

# OBITUARIES

## Francis 'Bud' Bourisaw

By Jeannette Doud

Francis "Bud" Bourisaw loved life and all that it had to offer, sharing his happiness with family and friends. Sadly, Bud died on September 8, 2006, at Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey with family members and a dear friend of 13 years, Sherry Rayha, at his bedside. He was 65 years old.

He was born on October 4, 1940, in Chicago, the son of Catherine (nee Shultz) and Morton Bourisaw.

Bud's dad was the manager of the select Bon Fig Food Store on the Gold Coast in Chicago. Following his retirement in 1956, the family moved to Mackinac Island and settled in their comfortable home on Bourisaw Lane. The Bourisaw family, according to the records at Ste. Anne's Church, dates back to 1743 on Mackinac Island.

Bud was graduated from St. Francis Xavier High School in Petoskey and spent the greater share of his life on the Island. He was first employed by Frank Dufina at Wawashkamo Golf Course, worked for Ella Chambers at the Arch Rock Curio Shop, at Doud Mercantile Store, and at the United States Post Office in Cheboygan. He returned each summer to Mackinac, where he was the night manager at the Windermere Hotel until he retired in 2004 and wintered in Cheboygan, where he had a host of friends who mourn his passing. Bud served in the U.S. Army and was a member of the American Legion Post 299. He was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Bud's health had not been the best in late years. His greatest ally has been his courage and patience. His greatest joy was peace and his greatest fortune was his family and his friend, Sherry Rayha, and constant companion, his black Labrador, Smokey, who rode to town each morning with Bud to collect the morning papers and do some shopping.

The Douds at the Windermere have been neighbors to the Bourisaws for many years. We shall miss our daily visits on Mackinac and the winter phone calls from Cheboygan.

Services were held Monday, September 11, at Ste. Anne's



Francis 'Bud' Bourisaw

Church with Father Rey Garcia, S.J. officiating. Burial followed in the Bourisaw lot in the Mackinac Island cemetery. The American Legion Post 299 performed a graveside service with Post Commander Paul Wandrie presenting Bud's sister, Kitty Schadel, with the American flag. Pallbearers were James Bynoe of Mackinac Island, Kevin Leveille of St. Ignace, three nephews, Raymond and Robert Schadel, and Brandon Davey, and a friend, Leonard Batuiak, from Buffalo, New York.

A luncheon followed the service in Ste. Anne's Hall. Bud is survived by his family, one sister and her family, Kitty and George Schadel of Arcade, New York, Ms. Rayha of Mackinac Island and Cheboygan, nieces and nephews Raymond Schadel of Buffalo, New York, Cathy and Robert Schadel-Shotwell of Earlville, Illinois, Richard and Dawn Ganele Schadel of Buffalo, Mary Beth Schadel of Buffalo, great-nieces and nephews Tim, Laura, Brandon, Robert, Jennifer, Angela, Mikey, Vinie, and Carie Ann.

Memorials may be made to the Moses Dialysis Unit at Mackinac Straits Hospital in St. Ignace.

Our dear friend Bud rests in peace at the Island cemetery, where the autumn season is at hand and the indescribable changing of the colors of the leaves will be radiant.

A dear friend, Adrienne Coyne of St. Ignace, and cousins Jim and Robert Glascott of Chicago, Ms. Rayha's sister, Debbie Kline and family from Traverse City, attended the service as well as friends from Cheboygan, St. Ignace, Wisconsin, and Petoskey.

## Nancy Williams Gram

Nancy Williams Gram, widow of six-term Michigan Governor G. Mennen Williams and of H. James Gram, will be laid to rest at 11 a.m. Saturday, September 23, 2006, at the Mackinac Island Protestant Cemetery. The graveside service will be conducted by Episcopal Bishop James Kelsey of Marquette and will end with the playing of taps by a Mackinac State Historic Park bugler.

Mrs. Williams Gram, who was Michigan's First Lady from 1949 until 1961, died Monday, June 19, 2006, in Savannah, Georgia. She was 91 years old.

Mrs. Williams Gram will be buried next to her husband, Governor G. Mennen Williams, who was the first Michigan governor to be buried on Mackinac Island. He also served as a Michigan Supreme Court Justice, including four years as Chief Justice, before he died in February

1988. Following his death, Mrs. Williams married H. James Gram of Grosse Pointe Farms, who died in 2004.

Friends of the Williams family who will be in attendance for Saturday's service include former Michigan Attorney General Frank J. Kelley of Okemos, former Deputy State Treasurer Thomas J. Cleary of East Lansing, attorney Michael Staebler of Detroit, whose father, Neil, was the chief political strategist for Governor Williams, and Prentiss M. Brown of St. Ignace, son of former U.S. Senator Prentiss M. Brown Sr., who served as the first chairman of the Mackinac Bridge Authority. *Editor's Note: Information was provided by Tom Farrell, who covered Lansing for United Press International during the time Soapy Williams served as governor and Supreme Court justice.*

## Jeremy DePottey

United States Army Sergeant Jeremy Edward DePottey, 26, of McMillan died Monday, September 11, 2006, while on patrol supporting "Operation Enduring Freedom" near Asadabad, Afghanistan.

He was born September 20, 1979, to Gerald DePottey and Mary Burlingame and was a McMillan resident for eight years. He briefly lived in Bessemer before enlisting in the Armed Forces April 1, 2002. He formerly was employed at Fosters Hardware in Newberry.

He married his wife, Jacqueline, of Arlington, Texas, February 18, 2006, in Pamela, New York.

Survivors include his wife, children Jeremy Edward II and Cierra Mae, both of Bessemer, a stepson, Dylan Watkins of Arlington, Texas, his mother and stepfather, Mary Burlingame and Duane Jordan of McMillan, a brother, Joshua Burlingame, and

his fiancée, Tiffany Hasty of Newberry, a stepbrother, Duane Jordan Jr., and his fiancée, Nola Guenther of McMillan, grandparents Geraldine Ewalt of Stanton, Emma Pnacek of Standish, and Howard Collins of AuGres, and several aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews.

Sergeant DePottey was preceded in death by his father, Gerald, and grandfather, John Burlingame.

Friends may call at the Beaulieu Funeral Home in Newberry Thursday, September 21, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Services will be Friday, September 22, at 11 a.m. at the Northstar Baptist Church in McMillan, with Pastor Paul Williams officiating.

Interment with full military honors will follow at Sandtown Cemetery in Portage Township.

The family kindly requests that expressions of sympathy be directed to Sergeant DePottey's children.

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## Chamber Will Host Mud Runs, Expands Ambassador Program

The St. Ignace Chamber of Commerce agreed to host future Moran mud runs, taking over from Jim and Bridget West of the Mackinac Mudders, at its board meeting Wednesday, September 13. Also at that meeting, George Ford of Moran Township stepped forward to head the committee for the Chamber's ambassador program, said Director Janet Peterson.

This year, three mud runs for trucks and all terrain vehicles (ATVs) were hosted at the Moran fairgrounds by Mackinac County Sportsmen's Off Road Vehicle Association. After developing the program, members of the association handed it over to Mackinac Mudders so they could pursue other goals related more closely to ATV recreation. Mackinac Mudders will remain involved with next year's runs in an advisory capacity, Mrs. Peterson said, while the Chamber of Commerce will coordinate logistics. The mud runs may feature a country music festival next year.

George Ford will now lead a committee of ambassadors who volunteer at Chamber of Commerce events. This year, ambassadors assisted at the Switchback concert, Arts Dockside, and the Underwater Treasure Hunt. With 10 active volunteers, the agency would welcome up to eight more people who would like to be Chamber of Commerce ambassadors for St. Ignace.

City Manager Eric Dodson, Mayor Paul Grondin, consultant Darryl Brown, County Commission Chair Dawn Nelson, and Chamber of Commerce board members and ambassadors took a sample tour through St. Ignace with the

Mackinaw Trolley company Tuesday, September 12, at the invitation of the Chamber of Commerce. The focus of the tour was to explore the possibility of developing a downtown trolley system in St. Ignace, linking downtown sites with the campgrounds, the casino, and the marina. The trolley proposal, which is in preliminary planning stages, was originally announced in July.

"Jim Chamberlain of the trolley company did part of his tour for us, to show us how the trolley system could be used," said Cheryl Schlehber, Chamber of Commerce board president. "His tour brings 4,000 people to St. Ignace from Mackinaw City every year, and he tells us that 3,999 of them have typically never been across the Mackinac Bridge before. The whole idea is to promote commerce in the community using mass transportation."

The City of St. Ignace and Chamber of Commerce, potential partners in the project, are both researching similar services offered in other towns to see if the idea is feasible. The Chamber of Commerce has approached Community Action Agency and Michigan Department of Transportation, Mrs. Schlehber said, as possible project partners. The suggestion has been made to use a Community Action bus initially, to test the idea for St. Ignace, she said.

"Whether we use a trolley or, at first, a bus, we could give marina, campground, and casino visitors convenient access to our shops and restaurants," Mrs. Schlehber said. "If the trolley idea works, lots of things can happen."

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