



Philip Lawrence Postma

May 4, 1936 - June 25, 2022

Philip Lawrence Postma, age 86, of Rudyard, Michigan, went to meet his savior on June 25, 2022, hours before his wife, Sara Postma. He was born on May 4, 1936, to John F. and Emma (Ploegstra) Postma.

Phil grew up in Rudyard and graduated from Rudyard High School in 1954. He loved fixing things, starting fun projects, and helped coordinate the loading of 200 box cars full of hay for struggling farmers in the Midwest. He married the love of his life, Sara Joanne Besteman, on November 23, 1962, in Rudyard. He enlisted in the Army National Guard, where he served a short period before returning home to work on the family farm. He was a school bus driver in the late 1950's for a few years. He then worked for his brother-in-law, Floyd, at VanSloten Tile for ten years. He then worked for Dollar Bay Tile in Houghton, Michigan, Waterland Tile in Traverse City, Michigan, and Contractor's Supply in Petoskey, Michigan. He also worked on many local jobs, large and small, with his sidekick, Jake Postma. They were known throughout Northern Michigan for the beautiful tile work they did. He retired in 2000.

Since retirement, Phil was a proud and active member of the New Hope Community Church in Kinross, Michigan, serving on church council and doing many repairs on the church. He was a member of the Future Farmers of America and the Trowel Trade and Bricklayers Union. He also was a council

member and volunteer Sunday School teacher at the Rudyard Christian Reformed Church and later at the New Hope Community Church.

Phil loved machinery, farming, cutting firewood, gardening, hunting, snowmobiling, and sports, like Laker hockey. He was a huge Rudyard sports fan and loved taking his children out snowmobiling to the I-500. He loved camping with his wife and spending time with his grandchildren. He also loved to travel with his wife and best friends, Bud and Margaret Anderson, to Alaska, Washington D.C., and Florida, to name a few.

Phil is survived by his sons, Lawrence J. (Jacqueline) Postma of Rudyard, and Joel G. (Jennifer) Postma of Saranac, Michigan; grandchildren, Justin Postma, Cassandra Brown, Laurynn Postma, Benjamin Postma, Rachel Postma, Jonathan Postma, Andrew Postma, Morgan Wasilew, Madeline Wasilew, and Maximus Wasilew; brothers, Sherman (Angie) Postma of Grand Rapids, Michigan and Willard (Coralyn) Postma of Zeeland, Michigan; sister, Stella Postma (Ferdinand, deceased) of Rudyard; sisters-in-law, Carol (Jim) Koetie (John Postma, deceased) of Grandville, Michigan, and Ruth Postma (Floyd, deceased); sisters-in-law, Ruth McGuire, Bonnie (Dave) Tosh, Margaret (Richard) Winkel, and Kim (Kathy) Cheney; and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Phil is preceded in death by his parents, John and Emma Postma; brothers, Howard (Adele) Postma, Floyd Postma, John Postma, and Paul Postma; sisters, Ethel (August) Wagner and Johanna (Floyd) VanSloten; and brothers-in-law, Ferdinand Postma and Everson McGuire.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, June 30, 2022, from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM. at Galer Funeral Homes & Cremation, 24549 S. M-129 in Pickford, Michigan.

Visitation will also be held on July 1, 2022, from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM at the

Christian Reformed Church, 17938 S. Tilson Rd, Rudyard, Michigan 49780, with the Funeral service beginning at 11:00 AM.

Burial will follow at North Rudyard Township Cemetery, and a potluck lunch at Rudyard Christian Reformed Church will follow the burial.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Rudyard Christian Schools, 10702 W. 17 Mile Road, Rudyard, MI 49780, or Samaritan's Purse, PO Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607 or online at samaritanspurse.org.

Philip's family thanks the staff of War Memorial Hospital for the compassionate care Phil received during his illness.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.galerfuneralhomes.com.

Cemetery Details

North Rudyard Township Cemetery

15141 S Tilson Rd
Rudyard, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 30. 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM (ET)

Galer Funeral Homes & Cremation
24549 S. M-129
Pickford, MI 49774

Visitation

JUL 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Christian Reformed Church
17970 S Tilson Rd
Rudyard, MI 49780

Funeral Service

JUL 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

Christian Reformed Church
17970 S Tilson Rd
Rudyard, MI 49780

Tribute Wall



“ Philip Lawrence Postma

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ Philip Lawrence Postma

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ Philip Lawrence Postma

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ Thank God for the love, kindness, and worship shared with Sara and you to my mom, grandma, and me!

Rich Dill

Richard Dill - July 01, 2022 at 10:04 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Philip Lawrence Postma.

June 30, 2022 at 11:42 AM



LS

“ *May God Bless this loving family with peace and happy memories. Give them strength to carry on AMEN.*



Lila Shaw - June 29, 2022 at 11:11 PM

DP

“ *Phil and Sara had me over for dinner many times during my years of living in Rudyard as a single teacher. They made me feel so welcome in their home. I have such great memories of time spent in their home.*

Donna Postma - June 29, 2022 at 10:18 PM

JP

“ *I John Postma(nephew) worked and lived with them during the summer and after lunch each day he would catch for me while I practised fast pitch. It did pay off because when I was in the Army I pitched a no hitter in one game.*

John Postma - June 29, 2022 at 10:12 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Philip Lawrence Postma.*



June 29, 2022 at 04:18 PM

JL

“ *Phil, you were such a steady influence in my life, I appreciate everything you did for me growing up. I will miss your sense of humor, the way you made us tow the line and still had fun! Rest easy Papa, I will see you again someday. Jane (Thompson) Lanaville*

Jane Lanaville - June 27, 2022 at 04:30 PM