



## Walter Leo Dumback

June 10, 1958 - August 5, 2023

Walter “Walt” Leo Dumback passed away unexpectedly on August 5, 2023, at the age of 65, at his home in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. He was born in Sault Ste. Marie, on June 10, 1958, to Alexander “Alex” Leo and Mary Magdalene (Polaczyk) Dumback.

Walt was raised on the family farm and took responsibility for the farm when he was just fifteen years old. During his high school years, he also played hockey and was a very talented player. He graduated from Sault Area High School in 1977. He continued farming full time, with the dairy farm flourishing, and making hay while the sun shined. He began his career as a heavy equipment operator in 1987, and worked for numerous employers and was highly sought after for his abilities. In 2004, he continued his career with the Chippewa County Road Commission before retiring in 2018.

Following his retirement, Walt was excited to have more time to “tinker in his garage.” Walt spent his last years thoroughly enjoying farming once again, alongside his son, Brian and daughter-in-law, Maleah, and his grandson, Alex.

Walt will be remembered by many as not only an old-time farmer and heavy equipment operator, but as a true “jack of all trades.” Walt was also an experienced welder, fabricator, carpenter, mechanic, and gardener. He often used his skills and abilities to lend a helping hand to many throughout his

lifetime; and with that, many of us truly learned so much from him. He loved his tractors and bulldozer; but his greatest love was his family by far. He will be remembered for his one-of-a-kind personality.

Walt is survived by his children, Mandy (Joe) McLean, Lisa (Marty) Jacobson, Brian (Maleah) Dumback, and Nicole (Devon Dear) Dumback; grandchildren, Emily, Madison, and Bailey McLean; and Alex and Molly Jacobson; sisters, Karen Dale, Sandra (Larry) Klusack, and Delores Dumback; brother-in-law, Phil Chalin; sister-in-law, Janice Melin. He is also survived by countless beloved nieces and nephews; "grand" dogs, Luna, Rosco, Eli, Millie, and Honey; and of course, all of the beloved animals on the farm.

Walter was preceded in death by his parents, Alex and Mary; brothers, Alexander Dumback, Jack (Sharon) Melin and James Melin; sisters, Mary Lou Chalin and Ursula Schneider; and brother-in-law, Allan Dale.

Private services will be held for the family at a later date. Please contact the family directly for details.

In honor of Walt, a public Celebration of Life will take place at Bruce Township Hall on Saturday, September 9th, 2023, from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

In lieu of flower, memorials may be left to the Chippewa County Animal Shelter. 3660 S. Mackinac Trail, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, or another local charity of your choice.

Galer Funeral Homes of Pickford, Michigan, is serving the family.

Condolences may be left to the family at [www.galerfuneralhomes.com](http://www.galerfuneralhomes.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Oaklawn Chapel Gardens

15264 S. M-129  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

SEP 9. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Bruce Township Hall  
3156 E. 12 Mile Road,  
Dafer, MI 49724  
<https://www.brucetownship.net/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Walter Leo Dumback*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *Walter Leo Dumback*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss all of the Dumback family. Nothing is going to fill the hole in your hearts. Walter had a special place in my heart. He will be remembered!*

**Cherrie pierson** - August 11, 2023 at 09:37 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Walter Leo Dumback.*

August 08, 2023 at 12:05 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Walter Leo Dumback.*



August 08, 2023 at 12:05 PM

AG

“ We're thankful for all his help when we were young farmers just up the road. i remember one time we we're building a new barn with 20' sidewalls and Walt was up on the trusses walking around on them before they were secured good, wobbling all over. He was such a big help with so many things.

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**Andy and Jan Green** - August 08, 2023 at 09:32 AM

JH

“ Brian, Maleah and Family, So very sorry to hear of Walt's passing. Fall on your faith to help you through this trying time of the great loss. Sending love, hugs and prayers for all.  
Jim & Jamie Harvey

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**Jim & Jamie Harvey** - August 08, 2023 at 09:02 AM

KA

“ To the family of Walt, I am so sorry and so sad to hear of his passing. One of the nicest guys I've ever met. Would go out of his way to make sure he said HI. Hold his memories close, as time may help in healing.  
Kathy Christensen

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**kathy** - August 07, 2023 at 07:34 PM

ES

Shocked and saddened to hear of Walt's passing. He was one of our regular faces at Mid Point. Will miss this fine man

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**ed syain** - August 08, 2023 at 12:25 AM

JA

to. the family, Walt will be missed very much he is with Jack Jim Mary Lou anhis mother i met him 37 year ago when i married his brother Jim. ill miss his smile love you guys

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**janice** - August 08, 2023 at 12:00 PM

LR

*So sorry to learn of Walter's death . I'm one of his first cousins . My mother was Walter's mother sister , Blanche Ross . I took my mother to my Aunt Mary's several times for the two sisters to visit . That was around 24 or so years ago best I can figure . I would see Walter there some times and remember his darling little girl ! I can't recall her name , so not sure which of his daughters . I think I also remember her brother who was a little older being there at Mary's . My name is Lyle Ross , I'm also a brother to Eugene Ross who was friends with Walter . May you find peace in your faith and hope in our God .*

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**lyle ross** - August 08, 2023 at 06:56 PM

SH

*Such a shock to hear this news! As neighbors we have appreciated Walt's help several times. We have enjoyed watching him help Brian bring the farm back to life. His presence in the neighborhood will be greatly missed!*

*Sandy Holloway*

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**Sandy Holloway** - August 09, 2023 at 08:05 AM