



Robert L. Stephenson

November 11, 1935 - August 24, 2008

Robert Leonard Stephenson, age 72, of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan passed away Sunday evening, August 24, 2008 at War Memorial Hospital. He was born on November 11, 1935 in Sault Ste. Marie. Robert graduated from Sault High class of 1954 and attended Sault Tech. He received his Bachelor's degree from Northern Michigan University, his Master's degree from Michigan State University, a Specialist degree in Education from the University of Wisconsin-Superior and his D.Ed. degree from the University of Northern Colorado-Greeley. Robert taught high school and college chemistry, later moving on to administration. He was the Dean of Arts and Sciences at Rio Grande College in Ohio, and Dean of Math and Science at Southwestern Michigan College in Dowagiac. Robert was a member of Central United Methodist Church and the Michigan Education Association. He also enjoyed wine making, boating, woodworking, and watching Red Wings hockey. Robert is survived by his wife Ellen, whom he married on July 28, 1962 in Bay City, MI; a daughter, Christine Stephenson of East Lansing, MI; a son, Scott Stephenson of Elkhart, IN, and a grandson, Brendan Stephenson also of Elkhart. He was preceded in death by his parents, Samuel and Helen (Morrison) Stephenson and two brothers, Samuel and Charles Stephenson. Visitation will be held from 12:00 PM until 2:00 PM on Thursday, August 28, 2008 at Central United Methodist Church with the Memorial Service immediately following, Pastor Steve Miller officiating. Interment will be at Riverside Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be left to the American

Cancer Society, Central United Methodist Church, or a charity of one's choice.

Tribute Wall

JB

“ I was lucky enough to have Bob as a lab instructor. I can honestly say that if not for him, my nursing career may very well ended in that chemistry lab my first semester at LSSU. He was kind enough to take extra time and various methods to help me understand. That meant alot to me, I was a 'non traditional' older student. His kindness really helped not only in that lab, but when he would see me on campus and chat with me. Because of his encouragement in that lab and encouragement that I wasn't 'to old for this' I embraced my future semesters at LSSU! His sincere caring for his students made an impression on me that I will carry on into my nursing career. He always had time to teach or just talk. I will never forget my chemistry lab Prof!!

Julie Nelson, RN, BSN - August 29, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ Dear Mrs. Stephenson,

We are very sorry to hear about the loss of your husband Bob. We always enjoyed it when he would come by the store. He had a great sense of humor that fit in well here. We were kind of sad after he finished working on the house because he didn't come around nearly as much. Every so often we would wonder what he was doing and then he would show up the next day starting on a new project. He was always tinkering with something.

Always know that he was more than just another customer to us, he was a good friend. We will greatly miss him.

Staff of Lock City Home Center - August 29, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ As a nursing student, I was lucky enough to have Bob as my lab instructor. Since my lab partner and I are "mature students", he believed that we needed extra help with our labs because it had been a while since we'd done it. During one lab, making soap, one of the instructions didn't seem clear to me:"add the saltwater to the mixture and the soap will begin to form." Well, Amy and I, being moms, thought that we should add the saltwater to the mixture the beaker was sitting in, because "that's how it works when you make ice cream!" Anyhow, we were the only people in the lab to actually make soap and Bob realized these two gals still had it going on. (When he found out our reasoning he howled with laughter and said "Now, **that's** using your head!") Every time I saw him in the hallway since that time, he remembered my name and had a big hello. He made lab fun. He was always happy to be there. He got us through the class! I was disappointed last semester that my son, who was taking CHEM 105 at the time, didn't have Bob as an instructor. He will be missed.

Mary Anne Ramer - August 28, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ Ellen, Christine, Scott

I'm sorry to hear about the passing of your husband and father. I was so looking forward to having him as my lab teacher this fall. He was so pumped up about it the last time I spoke with him.(about 2 months ago) He will be sadly missed by so many people.It is important to celebrate his life and to take heart knowing that you were a major part of it. You have him in your heart and memories, God has him in his care. My prayers and heart go out to you now and always. Cherish your memories.

Sincerely Brenda and Cliff Brining(your neighbours in the big gray house behind you)

Cliff and Brenda Brining - August 26, 2008 at 12:00 AM