



Philip Gage

December 18, 1934 - February 25, 2023

Philip Gage, age 88, of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan passed away Saturday, February 25, 2023, at MyMichigan Medical Center in Sault Ste Marie, MI. Phil was born December 18, 1934, in Brighton, MI to the late Jarvis and Esther (Babcock) Gage. He was a graduate of Brighton High School. Phil married Peggy Kessler on May 11, 1957, in New Hudson, Michigan.

He was a long-time dairy farmer, both with his father and later his son, Tom. After semi-retiring from the farm in 1996, he began a long career as "Mr. Phil", driving bus for the Sault Ste Marie school system. He spent six years, along with his wife, Peggy, as campground hosts at Brimley State Park, where they were famous for their popcorn days and their milk truck.

Phil will be missed by his children and grandchildren, whom he spent numerous hours bragging about to anybody within earshot. He knew all the words to the Chiquita banana song and could always be heard whistling or happily singing as he went about his work. He taught us perseverance, kindness, dedication, and finishing what you started. Mainly he taught us about love.

Phil is survived by two sons: Thomas (Vicki) Gage and Timothy Gage, both of Sault Ste Marie, MI; a daughter: Sandra (Steven) Forrest of Logansport, IN; 7 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his cousin, Duncan Carter.

He was preceded in death by his parents and three sisters: Barbara Zander, Carolyn Vanderslice, and Roberta Warren.

A memorial service will be held at 3:00 PM on Saturday, March 11, 2023, at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home. Friends may gather at the funeral home that same day starting at 1:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a charitable donation to the Chippewa County Community Foundation in memory of Philip Gage. Donations can be made online by visiting www.chippewacountycommunityfoundation.org or mail CCCF, 511 Ashmun Street, Unit 202, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Tribute Wall

TR

“ I worked on and off at the Gage farm in Green Oak Township for several years in my early teens and went to school with Tom and Tim. It was probably the hardest work I’ve ever done in my life but it was unquestionably the most rewarding and fulfilling. I’m very sorry to hear about Phil’s passing.

Tom Reese - May 31, 2025 at 07:18 PM

GW

“ My deepest condolences to you and your family, Tom and Vicky. We always enjoyed seeing your folks, and of course, Mike and Peggy were long-time lunch buddies with Marcia and Carol, all who met at Lake State. So glad you were able to spend so many years with your dad. He was quite a character!

Gwen Worley - March 08, 2023 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ Really saddened to just learn of Phil's passing and would like to extend my condolences to Phil's family. I've known Phil and Peggy for a long time going back to when they were dairy farming on Shunk Road. Selling to them and servicing their dairy equipment and ultimately hiring their son Tom to do the same. Phil was always great fun to visit with. Greeting Phil with " How you doing Phil ?" the standard pat answer was "Not bad for the age and shape I'm in". I still use that reply about every other day. Miss ya Phil!

Bruce Rye - March 02, 2023 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ *My Deepest Condolences To The Gage Family; I had the honor to have your Dad for my bus driver in Junior High & High School, I would take the route from the schools all through until we would stop at my Mom's work, Washington School. We shared some happy times together and even many years later after I graduated High School we would run into each other at the grocery store and we would catch up with each other in the store. Thank You for sharing your Dad with me over the years. I will never forget him.*



Susan Giles - March 01, 2023 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ *Tom, Vicky and kids:
We send our condolences from Texas. He was a friendly guy and member of the Antique Equipment Association of the EUP. He will be missed by many!*

Bert and Ellen Sutton - March 01, 2023 at 12:00 AM