



Greg Dassay

September 28, 1953 - February 9, 2024

Greg Dassay, age 70, passed away February 9, 2024 at his home after a 3-year battle with Cancer. Born the son of Emerson and Shirley (Foote) of Coleman on September 28, 1953. He was united in marriage to Deborah Ackerman on June 16, 1973 in Coleman and lived in Clare for their 50 years of marriage.

Greg attended Coleman Schools and was a member of the class of 1972. He began his career at Benchley and Yager construction as a heavy equipment operator, Coleman Dairy as a delivery man and then as a manager in the waste management industry for 35 years. His work ethic was beyond reproach, he gave 110% no matter what the job needed; often giving directions in his sleep. Greg was an advocate for the “working man” which earned him the respect of his co-workers.

Greg enjoyed spending time with his granddaughters, fishing, hunting, bird watching, mushrooming, and staying at his cabin at Higgins Lake. In his youth he was known as “Grease” because he was always working on cars to get them ready for the next weekend’s fun. If you knew Greg’s life philosophy, it was “pick yourself up by your bootstraps and go on”. He was most proud of his children, how caring and compassionate adults they have become and inherited his work ethics.

Greg is survived by his wife Deborah Dassay, daughter Darcy (Rob) Simons of Farwell, son Dustin Dassay (Mandy) of Farwell; granddaughters Caitlyn and Kaycie Simons of Farwell, Andreanna Dassay of Farwell/Rainbow Lake; step

grandchildren Haley Mowen and Brooklyn Wood of Farwell and Dyllan Render of Clare; a sister Debra Harris of Jackson and nieces Mandy and Amber of Jackson. He as preceded in death by his parents, Emerson and Shirley Dassay; in-laws Clifford and Verajean Lettick; a brother Warren Dassay; brother-in-laws Dan and Duane Ackerman; a niece Courtney Lettick and a great niece Sydney Ackerman.

Arrangements for cremation were handled by the Clare Chapel of Stephenson-Wyman Funeral Home. Complying with Greg's wishes, no funeral or memorial service will take place. Any donations may be made to a Cancer Foundation of your choice.

Tribute Wall



“ I would like to offer my condolences to the whole family. I just recently heard the news of Greg’s passing and would like to share my thoughts on one of the hardest working and toughest gentlemen I have had the pleasure of working with and for. I first met Greg in 1993 at a tiny little garbage hauling outfit in Sanford, Mi. My first thoughts as he interviewed me to ride the back of a garbage truck, were that this was a guy who commands respect and returns respect to anyone willing to earn it. When he told me I was hired, I was less concerned about being able work that hard, as much as I did not want to let him down. I did everything I could to live up to what he required of his people; that is, show up, get the job done, and get it done well. It was the least I could do for a guy willing to give a young father, two months out of high school, and no idea what real work was, a chance to prove himself(and try to keep up with Dustin). For the next nine years Greg continued to lead, teach, and guide; not just me; but our whole shop to become the best little division at People’s Gabage/City Environmental/USA Waste/Waste Management. No matter what corporate manager was shoved down our throat by whatever company bought us out, Greg was always OUR BOSS. And our friend. You were never getting a hug or any kind “touchy-feely” heart-to-heart junk, but you never doubted for a second that Greg truly cared about every one of his people. I consider those years working with Greg as my best years as a working adult. The lessons I learned from him have been invaluable as I have worked the last 20+ years to become a leader myself. If I am considered by my own people to be half as good a boss as Greg Dassay, I will have reached a level of success I never thought possible. Thank you, Greg! For the opportunity, the confidence, the guidance, and most of all, the “Get Shit Done!” attitude! Godspeed, sir! You are missed!

Joe Rubenacker - March 27, 2024 at 06:37 PM

CL

“ Thoughts and prayers to Greg's family.

Charlene Long - February 16, 2024 at 08:21 PM

PM

“ Cathy and I send our condolences to all the family. I remember many a time at Vera's when Cliff and Greg would get to going having fun giving each other lighthearted grief. Greg was a great guy, of which we've lost too many of late.

Paul McClain - February 16, 2024 at 10:30 AM

MK

“ Greg was a well respected leader of the teams he managed and contributed to. He was kind and calm and a true pleasure to be around. I'm thankful to have worked with him and learned from him. He truly could always be counted on to go beyond what was needed. Prayers and peaceful thoughts to Deb, Darcy and Dustin during these difficult times. Rest in peace Q.

Michael Kennedy - February 13, 2024 at 08:15 PM

DS

“ Deb Darcy And Dustin Our heartfelt sympathies go out to you and the Family. Thoughts and prayers for you, may your memories help you through this hard time. ❤️😊

Dave and Louann Stanke - February 12, 2024 at 07:15 PM

AS

I'm very sad for you my beautiful niece for your loss. You were such a care giver, your family your mama, brother Duane, now your beloved husband. I respect and love you so much.

Aunt Shirley - February 13, 2024 at 10:08 AM