



Paul F. Adams

July 8, 1936 - January 4, 2020

Paul Adams, 83, passed away peacefully on Saturday January 4, 2020 at Omega House in Houghton, Michigan from long-term heart disease and recently-diagnosed acute myelogenous leukemia. In the last week of his life he was surrounded by family and friends, many of which traveled long distances to be with him.

Paul was born on July 8, 1936 in Hazel Park, Michigan to Lempi (Parkkila) Adams (later Kemppainen) and Clayton Adams. He graduated from Graveraet High School in 1954, and served in the U.S. Army from 1955 to 1957 and was stationed in Germany. He married Phyllis (Pulkki) Adams on August 2, 1958. His career was primarily in the trucking and ornamental iron industry. Paul was a lifetime member of the Finnish Association in Farmington Hills, Mission United Lutheran Church in Pelkie, Baraga American Legion Post 444, Otter Lake Sportsmans Club, Baraga Lions Club and a volunteer at the Hanka Homestead. Paul's engaging personality made everyone who knew him feel welcome and loved. Paul especially liked to meet and make connections with people wherever he traveled. When he and Phyllis entered the room, the room was immediately full of friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 53 years, Phyllis (Pulkki) Adams in 2011; father Clayton Adams in 1947; mother Lempi Parkkila Adams Kemppainen in 1979; stepfather Lauri Kemppainen in 1979; brother Clayton Adams (Donna) in 2015; brother John Adams (Lorraine) in 2018; and sister Nancy Adams Neuman Palmer (Ron) in 2005. He is survived by son, Mike Adams (Gail) of Baraga; daughter Tammy Damrath (Will) of Englewood, Colorado; grandson Tyler Adams (Emily) of Novi, Michigan; grandsons Luke and Clayton Damrath of Englewood, Colorado; sister-in-law Kathryn (Pulkki) Kokkila of Hancock; special friend Janet Penhale of Negaunee; and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service for Paul will be held on June 6, 2020 at Mission United Lutheran Church in Pelkie, Michigan. More details will be provided in late May.

Paul's obituary may also be viewed and condolences sent to the family at www.reidfuneralservicechapel.com

The Reid Funeral Service and Chapel, L'Anse has been entrusted with the funeral arrangements.

Comments



“ This is the saddest of news. Paul and Phyllis were very special and close to our family (Paul and Gertie Kinnunen’s), and were also my godparents. I recall many fond memories of times spent with them when they lived in lower Michigan. “Uncle Paul” was the best of pals to our dad...even sneaking a beer into his hospital room while he was ill. Warm and funny, he will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with Mike, Tammy and their families. Carolyn Kinnunen

Carolyn Kinnunen - January 31 at 03:59 PM



“ Paul was a very dear friend , who will be greatly missed! His wife Phyllis was my childhood friend from the time we were in Kdg. in Highland Park. They were special! Paul was a very kind and understanding man. I am sure that he is with Phyllis now, once again. I had many road trips with Paul, that I will always remember. He had a positive outlook despite his health issues. That Finnish SISU! Prayers for his family to find comfort in the days to come, knowing that he is no longer suffering. Rest in Peace, my dear and special friend.

Elaine - January 30 at 10:43 AM



“ Paul was my cousin Phyllis's husband and I always envied Phyllis for having such a caring and lovable husband. I also envied Paul for having Phyllis as a loving and caring wife. Not only were they the perfect couple, they each had their own talents and separate hobbies, etc., they had things they did together as a couple. So much fun each one of them were and together, they were twice as much fun. I always looked forward to going to visit them and then Paul after Phyllis passed. It wasn't a UP trip without stopping and saying hello on our way to Tapiola and our trip will never be the same. He's in God's house now and I'm sure Phyllis is so glad to see him and to celebrate with him as they once did not only with each other but with friends who have passed also. LOVE and CHEERS! Ellen and Bill Even (and I know Sue and Tom feel exactly the same way!)

Ellen Even - January 20 at 12:02 PM



“ Stan Rajala lit a candle in memory of Paul F. Adams



Stan Rajala - January 17 at 11:47 AM



“ I work in the healthcare field and had the pleasure of seeing Paul pretty regularly. When I would see him in my schedule for the day, I looked forward to our visits. Even though he battled health issues, he always had a smile and an upbeat attitude. I am saddened by his passing....such a nice man. ♡

Linda Rajala - January 16 at 01:10 PM



“ I always enjoyed listening to Paul's stories. And he loved telling them! I can picture Phyllis with her notepad getting ready to share with him all the jokes she's learned since she left us. And cracking open a beer to share with his brothers!
We miss you Paul!

Patty Adams - January 15 at 02:54 PM



“ Kim Cole lit a candle in memory of Paul F. Adams



Kim Cole - January 09 at 05:09 PM



“ MY CONDOLENCES TO PAUL'S FAMILY. HIS WIFE PHYLLIS WAS MY COUSIN. FRED AND WE HAD MANY GOOD TMES AND LAUGHS WITH THEM OVER THE YEARS.

WE WOULD VISIT THEM IN DETROIT AND THE U.P. AND THEY WOULD VISIT US IN THE CHICAGO AREA.

DOROTHY OLMSTED

DOROTHY OLMSTED - January 09 at 01:00 PM



“ Have known Paul since 1957. Jean and I attended Paul and Phyllis' wedding. Sad to loose old friends but we spent a lot of good times with Paul and Phyllis. The last table at closing time to be cleared at the Finnish Center dances was always Adams/Lappala! Much more but this could become a book. RIP Paul with Phyllis and Pancho....

Bob Lappala - January 06 at 08:23 PM



“ Bob Lappala lit a candle in memory of Paul F. Adams



Bob Lappala - January 06 at 08:20 PM