



Randolph O. Hay

February 3, 1946 - April 18, 2022

Randolph O. Hay

Age 76

Of Paw Paw

Passed away Monday, April 18, 2022 in Bronson Methodist Hospital, Kalamazoo. Randy was born February 3, 1946 in Watervliet, MI the son of Randolph H. and Frances L. (Orris) Hay and has lived in the Paw Paw, Bangor area the majority of his life. He served in the US Army and the National Guard for 32 years. He was a life long learner and graduated from Bangor High School as Valedictorian, and has degrees from Michigan State University, University of Michigan, and Western Michigan University. He served as Commander of the Decatur American Legion, and President of The Friends of the Kal-Haven Trail, volunteered with Eleanor's Pantry, built ramps for Senior Services, did Vita Income Taxes for United Way, and served others in many ways. He enjoyed walking and walked across the State of Michigan, Spain, Portugal, England, and Scotland. He taught Spanish in Decatur High School for many years. Surviving are his significant other, Sharon Meabon of Paw Paw; 2 brothers, Paul C. (Julie) Hay of Beatrice, NE, Joe (Eva) Hay of Bangor; sister-in-law, Deena Hay of Lawrence; and several nieces, nephews and cousins, especially his favorite, Joyce. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Frank A. Hay. The family will meet friends from 6-8 PM Friday, April 22, 2022, at the Bangor Chapel, D. L. Miller Funeral Home. Burial

will take place Monday, June 6th, 10:30 AM at Fort Custer National Cemetery. The family suggests memorials to The Friends of Kal-Haven Trail or Eleanors Pantry.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **22**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Bangor Chapel
258 West Monroe Street
Bangor, MI

Graveside

JUN **6**. 10:30 AM (ET)

Fort Custer National Cemetery
15501 Dickman Road
Augusta, MI

Tribute Wall

JU

“ *Mr. Hay made learning Spanish memorable, he had a big personality and had a passion for the language and cooking. I'll always remember making sopa Azteca in class a few times. I always thought I was hopeless at Spanish, despite taking 2 and a half years with Mr. Hay, but when my wife and I were in Merida, Yucatan, it all came right back to me and I got along great in Spanish. Being just after I found out that he'd passed, my wife and I toasted him en Español. ¡Gracias por todo, Sr. Hay!*

Justin - December 03, 2024 at 06:14 AM

KB

“ As an undergraduate at Michigan State University I lived in an East Lansing rooming house (shared or individual rooms plus a shared basement kitchen) with Randy and others for 2 academic years, 1966-67 and 1967-68. I was studying physics, astronomy, geology, and geography. We diverse residents (both age and nationality) shared many interesting discussions over our food and drink. As a veteran and serious student of history, specializing in Latin America, Randy was able to enlighten us about the triumphs and tragedies of many nations, thereby putting America's history and current events in a wider context. He had a delightful sense of humor and was generous in offering help to others. One year I roomed with Randy, and another year I paired up with a Korean Army Colonel attending graduate school.

When Randy was out of the country, studying at a university in Bogota, Colombia, I took a summer month to travel solo in Columbia and Ecuador. I saw him in Bogota for a few days, and we took a 1 day roundtrip bus trip down to the Amazon Basin frontier town Villavicencia. It was a rough-looking cattle ranching center. After my trip I had some correspondence with Randy regarding a Colombian acquaintance I made in San Augustin, Colombia, the site of a famous archaeological park. Randy corresponded with him and may have given him some financial assistance.

Randy was perhaps my best friend from undergraduate years at MSU. We were brothers in eclecticism. His thinking and acts made a lasting positive impression on my life.

Karl Blasius
Santa Barbara, California

Karl Blasius - September 06, 2024 at 01:54 AM

WJ

“ Many times we have been standing before the magnificent cathedral of Santiago de Compostela which marks the traditional end of the pilgrimage route here en earth.
Now, a new pilgrimage has begun for you in Heaven. I know, you will love it too!
It was an honor and a pleasure to walk with so many „pieces of cake“.
Rest in peace, my brother in pilgrimage!
Ultreia et Suseia!
Wolfgang



Wolfgang Jureczek - May 12, 2022 at 08:29 AM

TP

“ My condolences to Randy's family. He was a gentle giant and will be missed. Tom Putt

Tom Putt - April 22, 2022 at 03:14 PM

MD

“ Randy was a wonderful volunteer in the ramp program for Senior Services of Van Buren County. He was an invaluable member of our team. He was always ready and willing to help and was fun to be around. We will miss him and we offer our prayers to his family.
Michelle Davis
Senior Services of Van Buren County

Michelle Davis - April 22, 2022 at 09:03 AM

VS

“ Randy was always a steadfast presence in our volunteer group of VITA Tax services to the Van Buren communities for over 12 years. He was a wealth of knowledge when it came to taxes. I could always rely on Randy. His humor and teasing kept all of us entertained.

Randy was a steadfast volunteer, often taking time to explain and advise tax clients of better ways to decrease their tax burden and how to better plan for the next year.

He was never too busy to help. I will miss him. Randy was a true gift as a friend.

Prayers and condolences to his family.

Vera E Sebree - April 21, 2022 at 10:37 PM

PH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



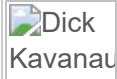
Paul C Hay - April 21, 2022 at 05:35 PM

 Dick
Kavanaugh

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Dick Kavanaugh - April 21, 2022 at 05:00 PM



I thought I had included a comment. The picture was taken August 19th 2019 at a ramp job in Hartford . I don't know everyone's last name but left to right are Lyle , Fred Lammlin, Randy Hay, Roger Paul and Terry . Roger is our lead guy. I worked along side Randy for quite a few years . He was always busy , not one to waste time. He was one of the good ones , will be missed

Dick Kavanaugh - April 22, 2022 at 01:35 PM

FH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



F. John Hay - April 21, 2022 at 02:26 PM

FH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



F. John Hay - April 21, 2022 at 02:24 PM

FH

“ *Uncle Randy loved to work and his vacations were work too with long hikes and heavy bags. We took a week long canoe trip with Randy a few years ago and portages felt like a race. Randy would regularly be heading back for second load before I could get the canoe one way. F. John Hay*

F. John Hay - April 21, 2022 at 02:21 PM

DE

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Deena - April 21, 2022 at 10:16 AM

BW

“ I remember when I was young and my dad had an archery class to teach fundamentals of archery....Randy was one of his students. He was so nice!!!

becky woodley - April 21, 2022 at 07:16 AM

RD

“ The world was a better place with Randy and he will be missed by the many lives that he touched. Prayers and condolences to his family.

Rick Dillman - April 21, 2022 at 06:51 AM

JS

“ One of my most VIVID memories of Jr. High...was walking past Mr. Hay's classroom. He (out of nowhere) stopped in his tracks, put both hands to his head, then straight towards the sky...and said, "IT ALL OF A SUDDEN HIT ME, LIKE A COSMIC RAY FROM OUTER SPACE!!" He was always ready to tell a good story!! The world lost a very kind man. Prayers for his family.

Jennifer Sherburn-Keller - April 20, 2022 at 06:39 PM

RD

Had such a nice visit with Randy in Paw Paw last year and met his wife. A wonderful person. So sorry to hear.

Richard Eugene Hodgman M. D. - April 20, 2022 at 10:02 PM

CW

“ *Ray Hay was a great guy, he taught a lot of students Spanish at Decatur High School. He was also a good cook, Thoughts and prayers for his family*

Carl and Kathy Warkentien - April 20, 2022 at 04:25 PM

SA

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Sarah - April 20, 2022 at 03:14 PM

DP

You will be missed

Debbie Pryor - April 20, 2022 at 03:47 PM

JS

I always loved working with Randy at Eleanor's Pantry. He was kind, patient, and compassionate. Praying for Sharon and his family.

Joyce Van Sickle - April 20, 2022 at 07:29 PM