



Donald Elwin Hager

June 24, 1927 - November 5, 2020

Donald "Elwin" Hager, 93, of Kalkaska passed away on Thursday, November 5, 2020 surrounded by his loved ones. He was born on June 24, 1927 at his grandpa and grandma Tosier's home in Boardman Township to the late Frank Thomas and Clara (Tosier) Hager. Elwin graduated high school early to join the United States Army during World War II. After proudly serving in the Army, Elwin returned to home and worked in various factories and owned a full services Standard Station. It wasn't until the late 1960's that Elwin began farming Christmas trees. During this time Elwin taught and instilled good, strong work ethics in many young people in Kalkaska.

On New Year's Eve in 1947, Elwin married the love of his life whom he had met at a local dance, Elaine Beebe. Together they raised 4 children. He was known as a hard working and generous man who loved his family dearly. Elwin loved to trap and enjoyed taking time to teach those who were interested in his passion.

Many in the Kalkaska community, as well as those visiting the area, took delight in Elwin's delicious maple syrup and beautiful Christmas trees. He will be greatly missed by all.

Elwin will be lovingly remembered by his wife Elaine, children: Thomas Hager of Williamsburg, Christine (Richard) Kniss of Niles, Laura Helberg of Rapid City, Daniel Hager of South Boardman, special children: Tom, Rita, Kathy, Mark, Sue, Mary, and Jack Jacobs, grandchildren: Joshua (Brandi) Sherwood, Samuel Sherwood, S Curtis (Amanda) Sherwood, Meaghan Helberg, Adrian

Helberg (Autumn Osterhouse), Christopher Helberg, Matthew Kniss, Danielle (Patrick) Williams, Benjamin (Julie) Hager, Nick Crim, Jessica Crim, many great- grandchildren, siblings: Susannah Hansen of Kalkaska, Beatrice (Donald) Sherman of Kalkaska, Gardner (Bonnie) Hager of Wacousta, in-laws: Gerald (Sharon) Beebe of Kalkaska and Janet (John) Beard of Chelsea, George (Iris) Lardie of Traverse City and many nieces and nephews that lovingly knew him as Daddy Elwin.

Elwin was preceded in death by his parents, sisters: Shirley Hager, Carol Lardie, Alice Perrin, brothers-in-law: Gib Perrin, Jake Hansen, grandson David Thomas Bull, niece Jeanie Hawkins, and son-in-law Alfred Helberg. Visitation will be held on Friday, November 13 from 4:00 – 7:00 at the Kalkaska Funeral Home. Final visitation will be held on Saturday November 14, 2020 at 2:00 with the funeral service starting at 3:00 at the Kalkaska Church of Christ. In lieu of flowers, donations in Elwin's honor may be made to T. C. Munson Hospice or Kalkaska Church of Christ. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **13.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Kalkaska Funeral Home
152 S Cedar St
P.O. Box 1457
Kalkaska, MI 49646

Service

NOV **14.** 3:00 PM (ET)

Kalkaska Church of Christ
1725 W Kalkaska Rd NW
Kalkaska, MI 49646
<http://www.kccwired.com>

Tribute Wall

WR

“ We are sorry for your loss Elaine & Family, Elwin was one of the first people Will met when he came to work here. We always enjoyed visiting with him., He was always a busy man, but yet always took time to chat a bit. He had a ready smile. He possessed so much history and it was a joy to visit with him. It was a good history lesson when one could converse with both you and Elwin. Telling us things we didn't know and reminding us of things forgotten. Our thoughts and prayers are with you in all the days ahead. Take care and know we love you. We will keep in touch by our phone calls,

Will and Patty Rodgers

will & Patty Rodgers - November 14, 2020 at 09:41 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Donald Elwin Hager.



November 12, 2020 at 01:00 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Donald Elwin Hager.



November 12, 2020 at 12:08 PM



“ *Herb and Carol Mitchell purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Donald Elwin Hager.*



Herb and Carol Mitchell - November 12, 2020 at 10:26 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald Elwin Hager.*



November 11, 2020 at 06:42 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Donald Elwin Hager.*



November 11, 2020 at 06:17 PM

DS

“ Dear Christie and family. So very sorry to hear your father passed. He is in the House of the Lord now. No longer in pain. We want you to know you are all in our thoughts and prayers.

~ Denise Anders and Greg Surber

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*When Tomorrow Starts Without Me*

*When tomorrow starts without me and I'm not here to see...  
If the sun should rise and find your eyes filled with tears for me,  
I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way you did today...  
While thinking of the many things we didn't get to say.  
I know how much you love me, as much as I love you...  
And each time you think of me, I know you'll miss me, too.  
But when tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand...  
That Jesus came and called my name and took me by the hand,  
And said my place was ready in heaven far above...  
And that I'd have to leave behind all those I dearly love.  
So when tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far apart...  
For every time you think of me, I'm right here in your heart.  
~By; David Romano~*

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**Denise Anders & Greg Surber** - November 11, 2020 at 04:01 PM

JK

“ Jeff, Mary, Paul, Emily, and Katie purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Donald Elwin Hager.



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**Jeff, Mary, Paul, Emily, and Katie** - November 11, 2020 at 02:48 PM

LF

“ Love, Janet and John Beard and Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Donald Elwin Hager.



Love, Janet and John Beard and Family - November 10, 2020 at 08:43 AM

TV

“ Uncle Elwin could sure tell a story. We will miss you. Bruce and Terri Veldman

Terri Veldman - November 08, 2020 at 06:29 PM

MS

“ Oops, make that “best” maple syrup.

Melissa Sole - November 08, 2020 at 08:52 AM

PL

I met done 40 years ago one of the best people I ever met very proud to know him we were sure miss him we actually loved him I was is oldest customer

Phil Londricio - November 08, 2020 at 01:45 PM

MS

“ One of our “Greatest generation”. Hard working, generous, smiling, proud American. My source of the beer maple syrup ever!

Melissa Sole - November 08, 2020 at 08:50 AM

MS

“ One of our “Greatest” generation! Hard working, generous, ever smiling, proud American. My source for the best maple syrup ever!  
Love, Melissa

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**Melissa Sole** - November 08, 2020 at 08:41 AM

SJ

“ The last time we were with Uncle Elwin we were reminiscing about Grandma and Grandpa Beebe and our many family members who have gone on before us. Now he is enjoying their company again. We will miss his great smile. Love, Sherry and Doug

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**Sherry Johnson** - November 06, 2020 at 10:24 PM