



## David S. Bernard

September 20, 1937 - April 19, 2018

David S. Bernard

80 of Crystal Falls, passed away on Thursday, April 19, 2018 at the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain. He was born on September 20, 1937 in Chicago, son of the late Leo S. and Fanny (Grad) Bernards. He graduated from Senn High School in Chicago. After graduating he enlisted in the United States Army Finance Corps. serving most of his time in Vicenza, Italy. He was Honorably discharged in 1963.

David worked as a lighting salesman for Delta Sales in Chicago for several years. He then met and married Kathryn Alexa on April 16, 1977, and together they just celebrated 41 wonderful years together. He left his salesman job to drive a Yellow Cab in Chicago for 30 years, before retiring in 2002. He loved meeting and talking to new people. He knew the city like the back of his hand, and at one time or another chauffeured most of Chicago's TV, radio and political celebrities. But he also counted other celebrities among his customers including Steve Martin and Muhammad Ali.

Kathy and David moved to Crystal Falls in 2013. He was an avid stamp collector and loved to read all manner of news in magazines and on his phone. He enjoyed fishing, watching movies, listening to music of all kinds, especially jazz and classical music. He looked forward to trying new restaurants whenever possible. He was always ready with a comment that

would make you smile.

David is survived by his loving wife, Kathryn Bernards of Crystal Falls; nephews, Michael Alexa, Dan Polonsky and Jonny Polonsky; nieces, Michelene Alexa and Danielle Alexa; a great nephew, Frankie Polonsky; a great niece, Talullah Polonsky; brother in-law and sister in-law, Mickey and Pat Alexa; very special cousins, Dean, Jill, Derek, Zach, and Megan Aberly

He was preceded in death by a sister, Naomi (Tom) Polonsky

The visitation will be on Monday, April 23, 2018 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the Nash Funeral Home in Crystal Falls. The Eastside Veterans Council will conduct a Pass in Review at 3:45 pm at the funeral home. The Funeral Service will follow at 4:00 pm at the funeral home. Burial will be in the Evergreen Memorial Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the USO in his name at: United Service Organization, PO Box 1831, Merrifield, Virginia 22116, [www.uso.org](http://www.uso.org)

Condolences to the family of David S. Bernards may be expressed online at [www.nashfuneralhome.net](http://www.nashfuneralhome.net)

The family has entrusted the Nash Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Crystal Falls with the arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Evergreen Memorial Cemetery

311 Logan St.  
Crystal Falls, MI 49920

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 23. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Nash Funeral Home  
104 N. Third St.  
Crystal Falls

## Funeral Service

APR 23. 4:00 PM (CT)

Nash Funeral Home  
104 N. Third St.  
Crystal Falls

# Tribute Wall

SP

“ I wondered what happened to my old friend, Dave Bernards. So I did a Google search --- and found his obituary.

*i grew up on Sealy Street, with some other boys my age. My father worked Midnight shift, so I had the car during the day. The boys and I would hop in the car and drive a few blocks to pick up Dave. Then we would joy ride.*

*One day my father bought a new car. When we went to pick up Dave, I said let's play a prank on Dave. I gave each of my friends a line to say.*

*We rang Dave's bell and he came out. Then our play began.*

*"Look, there's a new car."  
"The doors are open."  
"The key is in the ignition."  
"Let's get in!"*

*We all piled in --- except for Dave. He refused to ride in a stolen card.*

*We then laughed and explained the situation to Dave. He then joined us in the car and off we went for our joyride.*

*I hope that Dave kept his moral compass in the following years.  
Goodbye old friend.*

*Sherwin Pakin  
Chicago  
March 2019*

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**Sherwin E. Pakin** - March 04, 2019 at 04:36 PM

GB

“ Kathy, Bryan and I are so sorry about David's passing. We know how devoted you and he were to each other. He was such a kind and generous man. One of my first memories of David is him waiting for the right moment to honor Gina with the Kaddish. We hope that memories of his thoughtfulness and gentleness sustain you through this difficult time.

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**Geri and Bryan** - April 23, 2018 at 06:57 PM

DE

“ Kathy, so sorry for your loss. Thinking of you in this difficult time. Prayers to you and your family.

*Debbie Emond*

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**Debbie Emond** - April 23, 2018 at 12:07 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of David S. Bernards.



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April 23, 2018 at 09:14 AM

PG

“ Kathy, we are sad to hear of David's passing. Please accept our condolences and know you and he are in our thoughts.

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**Peter and Maria Gilley** - April 23, 2018 at 12:10 AM

TD

“ Kathy,  
I was so sad to hear about David. I always remember how happy and smiling he was toward me when I was growing up. You and David were such an important part of my sister Marilyn's life and for that I cannot thank you enough. May your wonderful memories comfort you now and in the future. I'm sending a hug your way and wishing you the courage, strength and faith you will need each day to carry on. Take care.

Love,  
Toni (and Ken) Dornacher

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**Toni Dornacher** - April 22, 2018 at 10:05 PM

 CJ  
Young

“ Dear Kathy, my heart goes out to you with the loss of your beloved David. You both meant the world to my sister in law Marilyn. Sending condolences on behalf of Leroy and myself.

Carol and Leroy Young

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**CJ Young** - April 22, 2018 at 04:59 PM

MS

“ Dear Kathy, What stands out in my mind most about David is how happy he must have made you on your wedding day-the glow on your face in the picture was one filled with pure love. I'm sure under that famous Bernards' beard was the same glow! I am so glad David was able to spend time with you in Crystal Falls...I know it was a special place for him. He was a warm and thoughtful man who left many heartfelt memories. ❤️

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**Mary Swanson** - April 22, 2018 at 03:14 PM

TW

“ Kathy,  
*So sorry to hear about David. I have memories of David's warm personality, smile and fun laugh. He made an memorable impression to all he met. He will be missed.*  
*Love Tris & Steve*

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**Tris Wegener** - April 21, 2018 at 06:13 PM

RG

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Randy Gilley** - April 21, 2018 at 12:49 PM

RC

“ Kathy,  
*I was so saddened to hear of David's passing. I will remember him as a wonderful smiling man who always had a moment for people. He was a special friend and like a part of our family. Always being there when we needed him and gracing us with his special blessings when we lost a loved one.*  
*You were both such an important part of my sister's life and for that I will always be grateful. David will surely be missed by our family. I wish you peace at this time of loss knowing David's faith will take him where he needs to be. I love you both.*  
*Rosalyn Cackler*

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**Rosalyn Cackler** - April 21, 2018 at 12:13 PM

MT

“ *We will always remember the laughter. What a gift he had to make us all feel better about life.*



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**Mary Timpany** - April 21, 2018 at 10:25 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of David S. Bernards.*



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April 21, 2018 at 10:19 AM

 Laura Caragher

“ *Uncle David will be truly missed. He was always reliable for a kindness, a laugh, a nugget of wisdom- and was truly unapologetically, authentically one-of-a-kind.*

*Aunt Kathy, I am gutted for you. I'm also so very grateful you were gifted with each other. May the memories of his smile and laughter and all your joys together bring you peace.*

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**Laura Caragher** - April 21, 2018 at 09:35 AM