

Kerkau, Ricky

Rick Allen Kerkau, 50, of Cass City, died following a long battle with cancer, Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2009 in his home with his family by his side.

He was born May 15, 1959 in Bay City to Ronald V. and Earlene (Keyser) Kerkau.

He married Dorothy M. Savage on Aug. 15, 1992 in Cass City.

Rick served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1976 to 1979. He received his associate's degree of applied science in business administration in 1998 from Great Lakes College, his bachelor's degree of business administration in 2000 from Davenport University, his master's degree of business administration in 2008 from Davenport University.

Rick worked many different places throughout the years including Erla's Grocery Store, General Motors, Charmont Restaurant, XO Communications, Agri Valley Communications, as a teacher for Davenport University in Caro, Bad Axe, and Lapeer in the School of Technology and currently worked as an IT Network Technician for Hills & Dales General Hospital.

He was a member of the Cass City/Gagetown Knights of Columbus No. 8892 and Davenport University Alumni Association. Rick loved to hunt, fish, golf, play cards, travel, bowl and watch his kids play sports. He was the secretary of the Wednesday Nite Trio bowling league at Charmont.

Rick is survived by his wife, Dorothy; son, Justin Kerkau at home; daughter, Kendra Kerkau at home; father, Ronald V. (Jerry) Kerkau of Bay City; mother, Earlene (Robert) Jerore of Caro; Roy Kerkau of Shepherd, Ray (Melinda) Kerkau of Burnet, Texas, Donald Kerkau of St. Louis; sister, Susan Romanelli of Saginaw; nieces and nephews, Savanna Kerkau, Marsha Kerkau, Jesse Kerkau, Jennifer Romanelli, Alex Romanelli, and Nicholas Kerkau; great nieces, Jamie and Chloe; mother-in-law, Regina Hughey of Grand Marais; sister-in-law, Charlene (Thomas) Swift of Saginaw; brothers-in-law, David (Jennifer) Savage of Elk Rapids, Jeff (Aun) Savage of Dadaab, Kenya, Africa, Patrick (Lori) Savage of Traverse City, Kevin Hughey of Grand Marais; step-brothers-in-law, Lonnie (Sue) Dowd of Bay City, Dale (Ardi) Hughey of Caro, Dean (Cheryl) Hughey of Auburn, Darryl (Barb) Hughey of Alanson, Dennis (Ginger) Hughey of Byron Center, Deanne (Scott) Morin of Wyoming; several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father-in-law, Victor Hughey; and brother-in-law, Darwin Hughey.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009 in St. Pancratius Catholic Church with Sr. Maria Dina Puddu MC and the Rev. Donald Eppenbrock officiating. Interment will be in Elkland Township Cemetery.

Active pallbearers for Mr. Kerkau: Justin Kerkau, Ken Baranski, Craig Bellew, Justin Nickrand, Jon Zdrojewski, Daryl Iwankovitsch; Honorary pallbearers: Chris Hyatt, Tony Malone, Ken Martin, Jr., Donny Doerr, David Savage, Kevin Hughey.

Visitation will be from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. on Friday at Kranz Funeral Home in Cass City and from 10 to 11 a.m. on Saturday at the church. A K of C Rosary will take place at 7 p.m. Thursday and Vigil Service at 7 p.m. Friday in the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to Family Discretionary Fund, Knights of Columbus No. 8892

Scholarship Fund or Revive Ministries Food Bank. Family and friends may share memories, prayers and stories with the family at www.kranzfuneralhome.com.