



Gene "Cook" John Bacsa Jr.

August 18, 1945 - November 1, 2019

Gene "Cook" John Bacsa Jr. passed away on November 1, 2019 at the VA CLC in Iron Mountain, Michigan, surrounded by his family.

Gene was born August 18, 1945 to Gene and Gurli (Christensen) Bacsa in Chicago, IL. He served in the US Army and was a Vietnam Veteran. On December 27, 1969 he married Barbara Gardino in Chicago, IL. They made their home in Grayslake, IL and Gene spent his career as a member of Local 150 Operating Engineers in Northern Illinois.

Family was important to Gene, especially his children Kristen (Chris) Gentes of Clermont, FL, and Gene (Nicki) Bacsa III of Lake Villa, IL; and his grandchildren Paige, Gene IV, Faith and Gunner Bacsa and Hailey and Sydney Gentes. He was dearly loved by his cousins and in-laws.

Gene and Barb retired to Amasa, Michigan in 2000 to fish, hunt and enjoy the woods. Their years in the Upper Peninsula were special to Gene. He spent his retirement doing woodworking, making maple syrup and volunteering at the VA. He had many friends in Iron County and would visit with them wearing his overalls and a Stormy Kromer. Gene enjoyed being a part of the Classic Farm Machinery Club of Iron County, VFW Post #10197 and American Legion Reino Post 21. He lived life in the moment and was quick with a smile or a razzing and never let cancer stop him from enjoying each day.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Nash Funeral Home in Crystal Falls on Saturday, November 9, 2019 from 10:00 am - 12:00 noon. Barb and her family wish to thank all of their friends and family who were there to support Gene during this time, as well as the VA staff and volunteers at the CLC.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Oscar G. Johnson Volunteer Services or the Iron County Cancer Unit.

Condolences to the family of Gene "Cook" John Bacsa Jr. may be expressed online at www.nashfuneralhome.net

The family has entrusted the Nash Funeral Home and Cremation services with the arrangements.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

NOV 9. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Nash Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Inc.

104 N. Third Street

P.O.Box 147

Crystal Falls, MI 49920

1-906-875-6381

nashfuneralhome@gmail.com

<https://www.nashfuneralhome.net/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Gene "Cook" John Bacsa Jr..*



November 08, 2019 at 01:46 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Gene "Cook" John Bacsa Jr..*



November 08, 2019 at 12:41 PM



“ *Dear Barb and family, I will miss Genes wonderful personality, charm, and quick wit. He never failed to leave us with a smile. Sending you special prayers in this saddest of times. Lisa Erickson and Family*

Ricky w Erickson - November 07, 2019 at 05:44 PM



“ *We will miss Cook's joy and laughter. He always treated everyone the same, joking with them whether he just met them or he knew that person for years. We are thankful for the joy he brought to Barb's life. Cook will be missed
Ready and Dawn*

Dawn - November 07, 2019 at 07:14 AM

KA

“ *The Bacsa, David and Gardino families are forever intertwined. Cook has always been more a brother than cousin. Cook like his Dad and my Mom had a wonderful capacity to enjoy life and make every day special. What a legacy and example to pass on to his family and friends. He will live forever in my heart. All my love to Barb and the family, very special people. Karen*

Karen - November 06, 2019 at 09:19 PM

MH

“ *Our love and condolences to Barb and all of Gene's loving family. We will truly miss this man and his wonderful smile. Mike and Margaret Henschel*

Michael Henschel - November 05, 2019 at 10:59 PM

LW

“ *Barb, you and Gene have been friends to us for a long time. I sure will miss Gene, stopping by for a shot now and then. Wishing you the peace and comfort only the Lord can provide... Mike and Lorna Willis*

Lorna Willis - November 05, 2019 at 01:58 PM

JP

“ *Barb & Family
Only got to know "Cook" for a few years and wished it could have been longer, a lot of fun out fishing in the boat or on the ice.--Rest in peace good buddy.*

Jerry Peloza

Jerry Peloza - November 04, 2019 at 03:24 PM