

Nickles, Gerald P.

Gerald Peter Nickles Jr., 52, of Applegate, was welcomed into Heaven on Saturday, January 22, 2005, following a four month battle with lymphoma. He fought and lived with courage, with passion and with unfailing optimism. Gerry was born on February 22, 1952 in Detroit to the late Gerard Peter Nickles. The family moved to Port Hope in 1960s. Gerry played football, basketball, baseball and track as a Port Hope Blue Star. In 1970, he graduated and along with his cousins, Glen and Robert Clark, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. Gerry was stationed in Hawaii and served as a military policeman and dog handler. He was awarded a National Defense Service Medal and was honorably discharged. Gerry returned to the Port Huron area and began working for Knowlton Distributors. In 1982 he started an 18 year career in By Lo Oil. From 1992 until the time of his death, Gerry was the Properties Manager of the Michigan Waterways Girl Scout Council. In 1983, he married Carol Andreae. Together they raised a family and in 2003 they realized their dream of owning a resort. Greenstone Cottages was opened in 2004. Gerry was a well known community volunteer. He coached AYSO Soccer, youth basketball and football. He built props for the Port Huron Figure Skating and many school functions. In 1995, he was awarded the Huron House Citizen of the Year Award. He was also recognized for his bravery with an award from United Way. Gerry was a lifetime member of the Port Hope Amvets. Gerry is cherished by his wife, Carol; children, Andre' Niven Wiegand and his wife, Joy, of South St. Paul, Minnesota, Adrienne Valentine and Gerard Peter Nickles III of Applegate; grandfather-in-law, Fred Andreae, Sr.; parents-in-law, Fred and Marge Andreae, of Fort Gratiot; sisters, June McIntosh and her husband, Paul, of Rochester, Linda Sehee, of Wichita, Kansas and Penny Guitar and her husband, Fred, of Harbor Beach; sisters-in-law, Patty Lawrence and her husband, Craig, of Fort Gratiot, Jamie Eagen and her husband, Patrick, Jennifer Jowett, of Port Huron, Julie Robinson, of White Lake, and Dr. Margie Andreae and John Kline, of Ann Arbor; uncle, Glen Clark, of St. Clair Shores; and many cousins, nieces and nephews. Gerry was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Jananne; a niece, Maureen Lawrence; and a nephew, John Sehee. A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, January 25, 2005, at Colonial Woods Missionary Church, 3240 Pine Grove Avenue. The Rev. Phil Whetstone, Sr. Pastor and The Rev. Jack Woodburn, Associate Pastor of Colonial Woods Missionary Church, will officiate. Visitation will be from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. today at Jowett Funeral Home, 1634 Lapeer Avenue at 17th Street, Port Huron, and from 10 to 11 a.m. on Tuesday at the church. Pallbearers will be James Buckley, Leonard Gerlach, Leigh Klemmer, Franklin Jr. "Chip", Mortimer III, Paul Richter, Marvin Shagena, Frederick Swegles, and David Zdrojkowski. St. Clair County Allied Veterans will conduct military honors. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Nickles Children Educational Fund or to the Michigan Waterways Girl Scouts.