



Harvey Erckenbrack

November 18, 1921 - September 30, 2005

Harvey Arthur Erckenbrack was born to his parents Guy Monroe & Sophia (VonEngel) Erckenbrack on November 18, 1921 in Parkers Prairie. He passed away on Sept. 30th at the Fair Oaks Lodge in Wadena. Harvey enlisted in the US Army in July of 1941. After his discharge, he was united in marriage to Mary Ann Carter at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wadena on Nov. 9, 1946. Harvey has spent the past 71 years of his life in the Wadena area. He worked for many years as a sales supervisor for the Minneapolis Star Tribune newspaper. Harvey was an avid sportsman. He loved to golf (was known for his club making and fixing skills), bowl, play pool, watch football and softball. He also enjoyed whittling, spending time with his children and grand-children, hopping trains, and just general mischief ! Harvey was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church and the VFW in Wadena. Harvey was preceded in death by his parents; brothers Robert, Wallace, Clyde, Cleon, Victor and Donald; sisters Luella and Gladys. He is survived by his wife Mary Ann; daughters Jane (Glenn St. Marie) Erckenbrack of Wadena, Kay (Kim) Gudmestad of Minneapolis, Nancy (Tom Backman) Erckenbrack of Vancouver, WA; grandchildren John, William, Jessica, Antonio, Kai, Tessa, Berit, Tyler and Lee; 4 great-grandchildren; sisters Ellen Schorsch of Hampshire, IL, Shirley Savaloja of Deerwood, Lois Shaleen of Vermillion; brothers Vernon and Guy both of Wadena; many nieces, nephews, friends, and former newspaper carriers. Burial will take place in the Wadena Cemetery following the services. [View this Videotribute](#)

Tribute Wall

MB

“ I have many holiday photos of Harvey making silly faces. My sons, Alex and Zach always thought Harvey was great because of his humor and the faces he would make. We will miss him.

Much love to the family,
Mary, Dave, Alexander and Zachary Berg

Mary Beth Berg - September 30, 2005 at 12:00 AM

WC

“ I was only about 12 Or 13 when I first knew of Harvey. It was exciting to maybe have a big brother. When I became 16 he even allowed Mary Ann to use the car to teach me to drive. It was a stick shift. I passed the test!!!The many summers at Lake Ottertail and the good food and good times. I was invited to his Stuntebeck Ford's summer picnic where I first tried to water ski. No Luck. It took me another 15 years before I mastered it. I remember the time Todd fell at their home and cut his forehead and had to have stiches. It was Harvey that kept him calm. The boys, when they were young, could hardly wait to go to Uncle Harvey and Aunt Mary Ann's when we came for summer vacation. I was fortunate to be able to spend some time with him this summer and said my goodbye on Sept 7th for I feared I would not see him again. Bless his Soul. He will be missed.
Wanda

Wanda Conatser - September 30, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ *Uncle Harvey will always stay in my heart and my mind. My memories of Harvey during my summers as a kid in Minnesota are as strong as they have ever been. I can trace my motivation to get my first job, of delivering papers, at age 11 to seeing all the great things that I saw with Harvey.*

God Bless MaryAnn and my cousins and their families.

Danny

Daniel & Cindy Conatser - September 30, 2005 at 12:00 AM

KN

“ *I remember Harvey from years ago when he would come to my father's farm near Mapleton, North Dakota and work during a few summers when school was out. My mother, Martha, and Harvey's mother were sisters. I often think of all the Erckenbracks. A few times my husband and I had stopped in Wadena and visited with Guy at his restaurant. My name is Kathryn but my family has always called me by my nickname, Snookie.*

You are not alone in your sadness-warm thoughts and deepest sympathy are with you.

Kathryn

Kathryn A. Christian (nee Nelson) - September 30, 2005 at 12:00 AM

TC

“ Harvey needed a cigarette.

It was Kay's wedding day, and somehow I became Harvey's shadow as he wandered about Black's Grove outside of Wadena looking for a smoke before his number two daughter got married there in the open air. I was not a smoker myself, so I couldn't help him out. I was, after all, only eleven or so. I didn't understand what this cigarette MEANT, you see. All I knew was that it was pretty important to Harvey at the time. I think I remember Harvey having smoked a bit in the past, maybe - heck, I didn't know who didn't smoke then except us eleven year olds - And really, I only got to see Harvey in the summer time. But something told me that this search for a cigarette was not just a search for any old cigarette. Not just bummin' a smoke. This was an unofficial, yet important rite of passage and I was there to bear witness to it. I was somehow part of it. (What did fathers do on their daughters' wedding days before the cigarette had been invented? Chew on their ties?)

Well, I don't know how long this quest lasted. It could have been only five minutes, or it could have been a half an hour. I'm not sure. But you know, it couldn't have been that long, considering the number of smokers in attendance at that wedding. But there I was with Harvey, and man oh man, did I feel grown-up! Not to mention extremely "with-it" in my burgundy and cream colored cut-off and sandals, all chosen carefully for the event from JC Penney. I was suddenly "inside" of Harvey's confidence, and we were on a mission. Us guys.

I don't remember him actually getting the cigarette, but he most certainly did. I probably flitted away as soon as he lit up, back to being eleven again. Was it a Winston, I wonder? Salem? Camel? Who knows? But it must have done the job. Glad to have been there for you Harvey. And thanks for being there for me, too.

Todd Conatser - September 30, 2005 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ *My condolences to the family.*

Harvey was a very influential person in my growing up years, as well as my brothers.

He was the guy in charge at the newspaper when we were growing up as newspaper carriers. He taught us a lot about about personal responsibility.

I will miss him.

Raymond Beyer - September 30, 2005 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ *I remember Harvey's love for family and golf. When his grandson Lee visited in the summer, he loved taking my son and Lee out to the golf course. He also loved to play games and cards with the kids. He was one of the greatest neighbors you could ever have. God Bless You Harvey and my sympathy to Mary Ann and the rest of the family.*

Kathie Davis - September 30, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DA

“ *I remember the Holidays, Harvey would have a hug fire in the fireplace and the game was always on. Tried to get a picture without a silly face but was never able to catch Harvey off guard. We love you all and are in our thoughts and prayers! Pam and family*

Dalby - September 30, 2005 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ I still remeber Uncle Harvey stopping in Long Prairie to visit my mom, his sister, Glady. I always loved to see him; he had this humorous, tender way about him that made you feel so at ease. I must have been only five or six at the time. On this occasion, Uncle Harvey brought me a windbreaker. That was one of the most treasued presents I ever received. It gave me warm fuzzies knowing that he knew me, this little five year old, and thought about me enough to think I might like this little wind breaker. To this day, about thirty three years later, I still have that windbreaker. I will never forget my wonderful Uncle Harvey.
God Bless Harvey and his family.

Lisa (Rohr) Fey - September 30, 2005 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ Our deepest sympathies go out to you during this difficult time. Our thoughts are with you

Ron and Dar Houle - September 30, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ My deepest sympathy for the passing of Harvey. I have many great memories of him while growing up in this wonderful and largely extended Erckenbrack family. It is a comfort knowing that he is now with my mom, Glady, and the rest of the family members who have gone before... Godspeed, Harvey!

Jennifer Rohr - September 30, 2005 at 12:00 AM