



## Robert James McCormick

July 14, 1935 - November 27, 2023

Robert James McCormick, 91, passed away November 27, 2023, with his loving family by his side at Ball Hospice House in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Robert "Bob," was born on July 14, 1932, in Sault Ste. Marie, to John McCormick and Agnus Rates McCormick.

Bob attended Brimley Public Schools before meeting his lifelong love, Loretta Sparks McCormick, at age 19. Bob and Loretta married in 1952 and together raised three children, Joan Marie, Robert James, and William David.

Bob consistently worked hard throughout his life to provide and care for his family. As a young boy Bob earned money to purchase school clothes by trapping animals and selling fur, followed by years of cutting pulp wood and plowing farms as a teen. He affectionately referred to his keen ability to scavenge as "working in the scrap iron business," including when he retrieved a boat motor from the bottom of the river, rolled the motor up the hill, and traded it for money.

Bob dedicated over 30 years of skill and talent to Chippewa County Road Commission working in various positions including management. Bob could be found doing any one of a variety of trades for the county including welding, operating heavy equipment and cranes, and working as a mechanic. Bob took great pride in his work and enjoyed any opportunity to learn new skills, problem solve and share his knowledge with others.

Bob was innovative, enjoyed challenges and had the ability to take anything apart and put it back together. He had a passion for jigging walleyes up the

river, fishing white fish in Mosquito Bay, trapping, hunting, and spending time at his beautiful camp.

Bob was admired by his family and friends for his loyalty, generosity, strong work ethic, love for family and sense of humor. He enjoyed sharing his musical gifts including singing with friends at nursing homes in Sault Ste. Marie and St. Francis Xavier Church.

He was a cherished pillar in his community with countless lifelong friendships, and his storytelling and quick wit will be deeply missed.

He is survived by his wife, Loretta (Sparks) McCormick; daughter, Joan McCormick of Traverse City, Michigan; sister, Patsy McCormick; brother, John McCormick; grandsons, Tom (Tracy) Fosmore of Kingsley, Michigan, Jason Clingaman of Brimley, Michigan, Robert McCormick of Jenison, Michigan, and Cory (Maria) McCormick of Jacksonville, Florida; and great-grandchildren, Carter, Autumn, Jakob, Bentley, Jozlynn and Ada.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents John and Agnus McCormick; sons, Robert James and William David; brother, Albert McCormick; and sister, Geraldine McCormick Kirkpatrick.

A celebration of Bob's life will be held at St. Francis Xavier Church at 1 PM on Thursday, November 30th, at 6769 South Bay St., M-221, Brimley.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Hospice of the EUP, 308 W 12th Ave, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

# Tribute Wall

BE

“ *My sympathies are with you Loretta.*

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**Betty Noland Easley** - December 25, 2023 at 12:00 AM

EB

“ *Loretta, Joanie and all family I am so very sad to know of Bob's passing. So many great memories of those beautiful summer days on the big lake camping, boating, diving. The evening campfires, the story telling and the closeness of family sharing simple pleasures. We did not have a lot, but we had folks like Bob and Loretta, Shirley and Jack that were mom and dad to all of us. One of my favorite memories of Bob was his train whistle when the "garage bad" played the Orange Blossom Special. So happy to read the families tribute to their dad. He was all that and more.*

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**Eva Brosco** - December 02, 2023 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ *I just found out that Bob had passed and we are so sorry we missed his service! We would definitely have been there had we known. Bob was a very special man to us and there will never be anyone like him again. We will make a donation to Hospice in his name. Prayers to all the family.  
Jackie and Bob*

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**Jackie and Bob Benson** - December 01, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MO

“ So sorry to hear of Bob's passing. I knew him well. His desire to share his musical talents, his sense of humor, and his love for Loretta describes him well. He was a great guy and always had a prank or two to share! My condolences to Loretta and all the family. He will surely be missed.

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**Mary O'Kane** - November 30, 2023 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ With deepest sympathy to Bob's family. I was a Monday Morning Singer with Bob and many others. He always was good for his smiles, witty sayings and his love for singing.



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**Joyce Henderson** - November 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM