



Gerald Louis DeBernardi

July 6, 1939 - January 3, 2016

VULCAN- Gerald “Bomber” DeBernardi age 76 of Vulcan, died Sunday, January 3, 2016 at the Iron River Care Center in Iron River, MI.

Gerald was born on July 6, 1939 in Loretto, the son of the late Peter and Rose (Solfanelli) DeBernardi.

Gerald graduated from Niagara High School in 1957, then attended Northern Michigan University and graduated in 1963. While at Northern he became a member of Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity.

After college Gerald became an art teacher and taught in Gwinn and in Detroit.

In 1977 Gerald married Linda Pietrantonio and she had two children, Tami and Jamie Tomasaski, which he had always claimed as his own.

In 1984 he and Linda had their only child, a son Dante Lee DeBernardi.

Gerald was an amazing father and he and Dante were so very close, not only was he a great father, but also a best friend to his son.

In the mid 90’s he took over as owner of “Bomber’s” Golf Course, a place his

father built, and handed down to him to run and operate. Gerald was always a hard worker and had a memorable personality; he made many lifelong friends there.

Along with Bombers, Gerald was involved in many things; he owned his own construction business, DeBernardi and Son Construction and was also a professional ski instructor at Norway Mountain and Pine Mountain. Gerald really loved being outdoors and skiing. Gerald was an incredible skier, at one point nationally ranked; he also enjoyed anything to do with art and pottery.

Mostly he enjoyed his family and his dogs, he was a proud Italian Man and will be missed, loved and remembered, never forgotten.

Gerald is survived by his son, Dante DeBernardi; step-daughter Tami Miller; step-son Jamie Tomasaski; grandchildren Sierra DeBernardi, Tyler Nora, Kyle Cransbury and Brianna Tomasaski; aunts, uncles, cousins and many friends; special friends Tom Bugni and John and Barb Messer.

Memorial services have been held for Gerald.

Tribute Wall

JM

“ I was at Northern with Jerry and in the fraternity house with him. I remember he used to give haircuts for - I think - .50 cents. One time he was giving me a haircut and was behind me and put the clippers head far back (thank goodness) and then put some hair on the clipper and pressed it against me head and went from back to front and all this hair landed in my lap. Needless to say - I went into shock. Jerry and a few others had a good laugh. He had this great laugh and was so much fun to be around. I think of him often. He was a great person - my condolences.

Jim McGann - April 26, 2016 at 04:55 PM

DD

“ My father was amazing , I was blessed to have him! A son couldn't possibly ask for a better dad. He always made me smile and gave me so much love , I can't explain it or put into words how much this man meant to me because he was my father my friend my hero my rock my EVERYTHING !!!! I love my dad so much and he will be on my mind every single day of my life.

Dante DeBernardi - February 18, 2016 at 01:03 AM

MB

“ I am saddened that I could not get to Bomers memorial tribute. He was a wonderful man and friend, and also my cousin. Thanks Tami for keeping me updated. He's in ski heaven now and out of pain. And you know he's raising alittle mischief up there. Be at peace my friend, and wishing peace to your family.

Mike Bronzyk - February 17, 2016 at 03:18 PM

HM

“ My sympathy to Jerry's family and friends. Jerry was a great guy in many ways, always had a smile on his face and was kind to everyone. Many memories shared from the bar, fun times were had by all. Rest in peace Jerry.

Holly McCarthy - January 08, 2016 at 11:42 AM

JG

“ Always remember telling Jerry he was named after me. Will miss him. Over the years he has been a good friend & cousin. Bomber was dealt some of life's craziness, but he could roll with the punches.

Jerry Goethem - January 05, 2016 at 03:18 PM

KA

“ Fifty years of friendship and adventures with Bomber! Too many stories to recount here, but so many involved skiing, cars, or motorcycles. And laughter! He made so many friends who'll find smiles in recalling times enjoyed with Jerry, and sharing stories with others who knew him. Pedal to the metal forever, old friend!

Ken Anderson - January 05, 2016 at 10:05 AM

JB

“ Never forget my ride with the Bomber in the Jag when I first joined the Delta Sig's. Never forget the Bomber!

*Jack Bishop
Yitbos*

Jack Bishop - January 05, 2016 at 09:42 AM

DM

Bomber was the president of the Delt Sigs when I pledged the fraternity. He was always great to me and I am sad to learn of his passing. I have so many fond memories of him. He will be greatly missed by all of us.

*Albert Milford
YITBOS*

Dr Albert Milford - January 05, 2016 at 09:54 AM

NL

Jerry was always kind and fun. He was a talented artist, as well. Jerry helped me with my art class while at NMU, doing so with total respect and willingness. He will be fondly remembered by this cousin. I wish to extend my sincere condolences to his family. Nancy Salina Lusardi

Nancy Salina Lusardi - January 08, 2016 at 03:57 PM

LS

Cousin Jerry loved life and lived it to the max. Jerry liked to live in the fast lane as I can attest the numerous times we drove from our homes in the Detroit suburbs to Norway. (In record time) What a good, kind person. RIP Jerry--Condolences to his family.

Larry Salina - January 13, 2016 at 03:24 PM

MC

So sorry to learn of cousin Jerrys passing. Sincerest condolences to his family.

Mary Clarke - February 20, 2016 at 11:52 PM