



Roy Willis Rye

April 4, 1930 - October 17, 2017

Roy Willis Rye, age 87, of Pickford, Michigan, died October 17, 2017 at War Memorial Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Roy was born on April 4, 1930 to Charles Russell and Alma (Little) Rye in Sault Ste. Marie.

Roy grew up in Pickford on the family farm and attended Pickford Schools. He joined the US Army in March of 1951 and married Jennie Louise Kennedy on July 31, 1952, just before he deployed to Japan in the Korean War. Upon his discharge in March of 1953, Roy returned to Pickford, and he and Louise bought her parents farm, where they raised their family, and lived for the rest of their lives. Along with farming, Roy worked at the A & P Store in Sault Ste. Marie, as a meat cutter. In 1963, he and Louise bought the Pickford Freezer Pac meat store. He and his family operated the store until 1987 when he retired. Louise died May 14, 2006. He also drove bus for Pickford Public Schools for many years.

Roy was a member and elder of the Pickford Presbyterian Church, Pickford Farm Bureau, and the Pickford Historical Society.

Roy loved to bowl and sponsored the Pickford Freezer Pac Meats Bowling team for many years. He and Louise square danced, and Roy played the guitar, fiddle, mandolin, and the harmonica.

Roy is survived by his special friend, Arlene Portice; sons, Daniel Rye of Barbeau, Michigan, Kennedy (Jacqueline) Rye of Rudyard, Michigan; and daughter, JennyLou (Troy) Leach of Pickford. He is also survived by nine grandchildren, Shawn Rye, Danielle (Kyle) Wood, Tara Rye, Eric (Annie) Rye, Charlie Rye, Jesse Lynn Rye, Jennafay Offenbecker, Cody Leach, and Ana Louray Leach; and great grandchildren, Dustin, Kailee, Zachary, Arianna, Jagger, Regan, and James; great-great grandchildren, Ava and Kason; brother, Fred (Dolores) Rye of Pickford; sister, Jean Hyslop of Bark River, Michigan; sister-in-law, Edith (Duncan) McKenzie of Sonora, California; and brother-in-law, Don Stirling of Pickford.

Roy was preceded in death by his wife, Louise; son, Michael Roy Rye; great grandson, Dominic; and sister, Loreen Harrison.

Services will be held Monday, October 23, 2017 at Pickford Presbyterian Church, 115 E. John Street, Pickford Michigan 49774. Visitation will begin at 10:00 A.M. followed by the Funeral Service at 1:00 P.M. Reverend Jessica Paulsen will officiate.

Burial will be in Oaklawn Chapel Gardens in Bruce Township, Michigan.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **23**. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Pickford Presbyterian Church
M-129 and John Street
Pickford, MI 49774

Funeral Service

OCT **23**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Pickford Presbyterian Church
M-129 and John Street
Pickford, MI 49774

Tribute Wall



“ Roy Willis Rye

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ Roy Willis Rye

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ Roy Willis Rye

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Roy Willis Rye.



October 22, 2017 at 10:27 AM



“ I have many great memories of Roy. But definitely sitting listening to stories of his past were some of my favorite. He was very loved by my kids. We will miss them greatly.

Jaquelyn Rye - October 21, 2017 at 10:16 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Roy Willis Rye.*



October 20, 2017 at 03:29 PM



“ *Sending love, hugs and prayers to the family and loved ones. The last time I saw Roy was many years ago. Even though it was a nice visit. Roy was my bus drivers for many years. I have always held him in the highest regards, especially with putting up with the "Tone Road Crew". I remember ice cream at the end of the year, candy on every other holiday. Rest in peace Roy. Jamie (McCoy) Harvey and Family*

Jamie Harvey - October 19, 2017 at 02:21 PM



Roy owned Pickford Meats for many years, once we caught way to many Herring for our smoker, Roy could not smoke them during regular business hours, but smoked them for us after he closed for the night. He was a great friend and will truely be missed.

Vern Fountain - October 19, 2017 at 10:56 PM