



David Gordon Berry

August 27, 1937 - January 26, 2015

David Gordon Berry, 77, of Charlotte, passed away on January 26th at his home surrounded by his family. He was born on August 27, 1937 to Richard and Marion (Pifer) Berry in Lansing, MI. Dave grew up on the farm and always loved farming when he was a kid, and even in the years that followed on the family farm "in the country south of Lansing." Dave graduated from Lansing Everett High School. After an Army tour in Germany during Korea, he was employed by REO as a welder, and later as an auto mechanic. David started his own service station in Lansing at the corner of Mt. Hope and Pennsylvania known as Berry's Sunoco which became a local fixture helping out many in the area. At the same time he also taught automotive electrical and brakes at LCC, and farmed his own farm on Windsor Hwy. in Potterville. Over the years Dave also drove the bus for Eatran, and operated Berry's Big Dog Concession Wagon at local auctions. He loved fishing, hunting, woodcarving, making pens on the wood lathe, driving his Model "A," telling stories and jokes, and seeing his children and grandchildren. His big smile and friendly blue eyes will be greatly missed by his family and friends. He was a Life member and Past Master Dimondale Masonic Lodge #449, a former Maple Grove Volunteer Firefighter, and a member of the Mid-Michigan Model "A" Club. David is survived by his wife and best friend, Sheryl Hammond Berry; his son, Patrick David (Missy); daughter, Sheryl Lynn(Charles) Genawese; beloved grandchildren, Jace, Jenna, Brice and Brent Berry; sister, Muriel Nordland Grant; and several cousins, nieces and nephew; brother-in-law, Richard

Hammond. He was predeceased by his parents, and sisters, Katherine Berry Krokker and Lou Ellen Berry Stehlik. Dave wanted to plan his own celebrations, so the family invites you to visitation which will be held Saturday, January 31, 2015 9 to 11 AM at Pray Funeral Home in Charlotte. Dave's Memorial Services will follow at 11 AM Saturday at Pray Funeral Home. At the conclusion of the memorial the family invites you to join them at the Charlotte American Legion to continue the party in honor of Dave. If desired the family suggests memorials for the Eaton Community Palliative Care. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte. Family and friends are encouraged to share remembrances and condolences online in Dave's Book of Memories at <http://www.prayfuneral.com>.

Tribute Wall



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of David Gordon Berry



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - January 26, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ Farwell to our dear dear friend "HOOT" We miss you already! Lyle & Joan Harris

Lyle Harris - January 31, 2015 at 07:01 PM

KP

“ Sheryl I am so sorry for your loss. You were my second & third grade teacher at Kendon in Lansing, and years later I babysat your two beautiful children. I remember you and Dave playing cards with my folks and there was always much laughter going on. I remember seeing Dave often at the station and being updated on your family's lives. You both were very special people to me, never to be forgotten. Take good care.

Kathy Poole - January 30, 2015 at 04:42 PM

L'

“ Sheryl, we are sorry for your loss. Our sincere condolences in this time of sorrow. EHS Class of '59

Lansing Eastern Class of '59 - January 30, 2015 at 10:41 AM

LJ

“ As I have known Dave & Sheryl over 40 years, I have many fond memories with them. Everybody knows what a trickster Dave was. One of the most prevalent memories is of being out mowing the lawn, and Dave would drive his truck up behind me and honk his horn just to watch me jump out of my skin, and fly thru the air. Thru the years he did this more than 20 times.

Laurel Julson - January 30, 2015 at 10:41 AM

VW

“ The Heavens are full of laughter today, Dave Berry is in town! Oh how you had to be ready to be had when you were with him! He knew the thought of eating venison would just make me sick, but that did not stop him. One day he invited me over for a Swiss steak dinner. Sure why not, he was a great cook. After praising him for the delicious meal the scoundrel starts laughing and those blue eyes just glowed. Sure enough he pulled off another one. Dave Berry was serving venison!

Vicki Williams - January 30, 2015 at 09:42 AM

CA

“ Sheryl was my carpool partner to Fuller Street School in Nashville for many years. Through her I became acquainted with the smiling, joking Dave. Many mornings I would chat with him, listen to stories, or share a joke. He was always saying, "Get in here" or "Come on in and sit down", making all who showed up at the back door feel welcome. At lunch Sheryl would share more stories and jokes from and about Dave. He shared his love of woodworking, fishing, and hunting with my husband and I when we visited. He was always willing to lend a hand when it was needed. His kindness and caring will be greatly missed. I am sure he met St. Peter with a joke on his lips.

Clara Arvizu - January 30, 2015 at 09:37 AM

JP

“ I did not get to know Dave real well, but the part I did know about him ,is that Love does go out in waves. Dave was. like the ocean , when you were in his presents ,you could feel and see the waves(love waves). At family reunions, sad times such as funerals or just any times he was present, he knew just how to make a person feel loved and special. I wish I been around his family more. I am Angus and Mary Berry's daughter . My prayers are with the family at this time. May God take care of all of you. My Love , Janie

Janie Berry Phelps - January 29, 2015 at 11:05 PM

MW

“ I left the Lansing area years ago, but from time to time I was able to meet up with Dave. I am saddened by his passing. He was one of our High School's 1955 class of GOOD GUYS!!

Monty Wilson - January 29, 2015 at 02:46 PM

MV

“ Dave was always so full of laughter and life and many many practical jokes. He loved his family to the moon. As young kids, Dave would hide in his old bedroom on Jolly Road and jump out scare the daylights out of us when we went up to play on Grandma's old typewriter, we didn't run down those stairs we flew. He would sit upstairs and howl with laughter. It is with mixed emotions I have to admit you passed that scare tactic on to many of us. Dave was a practical joker his whole life and every child who knew Dave knows about the wooden box with the "pet mongoose". That joke never ever got old. Dave loved to entertain our kids and grandchildren with tractor rides on the farm to the unforgettable Model "A" ride he gave great great nephew Jordan. Dave you are already missed and your memory will live on through the hundreds of lives you touched along this journey called Life. I know you are singing and enjoying being with Gram, Gramp, mom and Lou and I can only imagine the welcome party they had waiting for you. Love you and will miss all the stories and that contagious laugh. Mary Kay and family

Mary K Voss - January 28, 2015 at 08:36 PM

JV

“ I meet my great great uncle David when i was just five. He took me for a ride in his truck it was so cool the truck had a rumble seat and the truck was very very old. When we got back me and him went down to the basement and he had a toy train set it was awesome. I enjoyed getting to know him he was a wonderful man. I know he will be happy in heaven but we all will miss him. Im so blessed to have made the lasting memory's with him. I love you and miss you you great great nephew. Jordan b voss

Jordan voss - January 28, 2015 at 08:23 PM

MK

“ Sherry, I am so sorry for the loss of your father. I know your family struggled during his last days and I hope you can take comfort in knowing that your father is not in pain anymore. "Cancer is so limited... It cannot cripple love. It cannot shatter hope. It cannot corrode faith. It cannot eat away peace. It cannot destroy confidence. It cannot kill friendship. It cannot shut out memories. It cannot silence courage. It cannot reduce eternal life. It cannot quench the Spirit." (Author: Unknown)

Mary Keyes - January 28, 2015 at 03:44 PM

JD

“ The world has lost a great citizen, patriot, friend, husband and father. It has been my honor and pleasure to know this rare individual. Dave's presence in a room lights the room up. His smile, wit and charm made people happy and relaxed. Knowing him as a child and as an adult has been one of the best experiences of my life and I thank God for allowing me to be a friend of his. My very deepest sympathies to Sheryl and the children. Dave will be missed, but he is now with our God and what could be better.

John Dean - January 28, 2015 at 11:32 AM

GM

“ Sheryl and family I'm so sorry for your loss. Dave was a great man, one of a kind. His big smile and kind heart was truly a gift and will be missed. There was never a dull moment when Dave was around. When I saw Dave's picture in the obituary it brought a big smile to my face. That was the affect Dave had on people. Keep all your memories locked in your heart until you meet again.

Glenna MacDonald - January 28, 2015 at 09:56 AM

GM

“ Sheryl kept our lunch group at school in stitches telling stories about Dave and the things he had done. Sheryl and Dave liked to play jokes on each other. Personally I would be upset if my husband threw cold water on me while I was showering. To Sheryl it was funny and she would just begin to plan her revenge. I car pooled with Sheryl and two other teachers for a year. We met at Sheryl's house. We parked in the driveway on the right side of the house. It was very dark at 6 a.m. The driveway was lined with a row of pine trees. One morning we were parking our cars preparing to get in one car, when all of a sudden a man wearing an ugly mask jumped out of the trees. We were scared to death!!! Of course you know who it was, DAVE!!! I didn't see Dave often but it was always a good time whether it was a few minutes or a few hours. Thanks for the good times, Dave.

Glenna MacDonald - January 28, 2015 at 09:37 AM

GM

“ When my second son, Neil was born Dave and Sheryl invited my 3 year old son, Chris to spend the night with them. Chris was excited. Dave took Chris to a neighboring farm to see the farm animals. Dave said, "Chris, look at the cow it says meow." Chris responded, "No Dave it says moooo." Dave continued teasing Chris by identifying each animal and it's corresponding "sound?". I picked Chris up the next day. The kitchen table was covered with big homemade cookies he and Sheryl had made. Chris was very excited about everything he had done with Dave and Sheryl. Well time passed and baby Neil grew to be a toddler. One day out of the blue Chris said, "Mom don't let Neil spend the night with Berry's." I asked why? "Because Dave doesn't know his farm animals."

Glenn MacDonald - January 28, 2015 at 09:22 AM

LO

“ Sherry, so sorry for your loss. You are in my thoughts.

Linda Oversmith - January 28, 2015 at 05:22 AM

TA

“ Dear Sherry and family, Scott and I are so sorry to hear of the loss of your daddy. May you keep his memories close to your hearts and he will always remain close to you and smile upon you. Peace Be With You. Tammy and Scott Spangler

TammySpangler - January 27, 2015 at 09:54 PM

CO

“ I remember staying the night when Sherry and I were kids we would play cards with her folks for hours...I will miss your Dad and I wish you peace.

Cyndi ONeil - January 27, 2015 at 08:35 PM

LM

“ Dear Sheryl & family, Our prayers have been with you & are you are still in our prayers for your loved one (DAVE) We are so sorry, but you know that GOD only picks the best for final home. We will never forget what a great friend & cousin he was He was loved by so many people as he was so nice & helpful to all. He always had a smile & lots of jokes & stories for everyone. His picture with the candle makes us smile. thanks for sharing that with us. Love & Hugs for all

Leonard & Judy Mohre - January 27, 2015 at 07:43 PM

DD

“ Dear Berry family, So sorry for your loss, you'll be in my thoughts and prayers. Looking at Dave's picture in his obituary just makes me smile. I will always remember him as being up to something or telling great stories of how he made things right.

Debbie Disler - January 27, 2015 at 05:17 PM

PC

“ Sheryl I'm so sorry for your loss. You always spoke so lovingly of him back in our teaching days at Fuller. Love and prayers for you all!!

Pat Campion - January 27, 2015 at 05:07 PM