



Robert V. Francisco

July 23, 1943 - December 21, 2025

Robert “Bob” Francisco, 82, of Crystal Falls, passed away on Sunday evening, December 21st, 2025. He was comforted in the home of his stepdaughter Frankie and surrounded by his family during his final peaceful breaths.

Bob was born on July 23rd, 1943, in Port Huron, Michigan, son of the late William and Betty (Bowser) Francisco. Bob graduated from Port Huron High School in 1958. He then went on to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps from June 29, 1961, until June 1, 1965. He became a Combat Engineer and was awarded a Good Conduct Medal as a Marine. During his service, he was stationed at Guantanamo amidst the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Upon his return from service, Bob married Elizabeth “Betty” Warner on June 1st, 1968 in Port Huron. They remained in the Port Huron area while Bob worked in construction and as a factory worker at Mueller Brass up until 1975. After several trips up to the Amasa area to visit his father's camp property, Bob & Betty jumped at the opportunity to purchase the Amasa Hotel & Bar in 1975. In 1984 Bob & Betty adopted two boys, Lee and Kerry, from South Korea. Bob continued to manage and bartend at the Hotel & Bar while also taking on an additional job as a lumber grader at Pine River Lumber Company in Amasa where he worked from 1990-2000. In 1995 Bob and Betty sold the bar and finalized their move to Crystal Falls. Bob cared for Betty until she lost

her battle with cancer on April 7th, 1999.

In 2001 Bob moved to Colorado with Nancy McNeil and her three children, Frankie, Mindy, & Jacob. While in Colorado, Bob began working at Saddle Rock Golf Course in maintenance, which fueled his passion for the game. Bob and Nancy celebrated their marriage in 2005. Bob, Nancy, and the kids remained in Colorado until 2009 after learning of Nancy's cancer diagnosis. The family relocated back to Crystal Falls in 2009, where Bob cared for Nancy until her fight with cancer ended on April 5th, 2010. Bob stayed in Crystal Falls and volunteered his way into a position at the Crystal View Golf Course starting in 2010. He would continue his employment at the golf course until 2015. Bob created a solid foundation of friendships through his decades of living in Crystal Falls. You could often find him in his garage, working on his Camaro, hanging out with friends, tending his exotic plants, and rocking in his chair in front of the TV, pellet stove, and salvaged hotel bar window.

He will forever be remembered for his unwavering care as a husband and his pride in being a father, grandfather, brother, & uncle. There are countless people who call him a genuine friend, a true gem, a legend, one of a kind. Bob will continue to be missed by all.

He is survived by his son, Lee (Adrian) Francisco and their children, Bryce, Bailey and Audrey; his son, Kerry (Mimi) Francisco and their 2 children, Braeden and Izzabelle; stepdaughter, Frankie DeNell of Crystal Falls; stepdaughter, Mindy (Jonny) DeNell, and their children, Jack and Nancy; stepson, Jacob (Amber) DeNell and their daughter, Clarke; his brothers, Bill (Marilyn) Francisco of Elizabethton, TN, Gene (Susie) Francisco of Ocala, FL, and Dave (Kim) Francisco of Palm Coast, FL; and his sister, Barbara (Brock) Reeves of Fayette, Alabama.

In lieu of flowers or gifts, donations will be accepted for a memorial bench that

will be placed at the Crystal View Golf Course. Excess funds will be used for burial services. Please send donations to Kerry Francisco - 501 Prince Street, Negaunee, MI 49866.

A Celebration of Life will be hosted at Chung's Bar & Grill on Saturday, January 10th from 1:00 - 6:00 CST.

Burial will be in the Evergreen Cemetery in Crystal Falls.

Condolences to the family of Bob Francisco may be expressed online at nashfuneralhome.net

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

Cemetery Details

Evergreen Memorial Cemetery

311 Logan St.
Crystal Falls, MI 49920

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN **10**. 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Chung's Bar & Grill
602 Wagner St.
Crystal Falls, MI 49920

Tribute Wall

BB

“ *Lee and Adrian, and family,
We are so sorry to hear about the loss of your father. What a wonderful obituary that was written about your father.*

We miss seeing you.

*Love,
Bill and Janis*

Bill & Janis Book - February 01 at 03:38 PM

AW

“ *Dear Francisco-DeNell families,*

We were so sorry to hear of Bob's passing. He certainly was one of a kind and a great friend to many. His kindness to others will not be forgotten. We will keep all of you in our thoughts and prayers. May he rest in peace.

Sincerely, Doug & Ann Wagner and family

Ann Wagner - January 05 at 11:35 AM

PA

“ *So sorry to hear that Bob had passed away he was always so much fun, he had the best sense of humor*

Pam - January 03 at 10:57 PM

AL

“ Bob and Betty were such an important part of the Amasa community for a very long time. You were there for so many of us kids, employing us, and always looking out for us. It was so wonderful that he found happiness again with Nancy, another wonderful soul. You will be missed by many, Bob.

Allison - January 03 at 08:55 PM

PW

“ I got to know Bob on the golf course and at the 19th hole. There was always a lot of joking and laughs. He will be missed by all who knew him. My sympathy to his entire family.

Pat Westcott - January 03 at 05:57 PM

RA

“ I am so sorry to have learned of Bob's passing. So many memories come to mind. He and Betty had the greatest place in Amasa with the Hotel/Bar. Best fish fry in Iron County, if you could find an open seat! I always appreciated his business while I was both in the supermarket and car business. May God bless this most wonderful individual/Veteran and families, Sincerely, Rex.

Rex Angeli - January 03 at 06:39 AM



“ I remember working at the hotel during snowmobile season, friday night fishfry; he was always so fun to work for. His laugh & playful mannerisms. Raising those sweet boys & having lovely Betty as a wife. He will be sadly missed.

Julie Borden - January 03 at 01:04 AM

SH

“ Steve Hill lit a candle in memory of Robert V. Francisco



Steve Hill - January 02 at 06:43 PM