



Donald P. LaVanway Sr.

December 29, 1948 - December 19, 2014

Donald P. LaVanway, Sr. 65, of Benton Harbor died at his home on Friday, December 19, 2014 after an illness of many years.

Services celebrating his life will be at 11:00 Friday, December 26 at the Riverside United Methodist Church, 4401 Fikes Rd. in Riverside. Cremation will follow with a private burial at a later date. Pastor Bobby Helms of Calvary Pentecostal Church in Hartford, will be officiating. Visitation will be from 10:00 to 11:00 Friday at the church just before the service. Arrangements are by the Davidson Chapel of Florin Funeral Service in Coloma. Memorials may be made to the family or the Muscular Dystrophy Association or the Sarret Nature Center. Please share memories, messages or photos at www.florin.net.

Don was born in Benton Harbor on Dec. 29, 1948 to Forest and Pauline (Couch) LaVanway. He has worked for many years in the Holiday Inn, Niles and Benton Harbor, in Otho, Iowa Fire Department for 4 years.. He was a member of the Riverside United Methodist Church, Benton Harbor Moose Club and the Berrien County Woodworkers Guild. Don enjoyed woodworking as a hobby. He also was an active bowler and a member of AA for over 20 years.

Don is survived by his wife, Riza; 2 sons: Lance (Jill) LaVanway of Springfield, MO and Joseph (Teri) Paterson of Socorro, NM; his brother and sisters: Allen

LaVanway of Watervliet, Joan Berndt of St. Joseph, and Kay Burchett of Greenwood, AK; 23 grandchildren; 3 great grandchildren. He has 7 step children – Jennifer Parent of Hartford, Bethann Parent of Stevensville, Richard Parent of Benton Harbor, Jessica Parent of Benton Harbor, Missy Smith of Watervliet, Rex Caruthers of North Manchester, IN, and Verrell Caruthers of Hagar Shores. Additionally, his daughter-in-law Corrine Whitehall of Grant, NM.

He was preceded in death by his parents; 2 sons: Anthony “Tony” LaVanway and Donald Paul LaVanway, Jr; and his brother, Dennis LaVanway.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **26**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Riverside United Methodist Church
4401 Fikes Rd.
Riverside, MI 49084

Service

DEC **26**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Riverside United Methodist Church
4401 Fikes Rd.
Riverside, MI 49084

Tribute Wall

JC

“ You were true to your convictions, Don. And I admired you greatly. Always the best a taking one day at a time.

Jan C.



Jan Clear - December 27, 2014 at 10:56 PM

LA

“ Thanks for your service to our country. RIP.



LA - December 25, 2014 at 11:55 AM



“ RIP my friend. I will never forget the parties with you and Dennis. Now you and Dennis are together again. I know we will see each other again in heaven. You brightened many of my days so long ago and I will never forget.

Dago (Norma)

Norma Post - December 23, 2014 at 03:19 PM