



## Raymond "Ray" Norton

February 29, 2012

Norton, Raymond L. "Ray" age 93, of Northeast Minneapolis, peacefully passed into eternal life on the 27th of February. Preceded in death by parents George and Maud Norton, and brother Herbert Norton. Ray will be missed by his loving wife of 67 years, Ileen; son and daughter-in-law Ronald and Madonna Norton; daughter and son-in-law Patricia Norton and H. Curtis Pratt; grandchildren Robert Norton and Laura Pratt; great-grandchildren Desuma and Eiwynn Norton; sister- in-law Inez Clark; many dear friends. Ray was an expert in railroads, with a passion for all transportation. Member of the Twin Cities Model Railroad Club since the 1930s, Ray was an enthusiastic tour guide to the end, and was a charter member and motorman of the Minnesota Transportation Museum. Ray played trombone, baritone and sang bass in church, performed with the Engineers Band, the Honeywell Band and the bands on his army posts during WWII. He loved to travel, piling his family into the station wagon every summer to see much of the United States and Canada, and visiting the British Isles. He loved animals, especially dogs. Ray owned Ray's Train Shop in Minneapolis in the 1950s and worked for Honeywell for over 20 years. A service celebrating Ray's life will be held Thursday, March 1, 2012, 11:00 a.m. at Northeast United Methodist Church, Lowry Ave at Cleveland Street NE, Minneapolis. Visitation one hour prior to the service at the church. Lunch will be served immediately after the service, followed by graveside military honors. In lieu of flowers, memorials preferred. [www.Washburn-McReavy.com](http://www.Washburn-McReavy.com) Hillside Chapel 612-781-1999 2610 19th Ave

NE

# Tribute Wall

AK

“ *To the Norton Family. I have known Ray for about 25 years, he was always an encyclopedia of information on the Soo Line, he knew a lot of information about steam locomotives on the Soo, and several other railroads as well.*

~

*Andrew Koetz,*

*St. Paul, Minnesota*

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**Andrew Koetz** - February 29, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ *RIP Ray. You were a great influence on me as a young kid in my early years at the MTM in the early/mid 80's. I enjoyed your stories and learned a lot about the local railroad history from you. Another one of the great people of my youth has passed on. You will be greatly missed.*

~

*DJ Holmes,*

*Saginaw, Texas*

*Contact Me*

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**DJ Holmes** - February 29, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ Ray was one of the good guys -- loved and respected. God Bless You always, Ray.

~

*Thomas Pratt,*

*Clermont, Florida*

*Contact Me*

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**Thomas Pratt** - February 29, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *In loving memory of a wonderful person. We will love you and miss you always.*

~

*john mertz,*

*shakopee, Minnesota*

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**john mertz** - February 29, 2012 at 12:00 AM

EB

“ Norton Family: Please accept my sympathy at the death of Ray. As a teenager, I met Ray at meetings of the old Minnesota Rail Fans Association. He welcomed me to its ranks. I also visited him many times at his train shop in downtown Minneapolis. My love of trains took me to a 38 plus railroad career. Thank you Ray!

~

*Ed Burns,*

*Anoka, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

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**Ed Burns** - February 29, 2012 at 12:00 AM

GE

“ *Dear Ileen and Family My sympathies on the passing of Ray. I've been away from the Twin Cities for many years now, but still remember Ray from my years at Trinity. Ray always had a smile on his face, and words of encouragement whenever I returned to Trinity. Of course, I would also see him at the old Como yards tending to the model railroad displays. What a grand man.*

~

*Gerald Espe,*

*West Boylston, Massachusetts*

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**Gerald Espe** - February 29, 2012 at 12:00 AM