

OBITUARIES

James Sweeney



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You can use most any measure when you're speaking of success. You can measure it in fancy home, expensive car, or dress, but the measure of your real success is the one you cannot spend. It's the way your kids describe you when they're talking to a friend. Wonderful loving husband, father, and grandfather loved by all.

James Arthur Sweeney, 84, of St. Ignace, MI and St. Petersburg, FL, passed away Tuesday, September 15, 2009 at his home surrounded by family.

Jim was born June 10, 1925 in Hamilton, PA to Edward and Ida (Mauk) Sweeney. He was a graduate of Plumville, PA high school and moved to Battle Creek, MI where he enlisted in the Navy in 1943.

Jim saw action during WWII in the Pacific on the U.S.S. Pittsburgh CA-72. During the battle of Iwo Jima, the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Franklin was hit, resulting in many lives lost and an order to abandon the ship. The Pittsburgh took the U.S.S. Franklin under tow, keeping the damaged craft afloat until the remaining crews were able to extinguish the fire and restart one of the carrier's engines so it could return to a safe port for repairs. Later the Pittsburgh was off the coast of Guam when it was hit by a typhoon with winds exceeding 130 mph, causing damage to the ship that included the loss of 100 ft of its bow. Jim was honorably discharged from the Navy in 1946.

After leaving the service Jim became an Ironworker, joining Local 340 and later transferred to Local 25.

Jim maintained his Union membership for a total of 62 years. As an Ironworker he worked on many landmark projects around Michigan, but the highlight of his career was working on the Mackinac Bridge throughout its construction (1954 to 1957).

Jim married the love of his life, Margaret D. (Miller) Sweeney on December 30, 1950 and the two of them enjoyed nearly 59 years of marriage. Together they had 6 children; Dennis (Cindy) Sweeney of St. Petersburg, FL, James (Brenda) Sweeney of Lansing, MI, Timothy (Shari) Sweeney of Mason, MI, Tama (Thomas) Snider of Grand Ledge, MI, Mick Sweeney of St. Petersburg, FL, Gina Caputo of St. Petersburg, FL.

Jim and Marge also have 6 grandchildren; Mitchell Sweeney, Jesse (Elizabeth) Sweeney, Sara Sweeney, Anais Sweeney, Erin Sweeney, Caitlin (Joseph) Barshaw, and 2 great-grandchildren; Elena and Lu-

ciana Sweeney.

In 1965 Jim moved his family to St. Johns, MI where he continued to do Ironwork on various projects in Lower Michigan until his retirement in 1987.

After retirement Jim and Marge returned to their home in St. Ignace where Jim enjoyed an active life. He loved spending time with his family, fishing in the Straits of Mackinac, golfing nearly every day at the St. Ignace Country Club and watching Tiger baseball. During the winter months Jim and Marge enjoyed life in St. Petersburg, FL.

Jim was a member of St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus Council 2173.

Jim is survived by his wife and children, a brother Earl Sweeney of Floral City, FL and a sister Mona Brandou of E. Lansing, MI.

Jim was preceded in death by his grandson David Sweeney.

Jim was admired by his family for his innovative "can do" attitude coupled with his jovial wit and wisdom. He could always be counted on for a smile and a story.

A memorial Mass will be held at St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church in St. Ignace, MI on Saturday, September 26, 2009 at 1:00 in the afternoon. Visitation is from noon to 1 p.m., at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made on behalf of Jim Sweeney to Hospice of the Eastern U.P., or the St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church Building Fund. Envelopes are available at Dodson Funeral Home, which is assisting the family with arrangements.

Paul Hull



Paul Hull

was an avid University of Michigan fan.

He is survived by his wife, Michele; one daughter and her family, Alana and Jon Barsuhn of St. Joseph; one son and his family, Jeff and Brandy Kreisler of Dimondale; a grandson, Jeffrey Wayne Kreisler; two sisters, Mary Murray of Soldotna, Alaska, and Joyce Hull of McAllen, Texas; a brother and his family, John and Teresa Hull of Mt. Vernon, Missouri; several nieces and nephews, and great nieces and nephews.

Mr. Hull was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, James L. Hull, and two nieces, Cheryl Murray and Agnes Hull.

According to his wishes, his family is planning a memorial party at a later date.

Anyone wishing to make a memorial contribution can direct it to the family in care of Michele Hull, 26346 S. Point Road, Goetzville, MI 49736, for a tree to be planted in Mr. Hull's memory.

Reamer Galer Funeral Home in Pickford is assisting the family with arrangements.

Paul W. Hull, 65, of Goetzville, died Friday, September 18, 2009 at his home, following a battle with cancer.

He was born April 14, 1944, in Muskegon to James Merrill Hull and Marie Alice (nee Dobberstein) Hull.

Mr. Hull grew up in Alma and was graduated from Alma High School in 1962. He attended Ferris State University for a short time before serving in Baumholder, Germany, in the United States Army in the late 1960s. For most of his working life he lived in Lansing, where he worked as a sheet metal journeyman in the construction industry.

He married Michele Kreisler June 16, 1984, and they continued to live in Lansing until he retired in 2005 when they moved to the Upper Peninsula. He had been working on remodeling their dream home when his illness began and was very close to completing it.

He was a singer and a past president of the Gratiot County Chapter of SPEBSQSA and also sang with the Lansing Barbershop Chorus. He

was a member of the United Methodist Church in Alma, Moose Lodge #288 of Lansing, and American Legion Post #205 in Lansing.

In addition to his singing, he enjoyed baking bread for friends and family, fishing, hunting, bowling, golfing, playing horse shoes, and he especially enjoyed vacationing and then living in the U.P. He

Bruce Sweeney



Bruce Sweeney

Bruce T. Sweeney, 60, of St. Ignace, died unexpectedly Tuesday afternoon, September 15, 2009, while bird hunting in Moran Township near the Caffey Truck Trail and Ozark Road. He suffered a heart attack.

He was born July 26, 1949, in Flint, to William J. and Margaret Elaine (nee Conarty) Sweeney and was graduated from LaSalle High School in 1967 and attended Northern Michigan University for three years. He was a member of Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity.

Mr. Sweeney was a toll taker for the Mackinac Bridge Authority for 36 years, retiring January 24, and also worked on the Blue Water Bridge for a short time.

He loved the woods, especially bird hunting. He was a member of Michigan State Employees Association, Moose Lodge #999, and St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church.

He played softball for the Mackinac Bridge team some years ago and walked the bridge this year on Labor Day.

Mr. Sweeney is survived by a son and his family, Brian and Lesleigh Sweeney of Cheboygan; two daughters and their families, Brenda and Gary Salter and Beth and Jermaine Harrison, all of St. Ignace; a brother and his family, Dan and Marsha Sweeney of St. Ignace; an aunt, Violet Johnson of St. Ignace; nine grandchildren,

Brandi, Hailey, Jacobb, Michael, Jaleel, Trevon, Bryanna, Travis, and Kemper; a great-grandson, Hunter; four nieces, Raquel, Jenifer, Margaret, and Kristen, and two nephews, Matthew and Patrick.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Larry, in 1978.

Visitation was Friday, September 18, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Dodson Funeral Home with parish prayers at 8 p.m. Mass of Christian burial was Saturday, September 19, at 11 a.m. at St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church with Father Pawel Mecwel, Father Norbert Landreville, Deacon Tom McClelland, and Deacon Don Olmstead officiating.

Burial was in St. Ignatius Cemetery.

Dodson Funeral Home of St. Ignace assisted the family with arrangements.

Pallbearers were Jerry Barkley, Jermaine Harrison, Dave Dell, Dean Steiner, Mike Bielat, Frank Ahlich, and Wayne Steiner.

Historians Head to Mackinac Island in October

More than 200 state historians will attend the Historical Society of Michigan's 135th Annual Meeting and State History Conference on Mackinac Island Friday, October 2, through Sunday, October 4.

The conference will feature three keynote speakers, breakout

sessions, walking tours of historic sites on the Island, and a nature bicycle tour.

Keynote speaker Phil Porter, director of Mackinac State Historic Parks, will talk about the Island's history beginning with the fur trade. Bob Sweeney, executive secretary of the Mackinac Bridge

Authority, will talk about the history of the bridge and future challenges, and Brian Dunnigan, who is the curator of maps at University of Michigan's William L. Clements Library, will talk about Mackinac Island through views from drawn and printed maps dating to the 17th century.

Free Workshop on Greening Business Is Available

A free two-hour workshop for businesses interested in learning about more energy efficiency and green certification will be offered Sunday, October 4, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Brighton Pavilion at Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island.

The workshop will be presented by Dr. David Steenstra of the College of Business at Ferris State University.

Topics to be discussed include an introduction to vocabulary terms, the benefits of promoting

green initiatives, and information on the process to become certified.

The workshop is sponsored by the Mackinac Island Community Foundation.

Red Cross Blood Drive Is Monday in Mackinaw City

An American Red Cross blood drive will take place Monday, September 28, from noon to 5:45 p.m. at Cedarbrook Village in Mackinaw City.

Walk-in donors are welcome, or appointments may be made by calling (231) 537-4818.

The address is 450 South Nicolet Street.

Mackinac Island School Seeks Interim Superintendent

By Karen Gould

The Mackinac Island school board is interviewing four candidates and hopes to appoint an interim superintendent at its next meeting, Thursday, September 24, at 6 p.m. in the school library. The board also is expected to consider hiring former superintendent Jack Dehring in a separate part-time position. Mr. Dehring, who retired from the post in 2006, would assist

the school in its compliance with state requirements and help with the interim transition.

During an ad hoc committee meeting Friday evening, September 18, committee members agreed to interview Michael Booz of Mackinaw City, Tonya Perry of Roscommon, Tina Green of Lowell, and Richard Smith of Kincheloe.

The board received 21 applications.

In a hastily called special meeting Monday, September 7, the board said it will hire an interim superintendent to serve through June, the end of the current school year. During the meeting, the board followed recommendations of an ad hoc committee specifically appointed to lay out a plan to fill the school's top position.

Serving on the committee are trustees Kelly Bean and Leanne Brodeur, and board president Ben Moseley, who did not attend Monday's board meeting.

The interim superintendent will serve from September 25 through

June.

The position became open when the board announced last month Roger Schrock would be leaving the post. His last day as superintendent was Saturday, September 12, although he is being paid to serve as an off-site consultant until March 13.

Applications for superintendent were accepted until Tuesday, September 15. Interviews were conducted by the ad hoc committee and began Wednesday, September 16, and continued through Tuesday, September 22. Such interviews were open to the public, by law.

In January, the board is expected to begin seeking a full-time superintendent with interviews tentatively planned for March. The full board will conduct the interviews. A candidate recommendation is expected to be voted on by the board in April.

Until the interim post is filled, teacher Karen Allen is acting as principal and teacher Susan Bennett is academic counselor.

Mackinaw City

Thank you to all who participated in the Village Election. I am deeply humbled and grateful by your overwhelming support. I look forward to commence the work you have elected me to do.

(It's not the speed at which we move forward - but how things get done right.)

Respectfully,
Jeff Hingston
Village President Elect

Paid for by Jeff Hingston, Village President Elect

Super Saturday

Family Fair & 4-H Expo

Sat., Sept. 26, 1-4 p.m.

Little Bear East Arena ~ St. Ignace

~ FREE ~

Games • Crafts • Stories
Animals • Door Prizes
Food • Fun

Join Us...

For Fun Filled Booths
with activities the whole family can enjoy!
Be sure to stop by the 4-H booth for
opportunities to join and volunteer!

Sponsors for this event are: Masonic Lodge,
St. Ignace Lions, Moose Lodge #999, St. Ignace Kiwanis,
Glen's Market, Griffin Beverage, City of St. Ignace,
First National Bank of St. Ignace, Java Joe's



BENTLEY'S

B-n-L CAFE

Downtown St. Ignace

OPEN Mon. - Sat. at 7 a.m.
Sunday at 8 a.m.

Hand Dipped Ice Cream
Malts & Shakes

Call for take-out orders
643-7910

Gift Certificates Available

THUR, SEPT. 24	Hamburger Steak, Choice of Potato	\$6 ⁹⁵
FRI, SEPT. 25	New York Strip Steak, French Fries	\$7 ⁹⁵
MON, SEPT. 28	Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes & Vegetable	\$6 ⁹⁵
TUE, SEPT. 29	Mac & Cheese w/Smoked Polish Sausage, Vegetable	\$6 ⁹⁵
WED, SEPT. 30	Wet Burrito	\$6 ⁹⁵

Children's Jazz & Ballet

Class Registration

Wednesday, September 23rd • 6 p.m. • Little Bear East

Mutt MMA Cage Fights

St. Ignace Fight Night

Saturday, September 26

Doors Open at 7:30 p.m. • Fights Start at 8:00 p.m.

\$20 General Admission • \$30 Cage Side • \$10 Grand Stand

Full contact mixed martial arts, kick boxing and submission wrestling

For more information or tickets,
call the Recreation Dept. (906) 643-8676

Dodgeball Tournament

Sunday, September 27th • 1 p.m. • Little Bear East

WMM

WASTE MANAGEMENT

*The transfer station on Cheeseman Road
in St. Ignace*

**Just a reminder to our customers
of our New Winter Hours
Starting Wednesday, October 1st**

**NEW Transfer Station Hours:
1st. & 3rd. Wed. 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.**