



Calvin Dale Birtles

October 9, 1933 - October 6, 2012

Calvin Dale Birtles, of McBain, passed away at Cadillac Mercy Hospital on Saturday, October 6, 2012. He was 78.

He was born on October 9, 1933, in LeRoy, Mich., to Clyde and Francis (Gunnnett) Birtles. He was married to Phyllis Molhoek on November 25, 1961, in Lowell, and she survives him. He was a veteran of the Korean War having served in the U.S. Army. He was a member of American Legion Post No. 180 in Hudson, Moose Lodge No. 921 of Hillsdale and had worked for the M and S Manufacturing building auto parts for over 30 years and retired in 1995. In 1997, he and his wife moved on the Clam River near Falmouth. He enjoyed golfing and was a member of the Missaukee Golf Course. He enjoyed ice fishing, snowmobiling, winters in Texas and Florida, watching TV and his family and friends.

He is survived by his wife, Phyllis Birtles of McBain; two sons, Brian Birtles of Jonesville, and Brad Birtles of Hudson; son-in-law, Mark Grasman of Dorr; eight grandchildren, Jennifer Grasman, Mathew Grasman and Jill Grasman of Dorr, Wyatt Sprangler of Hudson, Tasha (Tim) VanRiper, Trisha Birtles and Cortney Birtles, all of Hudson; five great-grandchildren, Annabelle, Alyssa, Austin, Zachary and Karlie; two brothers, Eldon (Dorothy) Birtles of Big Rapids, and Clayton (Nancy) Birtles of Madison Heights; a sister, Phyllis Massilink of Jenison; in-laws, Bob Jenema of Falmouth, Dolores (Marv)

Brannam of Falmouth, Elaine (Rex) Rozelle of Hudson, and Louise VanHaitsma of Falmouth.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Jeanne Grasman, in 2009; brothers, Norman, Ford, Alvie, Jim, Harold and Dorland.

Funeral services are 11 a.m. on Wednesday, October 10, 2012, at the Burkholder Funeral Home in McBain with Dick Herweyer officiating and burial in the Maple Hill Cemetery in LeRoy. Visitation is Tuesday from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Burkholder Funeral Home in McBain.

Memorial contributions may be made to the one of choice.

Military graveside services will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 10, 2012, with the Cadillac Area Honor Guard doing the honors.

A guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com

Tribute Wall

CD

“ I played quite a bit of golf with Dale. He'd tilt his head down and giggle with the best of them, but he had a heck of a time keeping his head down when he swung a golf club. Everybody loved Dale. He'll be missed.

Chris Decker - October 12, 2012 at 01:33 PM

JF

“ Aunt Phyllis, Brian, and Brad... Our deepest sympathies go out to all of you on the loss of Uncle Dale. He always was good for a hearty handshake, a heartfelt smile, and a good joke. He will be surely missed. Please excuse our absence as I had commitments that I could not break. We're thinking of you and you are all in our prayers.

Joe and Lisa Birtles and family - October 10, 2012 at 07:02 PM

LH

“ *Phyllis and Family*
Memories of Dale will be with us always. He was a person who enjoyed his family and friends. Remember he saying once, "I worry sometimes because I can't think of anything to worry about."
May you find comfort in memories of him.

Lloyd & Margretha Harden - October 09, 2012 at 03:17 PM