



Ralph W. Blakeman

July 13, 1951 - October 17, 2014

Ralph W. Blakeman, 63, of Eau Claire died on Friday, October 17, 2014, at his home.

Services celebrating his life will be held at 2 PM on Tuesday, Oct 21, at the Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service in Benton Harbor. The visitation will begin at 1 PM on Tuesday at the Fairplain Chapel. Cremation will follow the service. Memorials may be made to Hospice at Home. Please leave messages, memories or photos at www.florin.net.

Ralph was born on July 13, 1951 in Benton Harbor to Jack and Margarett Blakeman. He married his wife, Bonnie Tipton, and together they celebrated 43 years of marriage. Ralph was a heavy equipment operator at the Orchard Hill Landfill for 30 years retiring in 2000. The landfill was affectionally called "Ralph's Mountain".

He enjoyed watching old westerns and his favorite actor was John Wayne. He also enjoyed tinkering on cars and working with leather. He was an honest strong willed individual who was a hero to many and loved by all.

He is survived by his wife, Bonnie; his children, Michele Blakeman of South Haven, Margo Miller of Eau Claire, and Cassy Kopaceski of Alexandria, KY; his 2 brothers, Terry Blakeman of Benton Harbor, and Richard McEwan of Brewton, AL; his 7 grandchildren, Tyler, Brad, Michaela, Tia, Yanna, Justin,

and Dustin; his 2 great grandchildren; his extended family of Chas and Lee Nixon, Tami Hudson, Rian Atterberry, and many others; and his caregiver, Che Davis. He was preceded in death by his parents, his 2 brothers, Ronnie and Mark, and his grandson, Travis and his 2 granddaughters.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **21**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service
1053 East Napier Avenue
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
(269) 926-7222
staff@florin.net

Service

OCT **21**. 2:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Bonnie and family, I am sorry for the loss of your husband, father and grandfather. I know he will be missed deeply. Please accept my sincere condolences. Diana DeWitt*



Diana DeWitt - October 18, 2014 at 05:12 PM



“ *Shawnda N Travis Goff lit a candle in memory of Ralph W. Blakeman*



Shawnda N Travis Goff - October 18, 2014 at 03:27 PM



“ *He was an amazing man n will be dearly missed I love you papa*

Shawnda N Travis Goff - October 18, 2014 at 03:22 PM