



## Wallace C. Evance

March 8, 1927 - February 18, 2014

WALLACE C. EVANCE NORWAY- Wallace C. Evance, "DEDE", age 86 of Norway, died unexpectedly Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at his home. He was born in Norway on March 8, 1927, the son of the late Caesar and Inez (Hinds) Evance. Wallace served his country in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He joined the navy in April of 1945. He served in the Seabees (Naval Construction Battalion). He was in Guam, scheduled for the invasion, when the war ended. He also was on Tinian and Saipan Islands. He made a lifetime friend during his service time - Elmer (EJ) Everson; they even got the same tatoos together at the same time. The "best buddies" flew to Washington D.C. this past September 18, courtesy of the Honor Flight. Wallace made a new friend on Honor Flight 5, his guardian for the flight, Jim Tardiff. So this trip was with old friends and new. Wally said it was one of the most memorable experiences of his life. He was a member of the VFW and the American Legion. He married Shirley Stanaway on June 12, 1948 at Grace United Methodist Church in Norway. They then moved to Chicago where he attended Allied Trade School to obtain a Machinist Certificate. They moved back to Norway and Wallace worked for General Controls. He joined the National Guard and attended an army school at Aberdeen, Maryland. He returned home upon completion of his training and enjoyed his road trip home, as Shirley had flown out for his graduation. They shared 65 years of marriage and Wally often told his family what a blessing his wife, Shirley, was in his life. He later attended Northern Michigan University and graduated in 1967 (Cumlaude) with a degree in education at the age of 40. Following graduation, he was employed by Bark River-Harris Schools, Breitung Township Schools (History and machine shop), and then retired (December 1986) from Dickinson Iron Intermediate School District (machine tool and electrical occupations). Wallace lived a full life. Upon retirement, he and his wife wintered in Pine Island, Florida for ten years. They made many friends and had many memorable times there. He purchased a boat and spent much time on the water. He did fish but it was just being on the water that he enjoyed most; he loved water, so this fulfilled one of his dreams. Dede spent the rest of his days keeping busy and was never bored; he commented many times the he "couldn't find enough time in the day"; all his life he had quite a few projects going. He loved working on his computer and wanted to know how the internal components worked as well as using it. He loved technology and was superb at

understanding how things worked. He loved learning and felt having a good education was one of the most important things a person could possess. He continued learning until the time of his passing. He loved wild life, nature and animals. He adopted his grandson's two dogs and spoiled them by heating up their bread before he gave it to them. He enjoyed bird watching, fed the birds, and tried to teach his generations of "kids" to learn the names of different birds. One of his great accomplishments was that he tamed two red squirrels (he could hold them and pet them). Growing up, Wallace spent a great deal of time with his dad in the outdoors. His dad was an avid hunter and fisherman. Wallace commented many times that as an adolescent he realized that although he was skilled in hunting, he found he didn't like to kill the animals and so just started enjoying watching them. He had a brilliant mind and could memorize a great deal of material. Even in his late 80s he would quote a chapter of the Bible or Shakespeare. He loved English and vocabulary, was a history buff, and an avid reader. Dede was also handy, he could fix everything. He was a mix of an academic and a mechanic. He built his own home entirely on his own. He had amazing abilities and assumed everyone could do the

# Tribute Wall

RP

“ On U.P. Honor Flight in September, I had the pleasure of interviewing Mr. Evance and Mr. Everson. Wonderful gentlemen. Great stories. So inspiring to meet such true friends. My prayers are with all who loved Mr. Evance. May he rest in peace.

Renee Prusi - January 30, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NR

“ We were so sorry to hear about Wally's passing. Both Nick and I had him for an Electronics Teacher and thoroughly enjoyed him. He was an excellent teacher and always loved to joke around. Nick enjoyed the World War II training films he sometimes showed when there was time left in class. Nick and I have often thought of Wally and wished we could have spent more time with him because he was so fun and interesting to talk with. We consider ourselves very lucky to have known him.

Nick & Jill Romagnoli - January 30, 2015 at 12:00 AM

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Nick & Jill Romagnoli - January 30, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ My condolences to Shirley and Mona and Beth, Chucky, Dione, and Alissa and the rest of the family. I am so sorry for your loss. Rest in peace Wally. I will always remember the big smile on your face whenever you saw me. You called me, "Benny Goodguy", you said because I always smiled, but it is your smile that I will always remember.

Ben Hayes - January 30, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ Dear Mona and Family,  
We read about the unexpected loss of your Dad were so saddened to hear that this world lost an incredible man who loved life, his family, and his country. I remember from our ISD years that your Dad was always thought of as being a smart, a hard working teacher who touched so many with his passion for learning and knowledge. Lindsey had a baby last week so I'm on “nona” duty in DePere. We wanted you to know that you and your entire family are in our thoughts and prayers. You were all blessed to have such a strong role model who adored your Mother and loved his family with all his heart. May wonderful memories of a great husband, father, and grandfather sustain you in the days ahead. Love & Peace to you all,  
Rich & Kristi Celello

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**Rich & Kristi Celello** - January 30, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PP

“ My condolences to Shirley and family on the death of a loved husband, father, grandfather and cousin of mine. Because of the weather I regret that I will be unable to attend the funeral today but I am with you all in thoughts and prayers. God bless!

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**Pat (Hinds) Pardon** - January 30, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ I'm very sorry to hear of your loss. Condolences to all whom he touched throughout his life. Thinking of you all,  
Dave

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**Dave Peters** - January 30, 2015 at 12:00 AM