



## Wayne Rudolph Ziert

December 17, 1939 - January 12, 2021

Wayne “Cricket” Rudolph Ziert was a wonderful man with a heart of gold, an unforgettable laugh, a story to share, and a way of making everyone’s day a little better. He passed away on January 12, 2021, at St. Vincent Hospital in Green Bay with his wife, Janine, and family by his side.

Born on December 17, 1939, in Bradley Township near Tomahawk, WI to Rudolph and Geraldine (McCarthy) Ziert, he gained his nickname “Cricket” early in life because he could make a chirping sound like a cricket. He graduated from Merrill High School Class of ’57 and left soon after to serve in the U.S. Navy on the USS Shangri-La CVA-38, sailing to ports in Hawaii, Philippines, Guam, Japan, Korea and Midway and playing cornet in the Navy Band.

For the past 31 years Cricket was married to Janine (Sartori). They met while he was working as a surveyor for Kennecott Exploration Company (later acquired by Rio Tinto), a firm that mined industrial diamonds in the Crystal Falls area in the 80s, and his office was located next to Ben Franklin, where Janine worked. Together they traveled, hunted, fished, skied, golfed, boated, gardened, built a home, regularly attended Mass at Guardian Angels Catholic Church, and enjoyed life together with family and friends.

Earlier in life he worked as a bartender in Minocqua, had a fishing charter boat

at Black River Harbor in Ironwood, and was a member of the National Ski Patrol serving in Wausau, Ironwood and Colorado. Cricket will be remembered for many things including his extensive knowledge of nature and geology, building birch-bark canoes and a log cabin on the Net River, always lending a helping hand, and cooking favorite dishes for Janine's family, including Brussels sprouts with bacon and venison in butter.

Surviving family include Cricket's wife, Janine; his daughter, Sheila Tallman of Plymouth, MN; his brother Mike (Shirley) Ziert of Calimesa, CA; brother Gene Ziert of Redlands, CA; cousins, sisters- and brothers-in-law, and many nieces and nephews who loved their Uncle Cricket.

Cricket touched the hearts of many. Family and friends will celebrate his life on July 9, 2021 with Mass at 11 AM at Guardian Angels Catholic Church, interment at Evergreen Memorial Cemetery, followed by a gathering at Tufts Rondon VFW Post 2891. Nash Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Evergreen Memorial Cemetery

311 Logan St.  
Crystal Falls, MI 49920

# Previous Events

## Memorial Mass

JUL 9. 11:00 AM (CT)

Guardian Angels Catholic Church  
412 Crystal Ave.  
Crystal Falls, MI 49920

# Tribute Wall



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Wayne Rudolph Ziert.*



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July 05, 2021 at 04:31 PM



“ *Janine, Sympatjies in the loss of your husband. I didn't think I ever knew him, but seeing his picture, I have seen him. Late sympzthies to you and his & your families!*  
*From, Mary Jane Soderberg*

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**Mary Jane Soderberg** - March 07, 2021 at 04:31 PM



“ *Janine I'm so sorry to hear of the loss of your husband. Horrace and I enjoyed talking to the two of you when we visited Crystal Falls in the summer from our long journey from Texas. Take care of yourself and until we meet again. Love, Carol (Mlinarcik) Cain*

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**Carol Cain** - February 03, 2021 at 04:30 PM



“ *Cricket was such a sweet man he was a wonderful partner for my cousin Janine he will be missed always*

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**Sheree Graham** - January 29, 2021 at 08:11 AM

PM

“ So sorry for your loss. Cricket was amazing, and will be dearly missed.

Patrick Moore - January 27, 2021 at 02:10 AM

RM

“ We will always remember and treasure Cricket's love of life. Keeping you in our thoughts, Janine.

Rob and Sara Moore - January 27, 2021 at 12:12 AM

MC

“ Mary Chambers lit a candle in memory of Wayne Rudolph Ziert



Mary Chambers - January 26, 2021 at 10:03 PM

TL

“ So sorry to hear the sad news. Keep all the wonderful memories you and Cricket made together in your heart. We are keeping you, Janine, in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Love, Gregg, Tina, and Tony

Tina LaVacque - January 26, 2021 at 09:07 PM

BC

“ I'm so sorry to hear this Janine...heartfelt sympathies to you, your family, and all who loved him...love and prayers....Becky West Culp

Becky West Culp - January 26, 2021 at 06:18 PM

JW

“ *Jon Van Wagner lit a candle in memory of Wayne Rudolph Ziert*



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**Jon Van Wagner** - January 22, 2021 at 08:16 PM

DI

“ *Wayne was a wonderful cousin. While growing up we should stop in Merrill to visit them, or they would come to swim at our cottage at Crystal Lake in Tomahawk, WI. He was outgoing and a lot of fun. I always wished we had kept in touch at grown ups. Aloha, Wayne. Cousin Diane Kuehling Radcliffe in Honolulu.*

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**Diane** - January 20, 2021 at 07:39 PM

DE

“ *From the time we all met Cricket back in the 80s, when we was in town mining diamonds, becoming part of our community and soon dating Janine, we loved him - his smile, his interesting stories of travel and the outdoors, the way he talked and made you feel welcome, his jokes, and his unique laugh that made everyone laugh longer and harder. We will miss him and are better for having known him.*

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**Diane and Rob Emo** - January 20, 2021 at 03:48 PM

JG

*Cricket/Wayne was a good friend. He will be missed by all of us.*

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**John Gartner** - January 26, 2021 at 12:29 PM

JN

“ *Janine, So sorry to hear that Cricket had passed away. He was a wonderful man with a heart of gold. I will always cherish the times we shared and our friendship while I was in Crystal Falls. Gatherings at Fortune Lake, Camp parties, Golf outings, and Paisano club parties. Cricket touched many hearts. May he Rest In Peace!*

*Joe Nash*

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**Joseph P Nash** - January 19, 2021 at 11:51 AM

RE

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



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**Richard Elson** - January 18, 2021 at 10:02 PM

PL

“ *Janine, sorry to hear of your loss. Cricket was one of those guys who always had a smile, greeted you with a laugh to go with his smile, and liked to share stories... A man with a heart of gold. Our deepest sympathies to you and family.*  
*Paul and Connie LaChapelle*

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**Paul LaChapelle** - January 17, 2021 at 04:01 PM

DR

*Janine, so sorry to hear of your loss. Our prayers and sympathy go out to you through this difficult time.*  
*Bill and Donna Rossi*

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**Donna Rossi** - January 18, 2021 at 03:28 PM