



Norman Eugene Reist

October 3, 1950 - January 20, 2020

Norman Eugene Reist, a loving father and man of generosity and care of others, died peacefully on Monday, January 20, 2020 in Lansing. Norman, 69, of Charlotte, was born October 3, 1950 in Lansing, the son of Lloyd O. and Bertha Louise (Hoffner) Reist. Many will remember Reist's Bakery in Eaton Rapids, which he owned and operated for many years. Throughout the years, he enjoyed time spent with his daughter, Tina, up north in Mackinaw City. He enjoyed visiting many of Michigan's lighthouses, and collected bells and angels. He later dedicated much of his time as a volunteer driver for the Department of Human Services. His service to others, however, went far beyond transportation. Norman made sure those he helped were supported, cared for, and loved. He will always be remembered for his honesty and compassion.

Norman is survived by his beloved daughter, Tina Reist; and his close friends, Karen (Tim) Newman and Katherine Gute. He was predeceased by his parents and his best friend John Graham.

Friends are encouraged to support Norman's family. A memorial service will be held at a later date in Grand Ledge. In lieu of flowers, the memorial contributions may be made to the family in the care of Tina Reist. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Norman on his Tribute Page at www.PrayFuneral.com. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home,

Charlotte.

Tribute Wall

JF

“ All of us here at the Grand Ledge Area District Library were saddened to hear of Norman's passing. He was a regular visitor to the library over the years, both with Tina and by himself. Norm was always kind and often had a story to share to brighten up our day. Several of us remember speaking with Norm one week while he recounted some medical tests he wasn't looking forward to. We wished him the best and hoped to see him soon. During the pandemic, many folks, especially those with health issues, stayed away from public spaces, so we didn't expect to see some of our patrons. As people have begun to resume normal visits-- we realized we hadn't seen Norm and Tina recently. We were sad to find out the reason why.

A favorite memory of Norman was about 10 years ago-- one day at the library, a young man became upset about something that she had nothing to do with, and spoke very rudely and profanely to one of my co-workers. She was frightened and nearly in tears-- and then Norman stood up (he was not a short man) and LOOMED over the younger man. "That's no way to speak to her." Norm said, quietly, firmly. "You need to leave now." The younger man looked at Norm-- and left.

A very gracious gentleman. We will miss him.

Jean Fellows

& the staff of the Grand Ledge Area District Library



Jean Fellows - May 06, 2022 at 12:33 PM

LA

“ Norm drove my mom to her doctor's appointments for years. I always got to hear about their trips to Detroit where they would stop off at a Big Boy for smothered hashbrowns. Norm was a very special man with a large caring heart. He will be missed.

Lacey - January 29, 2020 at 08:28 PM

SD

“ I met Norm n Tina up by Mackinac.. I hadn't two more kind people ever! Norm opened up there place to stay anytime! Tina he talked to me about you with such a tender heart.. He will always be your Guardian Angel! Love you 💕💕💕

Susie Daul - January 24, 2020 at 08:16 PM

Linda Martin

“ I met Norm and Tina when I volunteered at Helping Hands years ago. Norm did so much for the community. Helping anyway he could. He was a good kind man that made a difference in peoples lives around him. Keeping Tina in my prayers during this difficult time.

Linda Martin - January 24, 2020 at 07:17 PM

PK

“ Norm was a man amongst men. His heart was so big and full of love. I don't think he ever met a stranger, if you smiled and talked to Norm you were friends and he would be there any time. You will be missed. Thank you for letting me be part of your life. Tina I love you 💕



Pamela Kyriakides - January 24, 2020 at 06:49 PM

AC

“ Norm and I struck up a friendship a few years back.. He was always full of knowledge and life. What a blessing he was to Tina and all who knew him. You WILL be missed. My prayers go out to Tina. Walk tall, God's Soldier. Your dad would have wanted that from you.

Ally

Ally Carnell - January 23, 2020 at 09:48 AM

DE

“ During this time of sadness for you, I thought you might like to know how much Norm has meant to me and to Eaton County DHHS Norm has been not only a capable Volunteer, but more importantly, a good friend to me and to all of us. Norm went out of his way to help our clients out and becoming close frinds to many of them struggling with personal problems. The sincerity of Norm was in his relationships and actions.

The whole DHHS joins me in expressing our sympathy to you as you mourn the death of this fine man.

Sincerely

Dr. William E. Pearson

Dr. William E.Pearson - January 23, 2020 at 07:00 AM

DP

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Dr. William E. Pearson - January 22, 2020 at 04:47 PM