



## Donald A. Ryder

June 4, 1937 - June 16, 2026

Donald A. Ryder, age 89, passed away on June 16, 2026 at Medilodge of GTC in Traverse City, Michigan. He was born on June 4, 1937, in Chesterfield, MI to the late Alma (Al) and Shirley Ryder.

Don served in the US Army for 6 years; 2 years in active duty and 4 years as a reserve soldier, where he received medals as a Marksman and Sharpshooter, as well as a Good Conduct Award. He then worked with his dad as a carpenter, and then on his own, before retiring from the maintenance department at Mancelona Schools.

Don enjoyed fishing for panfish, a ripe tomato fresh from the garden, a good game of euchre and pinochle and a good Tiger's game. He was very active in the community as a part of the Liar's Club, Mancelona Fire Department, American Legion, and loved the Mancelona Bass Festival.

He is survived by his first wife Sharon Brooks and their children: Diane (Don) Kiessel, Deborah Ryder, Patricia (Scott) Spires, Rebecca (Rod) Ridgeway, and Michael Ryder. He is also survived by his wife Barbara and her children: Brenda (Jeff) Robinson, Chris (Jodie) Nieporte, Pamela Nieporte and Lisa (Ben) Morgan. Don also has 9 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren, as well as 6 step-grandchildren and 6 step-great-grandchildren.

Services will be held on Saturday, June 27, 2026 at Kalkaska Funeral Home at 152 S. Cedar St., Kalkaska, MI. Visitation begins at 9:00 am with the funeral service at 11:00 am. Interment will be at noon at Evergreen Cemetery with a luncheon to follow at Twin Birch Restaurant.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

# Upcoming Events

## Visitation

JUN 27. 9:00 AM (ET)

Kalkaska Funeral Home  
152 S. Cedar  
Kalkaska, MI 49646  
(231) 258-3346

## Service

JUN 27. 11:00 AM (ET)

Kalkaska Funeral Home  
152 S. Cedar  
Kalkaska, MI 49646  
(231) 258-3346

## Interment

JUN 27. 12:00 PM (ET)

Evergreen Cemetery - Kingsley  
Kingsley, MI 49649