



Ronald Whiteman

October 3, 1936 - May 23, 2016

Ronald Whiteman, a 79-year-old resident of Little Falls, MN passed away Monday, May 23, 2016, at his home in Little Falls, MN. Funeral service will be held at 1 P.M. on Tuesday, May 31, 2016, at Grace Covenant Church in Little Falls, MN with Rev. Greg Satterberg officiating. Burial will take place at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery north of Little Falls, MN. A visitation will be from 12:00P.M. - 1:00 P.M. on Tuesday at Grace Covenant Church.

Ron was born October 3, 1936 to John and Margaret (Benner) Whiteman on the Nett Lake Reservation. He was a member of the Ojibwe Bear Clan (makwa) wearing its badge with honor. He was proud of his service in the US Navy serving along the Atlantic Coast and northern Caribbean, including three stops at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, aboard the USS Gyatt (DDG-1.) Following his enlistment, Ron worked various manufacturing jobs before attending Hennepin County Technical College – Eden Prairie. Upon completion of a two year program in Automation Robotics Engineering Technology, a 27 year career followed with Minnesota Automation Products in Crosby, MN. He held two patents for machines he designed. The effects of macular degeneration forced him to retire.

Ken Perry, a co-worker, introduced Ron to his mother-in-law, Karen McCarthy. Ron and Karen would spend “the best years of their lives” as they both described the next eleven years together. Sadly Karen, his one true love,

passed away May 2, 2015.

Ron had a passion for country, bluegrass, native and gospel music, amassing more than 1000 LP albums. He liked road trips with Karen and their friends and watching "Cops" on television. He recently completed the Old Testament on audio for the blind.

Surviving him are his sister Elizabeth Gonier of Crystal, MN; step-children Kimberly (Ken) Perry, Terry (Becky) McClain, Christy (Brian) Dalen, all of Little Falls, MN and BJ (Wanda) McCarthy of Lakeville, MN; grandchildren: Kenny (Sammie) Perry, Jr., Tashina Perry, Ryan (Tasha) Smock, Trevor Smock, Ashley (John) Posterick, Timothy McClain, Kala (Aaron) Sowers, Mandy (Brad) McSwain, Dalton (Heather) McClain, Bryce McClain, Steven (Bethany) Dalen, Teagan Dalen, Ethan Dalen, Alexis Ropp, Morgan Neher, Haily Ropp, 14 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Also surviving Ron are his adopted brother and family, Robert and Patti Esse of Little Falls, MN; grandchildren: Joseph Esse, Randi Esse, Kari (Johnny) Jean-Louis, and Tori Esse.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents, one sister, four brothers and his beloved, Karen McCarthy. Ron struggled living in a white man's world while honoring his native beliefs. Fiercely independent, he was a man of few words, but truly a man of his word with an unbendable sense of right and wrong.

Those who knew him were blessed.

Cemetery Details

Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery

15550 Highway 115
Little Falls, MN

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY **31**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Grace Covenant Church
17117 Riverwood Drive
Little Falls, MN 56345

Service

MAY **31**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Grace Covenant Church
17117 Riverwood Drive
Little Falls, MN 56345

Tribute Wall



“ *Lemieur Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Ronald Whiteman*



Lemieur Funeral Homes - May 31, 2016 at 10:47 AM

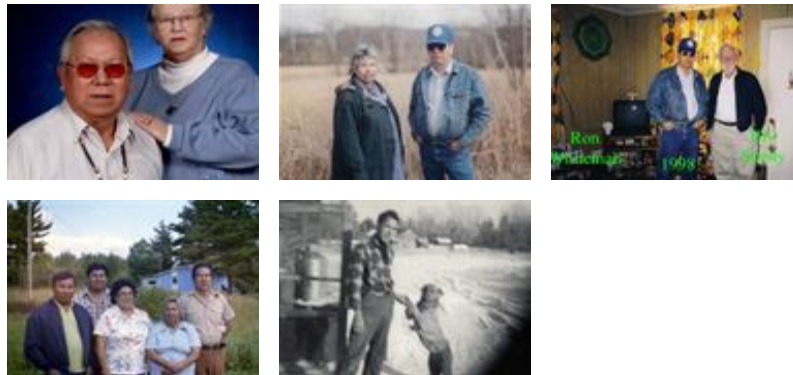


“ *Ronald Whiteman*

January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM



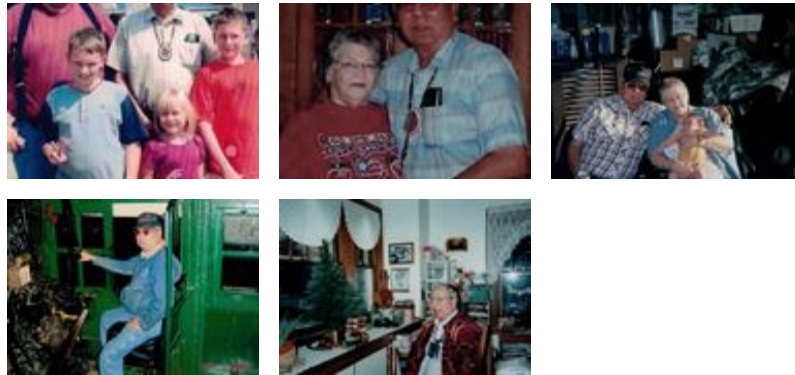
“ *6 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Lemieur Funeral Homes - May 31, 2016 at 10:18 AM



“ 45 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Lemieur Funeral Homes - May 30, 2016 at 12:38 PM

RE

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rob Esse - May 28, 2016 at 04:50 AM

RE

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall

Rob Esse - May 27, 2016 at 01:57 PM

RE

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rob Esse - May 27, 2016 at 01:56 PM

RE

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rob Esse - May 26, 2016 at 01:52 PM

RE

“ My wish for you would be one more road trip, one more day collecting diecast cars, one more chili dinner, one more evening sitting on the porch. Brother, knowing you are with Karen brings me comfort.

Rob Esse - May 26, 2016 at 10:25 AM

BS

“ 4 files added to the album New Album Name



BILL SKELLY - May 25, 2016 at 05:01 PM

LB

“ He was such a kind and gentle man! My sympathy to his family. He is with Karen now. May he rest in peace

Linda and Dave Burggraaf - May 24, 2016 at 09:57 PM

SW

“ *Sandy Wright-olson lit a candle in memory of Ronald Whiteman*



sandy wright-olson - May 24, 2016 at 01:33 PM

SD

Ron was a quiet, thoughtful man who loved Karen deeply, and was always there for her. He enabled her to enjoy her days here on earth. He's truly home now.

Sharon and Bob Dalen

Sharon Dalen - May 25, 2016 at 09:07 AM

PE

My husband called you brother. My children called you Grandpa. I called you my really good friend Ron. Thank you Ron for being such a big part of our family. My heart rejoices that you're finally back together with your Karen, but it aches with how much I miss you already.

Patti Esse - May 26, 2016 at 08:44 AM