. He always kept us laughing no matter how much pain he, himself, was experiencing. I'll try to stop in Jonesboro on my way north in late April. Angie

Angie Badenski - March 12, 2008 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ loved Paul and Beverley very much.Had some wonderful times at Paul's house and will always remember him for giving my mother a great time. I will miss him a great deal.I'm so sorry for the lost of a great guy.prayers n hug teresa

teresa mccarthy - March 12, 2008 at 12:00 AM

C(

“ Paul will always be in a special place in our hearts and memories.

Capt. and Mrs. Frank J. Caruso, Jr. (USN) - March 11, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Paul was a dear friend whom we shall remember forever.

Dr. & Mrs. Robert Stern - March 11, 2008 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ *He was a close friend and an avid traveling companion. I will miss him very much. May he rest at peace with no pain.*

George Braley - March 11, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ *I knew Paul in college as a great spirit who gave a lot of love and wanted everyone to understand his sense of humor.*

David Hoornstra - March 11, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ *I will remember Paul as a good man who was ever-ready to help those in need. He had rapier wit and a fluid intellect that he shared with those of us who were his friends and neighbors. He readily shared his warm family dwelling in the Shallows and made it a 'gathering place' for great company around the firepit and sauna.*

Richard DeMolen, Psy D. - March 11, 2008 at 12:00 AM