



Melvin G. Johnson

September 12, 1931 - September 4, 2019

Melvin G. Johnson, 87, of Crystal Falls passed away peacefully Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2019 at his home.

Melvin was born Sept. 12, 1931, in Sagola, MI, son of Elmer and Senia (Palomaki) Johnson. On June 21, 1952, Melvin married Elaine Christianson in Iron Mountain; after which they lived at the family farm located west of Sagola, until 1958, when they moved to a farm on County Line Road, Sagola Township. Then in 1962, they moved to their current home in Mansfield Township. Along with his father, Melvin grew potatoes; then in 1969, he took over the entire operation. Until his death, he worked alongside his sons, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Elaine preceded him in death in April of this year.

A life-long resident of the area, Melvin was a member and former President of the Iron Range Farm Bureau, the Michigan Potato Industry Commission (MPIC), and Potatoes USA. He was a former member of the Mansfield Township Zoning Board of Appeals and numerous other Mansfield Township Boards. He was named Farmer of the Year in both Iron and Dickinson Counties. He and Elaine loved to polka and were members of the Raja Rhyma Finnish-American Society in Iron Mountain. Melvin also was a member of United Lutheran Church in Crystal Falls. He loved to be in the outdoors and woods and was an avid deer hunter.

He is survived by his daughter, Marsha (Roy) Wainio of Sagola; 2 sons, Rodney (Marion) Johnson of Mansfield Township and Dale (Dee Dee) Johnson of Sagola; grandchildren Faith (John) Kuzak of Crystal Falls, Jason (Michelle) Johnson of Sagola, David (Heather) Johnson of Kingsford, Kristel Johnson of Madison Heights, MI and Katie (Ryan) Lorentzen of Maplewood, MN; a sister, Marion Johnson of Kingsford; seven great-grandchildren; and several nephews, nieces and cousins.

Along with his parents and wife, Elaine, Melvin was preceded in death by a daughter, Shelly Johnson; a brother, Donald Johnson, and his In-laws, Carl and Judith Christianson.

Visitation will be 9:30 am - 11:30 am on Saturday, Sept. 7 at the United Lutheran Church in Crystal Falls. Funeral services will follow at 11:30 am at the church. Rev. David Johnson will officiate. Burial will be in Evergreen Memorial Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers a memorial will be established in his memory.

Condolences to the family of Melvin Johnson may be expressed online at www.nashfuneralhome.net

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

Cemetery Details

Evergreen Memorial Cemetery

311 Logan St.
Crystal Falls, MI 49920

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 7. 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

United Lutheran Church
506 Superior Ave.
Crystal Falls, MI 49920

Funeral Service

SEP 7. 11:30 AM (CT)

United Lutheran Church
506 Superior Ave.
Crystal Falls, MI 49920

Tribute Wall

MG

“ *Mary Lou (Augustine) Gagala lit a candle in memory of Melvin G. Johnson*



Mary Lou (Augustine) Gagala - September 10, 2019 at 06:29 PM

PD

“ *Peter J Dishaw lit a candle in memory of Melvin G. Johnson*



Peter J Dishaw - September 07, 2019 at 12:46 PM

MH

“ *Our condolences to Marsha, Rod, Dale, and families. I always remember your father being cordial to me and also trying to get me a job. One time he asked me if I would grade potatoes and another time he asked if I would help care for your mother! I don't know if he thought I was a hard worker or if I needed a job. I told myself I was a good worker! He leaves behind a legacy of hard workers and kind people. Bless you all.*

Wee and Dale Hawks

Marion Hawks - September 05, 2019 at 06:25 PM

TK

“ *Our sincere condolences on the passing of your dad, Dale & Dee Dee, and to the whole family also. Ted especially has very fond memories of him.*

~Ted & Caren Kowalski



Ted & Caren Kowalski - September 05, 2019 at 01:06 PM

FF

“ *From the entire Magray family, purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Melvin G. Johnson.*



From the entire Magray family, - September 05, 2019 at 01:03 PM