



Emerson W. Pilaske

June 17, 1932 - May 12, 2022

Emerson W. Pilaske, age 89 of Port Hope, passed away Thursday, May 12, 2022 at Covenant Healthcare in Saginaw.

He was born on June 17, 1932 in Port Hope, to the late William and Ernestine (Schlaak) Pilaske. Emerson married the love of his life Irene Schubring, on October 26, 1957 in Port Hope. Emerson was a member of St. John Lutheran Church. He farmed his entire life, and served on many boards, including: St. John Lutheran School Board, the Port Hope Community School Board, served as both an elder and trustee for St. John Lutheran Church. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, playing euchre, gardening, farming and dancing.

A life-long musician and entertainer, Emerson taught himself to play guitar and soon started playing at local variety shows and in-between acts of local theatre productions. He quickly began playing at local bars and dance halls with other musicians, with Irene often joining him onstage. Around 1955 he started playing in a band with Joe Pichla, Clarence Heleski, and Virgil Bouverette. For nearly twenty years they played dances, weddings, and anniversaries throughout Huron County. Over his lifetime, Emerson played with many local musicians, including Cletus Guza and his brother-in-law Barney Schubring, eventually forming his own band, The Emerson Pilaske Band with Bob and Ron Osantoski, and Lee Sloan, and most recently his son Dennis and grandson Samuel. Emerson continued to play and sing music until his last days and loved nothing more than watching a group of people smile, dance, and enjoy the music he made and loved. A perfect musical pairing,

Emerson was most delighted when Irene joined him on stage to sing and play guitar.

He is survived by his wife Irene Pilaske of Port Hope, and children: Patricia (James) Smaglinski of Harbor Beach, Joni Pilaske of Auburn, Holly (Special Friend Rich) Iseler of Port Hope, Crystal Pilaske of Port Hope, Dennis (Michelle) Pilaske of Sanford, 10 grandchildren: Kimberly (Zane), Kayla (Ricky) Ross (Special Friend Stacey), Kristen (Clay), Randy (Brittany), Justine (Special Friend Rick), Jolene, Maxwell, Samuel, Madeline, 13 great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his siblings: Genevieve (Tony) Sadowski, Bernice (Arnold) Eggert, and Thelma (August) Pleiness.

Funeral Services for Emerson will be Saturday, May 28, 2022 at 11 am at St. John Lutheran Church of Port Hope, with Rev. David Dodge officiating. Burial will follow in Lakeview Cemetery. Visitation for Emerson will be on Friday, from 3-8pm at the Ramsey Funeral Home of Harbor Beach. Visitation on Saturday will be at the church beginning at 10 am until time of services at 11 am. A scripture service will take place Friday, at 7 pm at the funeral home.

Memories can be shared at www.RamseyFH.com

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 27. 3:00 PM.

Ramsey Funeral Home Of Harbor Beach

Scripture Service

MAY 27. 7:00 PM (ET)

Ramsey Funeral Home, Inc
425 State St
Harbor Beach, MI 48441
(989) 479-3407
<https://www.ramseyfh.com>

Visitation

MAY 28. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. John Lutheran Church
Port Hope, MI 48468

Funeral Service

MAY 28. 11:00 AM.

St. John Lutheran Church Of Port Hope

Tribute Wall



“ Emerson W. Pilaske

October 04, 2023 at 01:24 PM



“ Very Sorry for your loss. Y'all will be in our prayers.

A Pratt - May 30, 2022 at 09:34 AM



“ Bountiful European Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Emerson W. Pilaske.



May 25, 2022 at 03:36 PM



“ Our sympathies to all family and friends. Emerson always had a smile and a warm welcome. We especially remember him playing at our parents anniversary party a few years back. He will be missed. Hugs to all.
Kriewall family

dinah watson - May 23, 2022 at 04:46 PM

DW

“ Dale And Pam Woodke lit a candle in memory of Emerson W. Pilaske



Dale and Pam Woodke - May 21, 2022 at 10:20 AM

DZ

“ Very nice man

Dale E Zick - May 21, 2022 at 12:54 AM

RL

“ Rose Landry lit a candle in memory of Emerson W. Pilaske



Rose Landry - May 20, 2022 at 01:25 AM

CA

“ Corinne Fuhrman Abraham lit a candle in memory of Emerson W. Pilaske



Corinne Fuhrman Abraham - May 19, 2022 at 04:38 PM

CA

“ *The Fuhrman and Abraham families wish to express our condolences to all of Emerson's family members! Life is precious and Emerson filled his life with what is important: Christian faith, loving family, music shared with countless others, farming, and hobbies of hunting and fishing! Our families were friends and classmates, neighbors and fellow Lutherans. We pray that everyone who knew Emerson feels the loving arms of Jesus enfolding them through the actions and words of others.*

Corinne Fuhrman Abraham - May 19, 2022 at 04:37 PM

TR

“ *I count it a huge blessing to have gotten to know Emerson and Irene in these last 9 years. I didn't realize it at first, but sitting at their dining room table and doing a round-robin with them and Dave Langdon has been the most memorable music making of this time of my life. A gentleman of wit and warmth, I'll never forget him and his boyish smile.*

Terry Ross - Port Austin

Terry Ross - May 18, 2022 at 09:43 PM

MK

“ *Emerson was a wonderful man and always a smile with his guitar! He played at my college graduation party. He was very outgoing man also. I always admire his music and always will. God speed to you!*

mark kubacki - May 18, 2022 at 03:03 PM

DG

“ *Sincere condolences to the entire family. Emerson was a great man and will be missed.... Thoughts and prayers from the Gendron Family*


Deborah Gendron - May 18, 2022 at 10:24 AM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Emerson W. Pilaske.*



May 17, 2022 at 09:55 PM

 Kayla Holt

“ *Love you, Grandpa.*



Kayla Holt - May 17, 2022 at 07:43 PM