

Wilbur Duane Joy, 92, of Detroit Lakes, MN passed away on Friday, September 25, 2020 at Emmanuel Nursing Home.

Wilbur Duane Joy was born February 12<sup>th</sup>, 1928 to William and Thora (Thorson) Joy at their home on Lake Sally. He was one of six children.

Wilbur graduated from Detroit Lakes High School in 1946. He was president of his graduating class. He was also involved in 4H growing up. Because most of the men in America were off to war, Wilbur started working at the Fish Hatchery for the state when he was 15 years old. His father was the supervisor there.

Wilbur graduated from the United States Coast Guard on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 1952 as an Ordinary Seaman Wiper. However, after graduating the Coast Guard went on strike so he never got to continue.

Wilbur married Beverly Whaley February 21<sup>st</sup>, 1948. They had 3 children.

Wilbur married Sally Lawrence July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1954. They had 3 children.

Wilbur married Jayne Crawford March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1986.

Wilbur loved nature & the woods. He was an avid fisherman & hunter.

He was very concerned with conservation & history.

He was president of the Becker County Historical Society for many years & was honored with the 1<sup>st</sup> Community Historian Award on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

He was very involved with the museum & donated many items over the years.

He was involved in AA & the Alano Club for many years & always had an ear to listen & share his experiences.

Wilbur lived many places in Minnesota but his heart belonged to Many Point Lake where he spent a very large part of his life.

Wilbur is survived by 5 of his children: Sharon (Robert) Spiess of Detroit Lakes, MN, John Joy of Hawley, MN, William (Barb) Joy of Detroit Lakes, MN, Lori (Rich Boll) Joy of Vergas, MN & Nancy (Butch Dost) Karst of Frazee, MN; his siblings Leatrice Wirtz, Ronald Joy & Natalie Bellefeuille all of Detroit Lakes, MN; Wilbur has 7 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, 3 great-great grandchildren & many nieces & nephews.

Wilbur was preceded in death by his parents, William & Thora; brother William Joy; sister Eileen Henderson; brother in laws, Donald Wirtz, William Henderson & Keith Bellefeuille; sister in law June Joy; son Samuel Duane Joy; daughter in law Pam Joy; granddaughter Gina Summers & great grandson Jude Sandberg Summers.

In lieu of flowers Wilbur would prefer memorials to the Becker County Museum & Hospice of the Red River Valley.

*In Loving Memory*



*Wilbur Duane Joy*

*1928 ~ 2020*



*Remembering With Love*  
*Wilbur Duane Joy*

**Date of Birth**  
February 12 1928  
Detroit Lakes, Minnesota

**Date of Death**  
September 25, 2020  
Detroit Lakes Minnesota



**Celebration of Life**

Friday, October 2, 2020 ~ 2:00 p.m.  
David-Donhower Funeral Home  
Detroit Lakes, Minnesota  
Pastor Matt McKenzie- Officiating

**Special Music**

*“Proud to Be an American”* - Lee Greenwood  
*“Somewhere Over the Rainbow”* - Israel Kamakawiwo’ole

**Urn Bearers**

John Joy William Joy

**Honorary Bearers**

Lisa Jasken Peterson Michael Summers Jesse Joy  
James Joy Ira Anderson Eli Anderson Jacob Karst  
Jeff Ohman (standing in for his father, Wes Ohman)  
Warren Nunn Harry Johnston

**Interment**

Oak Grove Cemetery  
Detroit Lakes, Minnesota

**I've Gone Fishing**

I've finished life's chores assigned to me  
The time has come to set me free  
Please send along my fishing pole  
For I've been invited to the fishing hole  
Where everyday will be a day to fish  
You may visit here often if you wish  
Don't worry or feel sad for me  
On a lake is right where I want to be  
But if you wonder why I'm missing  
Just remember - I've gone fishing