



Charles Fontana

December 30, 1935 - February 20, 2006

CHARLES R. FONTANA NORWAY – Charles R. “Bob” Fontana, 70 years old, of Norway, formerly of Lansing, died Monday, February 20, 2006 at his home. He was born December 30, 1935 in Louisville, Kentucky, the son of the late Ettore and Blanche (Hefley) Fontana. Bob graduated from Witt Consolidated Schools in Witt, Illinois and attended Lincolnland University in Illinois. He served honorably in the U. S. Army He began work at an early age on the railroads and Peabody Coal Mines where he eventually became an arbitrator for Peabody. Bob went on to work for Associated General Contractors in Illinois until 1985, in Connecticut until 1991, and then in Michigan until 2000. He moved to Norway at that time and continued to work in labor relations for Associated General Contractors in the Upper Peninsula. Bob’s gift of negotiation was put to good use during his years working in labor-management relations where he helped owners, contractors and tradespeople work together. He married Janis Atkins Ide on July 26, 1986 in Milford, Connecticut. Bob enjoyed fishing, boating, reading and spending time with his beloved Collie, Rusty. His passion was cooking, so after many years of culinary creativity, he published his cookbook “Just an Old Coal Miner Recipes”. Bob was a member of the Elks Lodge #700 of Iron Mountain. His professional affiliations included the Upper Peninsula Construction Council, American Arbitration Association, ERISA Today, and Associated General Contractors of America. Bob also had received certification from the Wharton School for Workshop on Money Management Fundamentals. Survivors

include his wife, Janis; three sons, Michael (Sandy) Fontana of Anna, IL, Bart (Kim) Fontana of Pawnee, IL and Kenneth (Mary) Fontana of Cheyenne, WY; two step-sons, David (Nancy) Ide of Florissant, MO and James (Beth Ann) Ide of Tucson, AZ; two step-daughters, Angela (Jeff) Colby of Cleveland, WI and Stacey (Tom) Simpson of St. Louis, MO; six grandchildren, Katie, Jenny, Gabby, Adam, Kristen and Lucas; a niece, Lauren Atkins of Norman, OK. Bob was preceded in death by his first wife, Gloria Fontana. Visitation will be held on Thursday, February 23, from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Miner-Ortman Funeral Home in Norway. Funeral services will be held on Friday, February 24, at 10:30 a.m. at the Community Bible Chapel in Norway. Pastor Lonnie Wilson will officiate. Memorials are suggested to the American Cancer Society.