



Roger D. Yanko

January 12, 2013

Born April 4, 1943 in Hibbing, MN, to Wesley and Hilia Yanko and passed away unexpectedly on January 12th at his home. Upon graduating from Hibbing High School, Roger moved to the Twin Cities where he found employment as a machinist. In those early years, Roger loved spending Sundays at the dragstrip, racing his prized 1962 red Ford Galaxie 500. He met his wife, Kathleen Iverson in 1962 and they married in 1964. They had two daughters and made their home in Coon Rapids for 35 years. Roger retired as a toolmaker from Deluxe Tool and Engineering in 2006. An avid outdoorsman his entire life, his retirement allowed him the opportunity to more fully pursue this passion. He spent every fall in Montana, guiding hunters to upland birds, trophy deer and elk. Summers were spent fishing at his home on the lake. Roger had great affection for and was very proud of his three hunting dogs, Patches, Scout and Jazz. He was a jack of all trades and master of all them. We will miss his generosity, quick wit and signature smile. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Clifford, and leaves behind his loving wife of 48 years, Kathleen; daughters, Kristine and Michele; son-in-law, Jason; grandchildren, Rachel (fiancé, Keith), Eryn (Shawn) Andrea, Devon and great-grandson, Chase. Siblings: Clarence (Irene), Gerald (Delores), Mary Ann (Ken) and Vienna (Jim). Aunt Miriam, numerous nieces and nephews, cousins, sister-in-law and their husbands. Chapel service will be held on Friday, January 18, at 3:00 with visitation one hour prior to service at: Coon Rapids Chapel 1827 Coon Rapids Blvd. 763-767-1000 www.Washburn-McRe

avy.com

Tribute Wall

MR

“ My husband and I live three doors down and have known Roger and Kathy for only 8 years so we know Roger as the “very active retired guy”. He would exercise his dogs at Carlos Avery, work in his beautiful backyard, walk down to his dock to feed the fish, and always have a project (or three) going on inside the house. He was always on the move and full of energy with many interests and curiosities. Roger was honest, straightforward, and always had a good story to share. Kathy is an amazing gardener and in the future when I wander over to ask her questions I will miss Roger walking outside with a twinkle in his eye to give us his 3 cents. They made a very good team. Great neighbors sure are nice to have.

Michelle and Mark Rogers

Michelle Rogers - January 17, 2013 at 04:23 PM

JV

“ Kathy- the whole neighborhood shares your sorrow and is so sorry to hear of Roger's passing. Please know that we are all here to help with anything and everything, just ask. May all the wonderful memories over the years bring you some comfort and joy in the tough days ahead. You are in our prayers.

Brent and Jodi Vetsch

Jodi Vetsch - January 16, 2013 at 02:40 PM

RP

“ Most people, who knew Roger, especially in his retirement years, knew that he lived for hunting and fishing. That produced an abundance of stories anytime one spent time with him. I'd like you all to know that Roger was also a skilled toolmaker who worked many years at Deluxe Tool & Engineering until his retirement. As owner of Deluxe Tool and on behalf of me and the staff, we will all miss Roger enormously. We had a small staff at Deluxe that stuck together through good and bad times and got to know each other like family. We usually saw each other more than we saw our wives.

Personally, I thought of Roger as a friend rather than an employee. I regret that I didn't make the effort to spend more time with him after our retirements. I will miss him.

Ron Petricka

Ron Petricka - January 16, 2013 at 10:24 AM

VM

Roger was my younger brother. I loved him dearly and will forever miss him. My brother was "A Real American".

Vienna Yanko Malarkey - January 25, 2013 at 01:45 PM