



Walter I. Sanford

February 1, 1918 - April 7, 2012

Walter I. Sanford, age 94, of Neebish Island passed away early Saturday morning, April 7, 2012 at Bay Bluffs in Harbor Springs, Michigan. Walter was born in Montross, Virginia on February 1, 1918, the son of the late Lucius and Ada (Marmaduke) Sanford. He was an avid euchre player, who loved being part of the Wednesday night card group on Neebish Island. Walter also enjoyed fishing, hunting, and gardening. He harvested an acre and a half garden every year and would can or give away everything he grew. He was a member of the Mason's Bethel Lodge #358 and the Carpenters and Steel Workers Union Local #202. Walter is survived by his son: Sandy (Charlotte) Sanford of Harbor Springs, MI; a daughter: Pam (Clifford) Overton of Barbeau, MI; three grandchildren: Erin (Chad) Broughman of Harbor Springs, MI, Christopher Overton of Sault Ste. Marie, MI, and Nathan Overton of Barbeau, MI; and a great grandson: Grayson Walter Pietro Broughman. He is also survived by two sisters: Evangeline Balderson of Montross, VA and Iris Vaughn of Gainesville, FL. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife: Jean I. (McLeod) Sanford; a granddaughter: Stacey Stanford; and a sister: Alice Hennage. A visitation will be held from 3:00 until 6:00 PM on Thursday, April 12, 2012 at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home with a Masonic memorial service at 5:30 PM. Funeral services will be held at 1:00 PM on Friday, April 13, 2012 at the First Presbyterian Church of Neebish Island with Father Joe Graff officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be left to Hospice of Little Traverse Bay or First Presbyterian Church of Neebish Island.

Tribute Wall

DW

“ Dear Sandy: We are 'distant cousins' (Sanford/Johnson) of the Westmoreland clan. We were fortunate to meet your Dad at the family reunion last fall and so sorry to hear he had died. Our prayers are with you all. Donna Johnson Williams

Donna & Mike Williams - April 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BI

“ To the Sanford Family: Bob and I deeply sorry for the loss of your loved one. Neebish Island will never be the same without Walt. Our sincere condolences to the family and remember the great memories made by your loved one. We are sorry we cannot attend, but Bob has put his back out and is in total misery. Our thoughts are with you.

Bob and Sandy Ireland - April 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ We just wanted to let you know you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Your Mom and Dad meant alot to me, I sure had some great times visiting with them on the island.

Sorry we didn't make it to the services today.

John and Carla Cryderman

John Cryderman - April 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

EB

“ *What will we remember about Walt? I will remember what seems to me to be his favorite saying, "Do you realize". Every time I visited the farm and talked with him, he would say that during our conversations. Walter, YOU will be missed.*

Ed Benoit - April 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ *Dear Sandy, Pam and Families,
We have truly missed Walt on Neebish. He was a frequent "run-into" on the roads bordering his farm and he always had a wave, a smile, and a penchant for energized conversation. Dick and I recall his generous availability when he brought his tractor down to our cottage site when my brother Pete was hauling our semi trailer filled with our disassembled church in 1987. Walter was ready and waiting to help if that rig got stuck. The old farm is a lonely place without him. Our sincere sympathy.*

Mary & Richard Starkweather - April 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ *Pam, Sandy & Families,
My thoughts and prayers are with you both! What a great guy your Dad was, so genuine, so easy going, and completely enveloped with the beautiful things God gave us to enjoy (the farm, the garden, the animals). I am sad to say I won't be able to make the trip up for the service, but I will be there in spirit. My heartfelt condolences for your loss!*

*With Love,
Cheri*

Cheri Gubi - April 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM

EM

“ *Pam, Sandy, and family: We are sorry to hear of your father's passing. Regardless of age, it is never easy to lose a parent. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Cherish the memories.*

Ed and Lori Miller - April 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ *Sandy & Char,*

We are glad we knew both Jean & Walt and have alot of good memories of both of them. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Love ya,,

Marge & Rick

Marge & Rick - April 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ *Sandy and family,*

We are so sorry for your loss, as well as ours. Please know that you all are in our thoughts and prayers. Know that we are sorry we can not be with you at this time, but are in spirit and thoughts.

All of our love,

Mamie Hennage and Dal Mallory

Dal Mallory - April 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM