



Mr. David W. Davis

MAR 9, 1957 - AUG 22, 2014



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Mr. David W. Davis

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David Wayne Davis (Dave Walks-As-Bear) was a man of character, beloved by many. Born on March 9, 1957, in Muskegon, Michigan, to Mary Lee Berger and Herschel R. Davis, he was a Kispoko Shawnee Indian. In 1976, he married his best friend, Maureen Therese Halloran, and remained happily married until his passing on August 22, 2014. He graduated with degrees from Muskegon Community College (A.A.) and West Shore Community College (A.D.C.J.). Recent years were spent as the owner and operator of Environmental Wildland Patrol, a private game warden and security service, and as the author of mystery fiction. He served honorably in the United States Coast Guard Reserve for 21 years. He enjoyed nature, reading, old cars, country drives, and woodworking, but his greatest joys in life were being a husband and father. Survivors include his wife, Maureen; his son, David W. Davis II; daughters, Constance Davis, Cindy Beth (Caleb) Davis-Dykema, Rebecca Davis, and Sabryna Davis. A MEMORIAL SERVICE will be held on Wednesday, August 27, at 11:00am at Oak Crest Church of God, 1540 Leonard, Muskegon, with Mrs. Fran Threadgill and Pastor Robert Rogers officiating. Visitation with the family will be one hour prior. Memorial contributions can be made in David's name to the Crystal Valley Care Fund, P.O. Box 451, Hart, MI 49420 or online at www.cffmc.org



Tribute Wall

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SM

Scott McMurray posted:

There was no better feature of the White Lake Beacon to me than his columns, which strengthened my faith and appreciation of nature. He and it will be missed. -- Scott, Whitehall and Chicago

September 17 at 12:50 AM

FS

Frances Stahl posted:

I "met" David thru Ebay; he bought a typewriter from me for his daughter for Christmas several years ago because she wanted one just like the one he used to do his writing. Since then, we communicated, mostly when he asked me (and others) to pray for someone. He also sent me his weekly articles. I thoroughly enjoyed his writing, his style, his respectfulness, his thoughtfulness. I prayed for him and now I pray for his family. You were lucky to have him; try to remember that. He will be missed terribly by us all. Fran Stahl, Pennsylvania

August 28 at 5:21 PM

DK

Don Koperski posted:

David and I wrote back and forth for the last six years. Our conversations covered many aspects of our lives, and I grew to respect, and consider him to be a friend. I know he loved his family with all his heart. He will be missed....but never forgotten. Respectfully Donald J. Koperski

August 27 at 7:37 AM

KP

Karay Patterson posted:

Maureen and Family, Remembering David for all the wonderful things he's done in his short time on Earth. Gary and I are so sorry for your loss, know that our thoughts and prayers will be for you in the coming days. God be with you as you prepare to honor his memories of him with others today.

August 27 at 4:43 AM

JV

James Vetter posted:

My thoughts and prays go out to the Family and friends of David. RIP my friend.

August 27 at 4:11 AM



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TM

Terence M Manarpaac posted:

I had the honor of meeting Mr Davis when he escorted his wonderful daughter Cynthia "Cindy" Beth-Davis to check in to the Hale Wainani dormitories in preparation for her attendance for her first year at University of Hawaii at Manoa. Me Davis exhibited all of the symptoms of a caring, loving, and concerned father about to leave his beloved child alone in a foreign world so far from him, their family, and their home. Mr Davis also exhibited a sense of overall calm and confidence as well. In hindsight, my interactions with Cindy, and my subsequent interactions with her sister Connie, with whom I attended law school with, was indicative of a gentleman that trusted that he had an integral part in the upbringing of his children. I have not had the honor of meeting the rest of the siblings, but my heart of hearts leads me to believe that Mr Davis' confidences in Cindy that day were well warranted. I never did disclose to Cindy or to Constance that Mr Davis, after asking me a few poignant questions throughout that day's multiple interactions, said to me to the effect of: You seem like a decent young man, please look after my daughter within a manner that is commensurate with your character." Considering Mr Davis' background, both professionally and personally, his request if me was high praise that I took to heart that day to the present. If I can be half the man that he was and teach my sons to be of that same measure as well, I will consider my existence in this lifetime a success. Warmest sympathies and aloha to the family. Mr Davis, wherever you may presently be, please know that you made me a better man by our brief encounters. All the best to you Sir, please watch over yours and mine with ever loving eyes until we meet again.

August 26 at 5:52 PM



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MA

Mark Allen posted:

In Memory - Dave Walks As Bear Davis
In Memory of our dear friend and good shipmate Dave Walks As Bear Davis - Colleen and I have been praying for Walks As Bear (WAB) since he got sick. Walks As Bear was an American treasure, spiritual mentor, and dear friend. We join his many loved ones in praying for his soul. I have never met Walks As Bear face to face, yet he has become one of my dearest spiritual friends and closest Coast Guard shipmates. CWO Ed Kruska, USCGR(Retired) introduced us via email many years ago. I knew him only as Dave Walks As Bear; I did not even know until now that his last name was Davis. As with many other of Walks As Bear's loved ones, we shared a multitude of experiences over the years. Walks As Bear was more than the prolific author of the Ely Stone series of novels (e.g., Lucifer's Wedge and Deceiver). He was much more than a radio personality. He was an oral historian, a spiritual leader. In his monthly syndicated column, The Bear's Den, he shared inspirational teachings and reminders. He interested readers through story telling (oral history of sorts) with emphasis on teaching about the American Indian experience (e.g., the Trail of Tears). Especially engaging was his unique capacity to recognize the parallels between American Indian heritage and Christianity. He even taught through the experiences of his own Mom, who went to Heaven in 2013. WAB often emailed to his large circle of followers his prayer requests, sometimes for his own family when they were in dire need but usually for people he did not know yet had learned were in need of "whispers to the Creator." I close with a quote from WAB's Prayer Request dated January 16, 2013 - "Ahneen everyone, I am requesting prayer for a Marty Taylor. I do not know her, but I feel that this lady is a uethi equi'wa (beautiful woman). This is because I do know her daughter and her son-in-law. They are fine two-leggeds, devout in worshiping the Master of Life and great in their deeds and prayer for others. These qualities are taught to us from an early age... from the mothers and fathers, eh. . . . So, it is that I ask on behalf of Marty Taylor, and her family, for your whispers for her, her husband and family. Prayer is the mightiest tool that we two-leggeds possess - it is true. And, the more of us using this implement... the better it will be for this [] keewa (wife) and neegah (mother). Much megwetch, Walks-As-Bear" Mark Allen, USCGR(Retired)

August 23 at 10:11 AM

JB

Jean Blovits posted:

I am so sad to hear the news of David Walks-as-Bear's death. I knew he was very ill but thought he would somehow come back to us all. I enjoyed an e-mail conversation with him about his books and writing in general and he taught me a few new words. I first met up with him when he spoke to our DAR Chapter a few years ago and ended up that day with my first book. He was a wonderful, gracious soul and left way too soon. He will be missed by many but my thoughts and prayers go out to David's adored wife and family. Jean Blovits

August 26 at 7:36 AM



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SS

Suzette Standing posted:

Walks-as-Bear was my friend, and we shared a love of writing. We first knew each other as columnists and stayed in touch. I write a spirituality column and I was ever inspired by his faith and philosophy. In times of trouble, Walks-As-Bear always turned to the Great Spirit, and answers, healing, and reassurance always came. He was a terrific storyteller and observer of nature, a good father and doting husband and often referred to his "Domestic Boss" in such glowing terms. He was a man in love. Surely the Lord turns his face to such beauty. My husband and I send heartfelt hugs to you, Maureen, and to your family. Suzette Martinez Standing

August 25 at 6:53 PM

DV

Debbie Verboam posted:

REMEMBER ME
To the living, I am gone;
To the sorrowfull will never return,
To the angry, I was cheated,
But to the happy, I am at peace.
And to the faithfull have never left.
I cannot speak, but I can listen
I cannot be seen, But I can be heard.
So as you stand
Upon a shore gazing
At a beautiful sea,
As you look upon a flower
and admire its simplicity.
Remember me;
Remember me in your heart
Your thoughts and your memories
Of the time, we loved,
The times we cried,
The times we fought,
The times we laughed.
For if you always think of me
I will have never gone.
May your memories forever keep
Dave close.

August 25 at 10:51 AM

MM

Mark And Mollie sent an Our Sincere Condolences Gourmet Gift Basket to the Davis family.



August 25 at 8:53 AM

DL

Diane Landheer posted:

Maureen and family, I am so saddened at the news of your husband. I can't even begin to imagine what you are going through. Know that we at Muskegon Area District Library that used to work with you and got to know you, are thinking of you at this very sad time. Diane Landheer

August 25 at 7:43 AM



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TK

Tracy Kuipers posted:

Maureen, I have never had the gift of words that you husband shared but please know that I am here for you and your family-whatever you need-and I feel like I have lost a brother but gained a sister in you and your family.Tracy Kuipers

August 25 at 5:29 AM

RH

Rick Hickman posted:

Thousands of West Michigan radio listeners knew of Bear through his contributions to the Saturday Morning Jukebox show on 98.3 WLCS. Jon Russell and I appreciated having such an intelligent, thoughtful and insightful individual adding to the fun each week. Knowing that he was always going to have a pertinent and meaningful contribution, Bear was always someone we forced to wait on the phone line for a song to end so that we could make sure that all our listeners got to hear what he had to say. Great conversation was something to expect from Bear in person, as well. It was always a treat whenever he would visit us at the studio or at a live event. He was the type of individual you were glad to call friend and to introduce to others as such. His is a great loss because the betterment of all mankind was his biggest goal for all. We need more people like him and we are sincerely diminished that he is no longer here to teach and demonstrate his rare form of humanity. While this is a sad time, we know that his family and friends are comforted by the fact that they were so blessed to have known him better than anyone and to have been able to share his wit, reverence and wonderful spirit. Bless you all.

August 24 at 10:30 AM

RM

Robin Burnham-Moynihan posted:

So sad to hear this about the man with the kind face that loved to write, and above all loved his beautiful wife. Though I didn't know him, and had only conversed thru Helium, I appreciated his kind and loving spirit. My prayers go to his greatest loves, his family. May Jehovah keep him in his memory and restore him in the resurrection where I will finally get to meet him in person. Your fellow writer, Robin Moynihan

August 24 at 4:10 AM



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PN

Paleway'z Néeka posted:

Sad news. Dave Walks-as-Bear will be much missed. He brought a thoughtful and friendly presence to many. It was only through the internet and my Shawnee brother Stands-Between/ Bluewater-Joe that I came to know him. I was born on Turtle Island. But have long lived in England. For me, Dave was a great ambassador. He was what a good American is all about. The sad thing is there are lots of good Americans about. It's just that we don't hear much of them. We did get to hear and read much about Dave. And he let people worldwide know what Knowledge, understanding, indeed wisdom and humour reside in the heart and soul of folk who were present many 1000s of years before the Whiteman appeared. What Dave in his life conduct demonstrated, was how well marriage of Whiteman and Indian can work. It is a great loss to all of us who got to know and love him, near and far. And it is sad he has passed this modern life young in years. But Maureen, all his friends and family; we all can share a great consolation. The Creator has important work for him to do. Dave learned much in this life. He is now with the ancestors. He will be welcome, and will assume his place. He has much work to do. And Dave will remain with us. We need only think of him; Some thought, or joke, or message of caring, An historical reminder, And he will be there. "The good men leave Lives after them." And this we share, for we all are his brothers and sisters. Let us all give thanks for, and celebrate the life of Dave Walks-as-Bear. He leaves a vast and important heritage. With love, Paleway'z Néeka

August 23 at 8:58 PM

DW

David Wheeler posted:

After meeting Dave through his articles in Great Lakes Pilot and the seeing him at a couple of his book signings I have found him to be a great man and fellow "Coastie" am sorry to hear that he has passed but am sure he has finally concurred his pain. I have a couple of his books and will cherish them. David Wheeler from Wyoming Mi.

August 23 at 3:44 PM



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Mary Bennett posted:

Dear Maureen;David brought so much love, courage and character into this world. I remember so fondly our high school days together - working at the drive-in and waiting for the lights of David's big ole truck to swing in and pick up his sweetie. I remember you being head-over-heels from the first time you met, and I so admired your love and dedication to one another over these past 40 years. My dad also loved what David brought into this world through his writing. He always commented on the newspaper columns and saved many of them for me in the days before the on-line columns. David made us all think more deeply about the world, nature and the Divine. He reminded us all to respect the earth and one another through stories and humor. I know you will miss him terribly and I'm so glad that Davey, Connie, Cindy, Rebecca and Sabryna are all there to support you and one another. Embrace the love, dear friend, and keep the memories close to your heart. Qweesch

August 23 at 12:45 PM



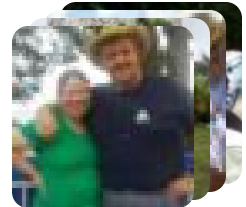
Mark R. Parrish posted:

Dear Maureen and Family,I was so very sorry to learn of your loss. Bear has been through a lot, as have you all, and now his struggle in this life is over. He was an absolutely wonderful man, a man of intelligence, pride, strength and courage of conviction and I will always admire him and the legacy he leaves behind. His faith was strong and it certainly showed in the way he lived his life. There are no words I can offer to comfort you now, but please know that you will all be in my prayers and thoughts as you make your way through this dark time of life. God bless you all. Mark R. Parrish

August 23 at 12:09 PM



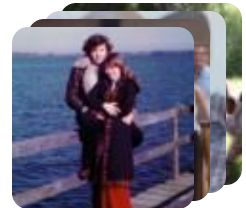
Cindy Beth Davis-Dykema shared 9 photos to the **New Album Name** album.



August 23 at 10:11 AM



Cindy Beth Davis-Dykema shared an album called **New Album Name**.



August 23 at 10:11 AM



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NW

N Williams posted:

Dear Davis Family, I am so sorry for your great loss. As you move ahead in the next days and weeks, it is my hope that you are able to find comfort in the scriptures, from the God of all comfort. Romans 15:4; 2 Corinthians 1:3, 4

August 23 at 11:39 AM

DS

Daniel Snow posted:

I first met David at a UFO Symposium in northern Illinois where he was collecting information about anomalous events that he could use for his book writing research. Through our discussions it turned out that we actually lived in the same county back in Michigan. We had become communication friends and David visited our farm on one occasion where we thanked him gratefully for a eulogy on passing he provided my wife's family when my sister in-law and father in-law both passed with cancer within a year of each other, David's thoughtfulness and caring will strongly remain in our memories and David's family will be in our prayers. *** Daniel and Rosemary Snow of Rothbury***

August 23 at 11:17 AM

KJ

Keith Johnson posted:

I had met David through his books. He was gracious enough to put me in one of his books. I was the side kick. :-) I'd met him at book conventions, talked to him once on the phone and we'd emailed periodically throughout the years. I found him a friendly, gracious, honorable man. I'm glad that I got to know him and sorry he's gone and gone too soon. My condolences to all.

August 23 at 10:11 AM

AR

A Reader August 23 at 11:03 AM

Never met David, but enjoyed his writings which inspired all that read them to be more "true". In his hands now.



Media

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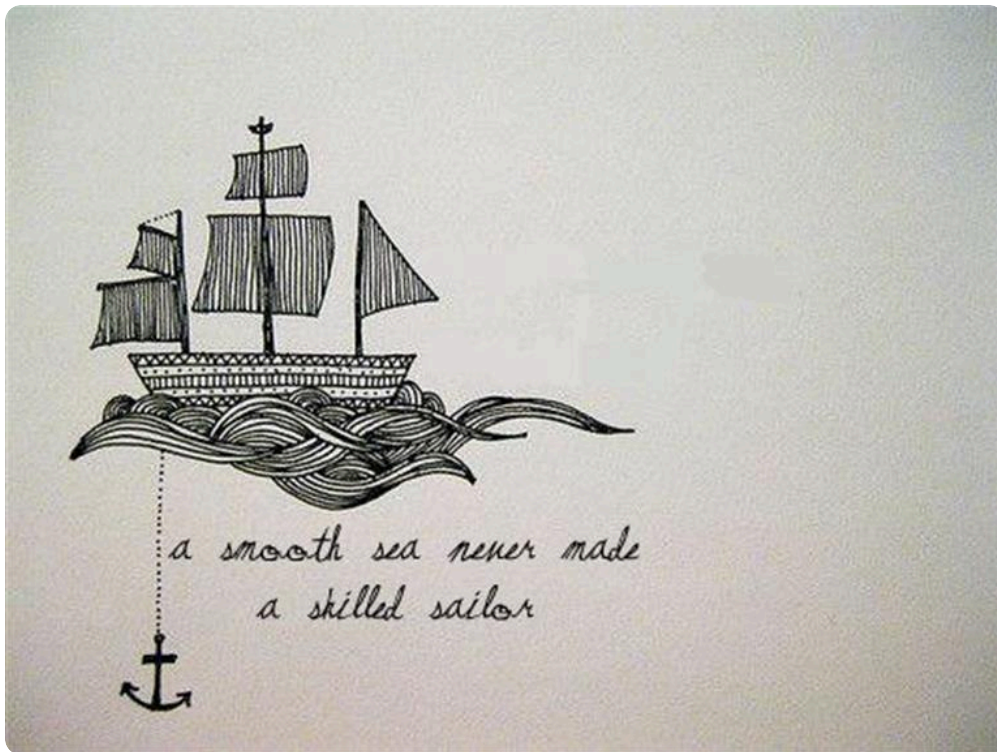


Cindy Beth Davis-Dykema shared 9 photos to the **New Album Name** album.

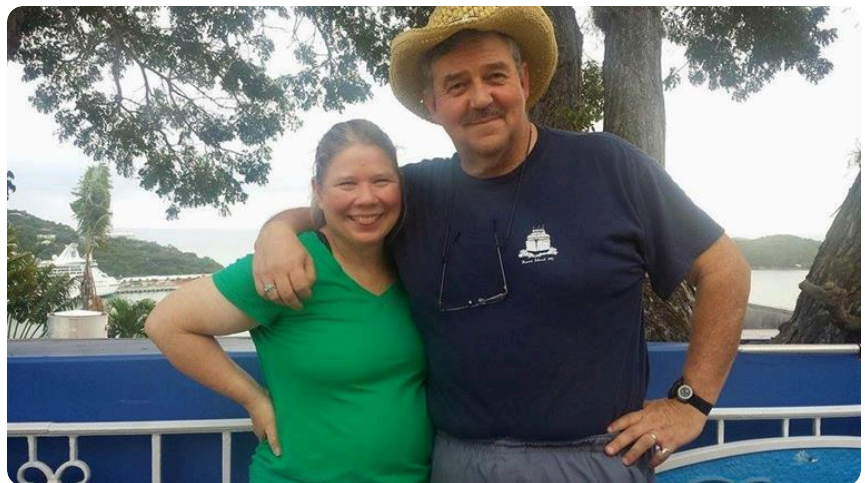
August 23 at 11:52 AM



The Davis Gang



For the sailor we all loved...

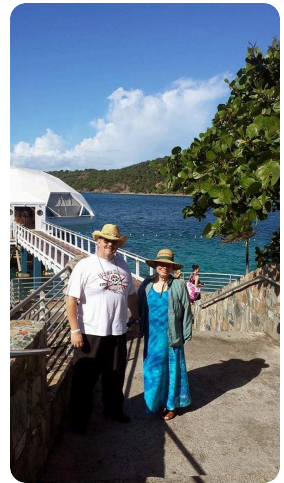




Media

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CD





Media

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Cindy Beth Davis-Dykema shared 8 photos to the **New Album Name** album.

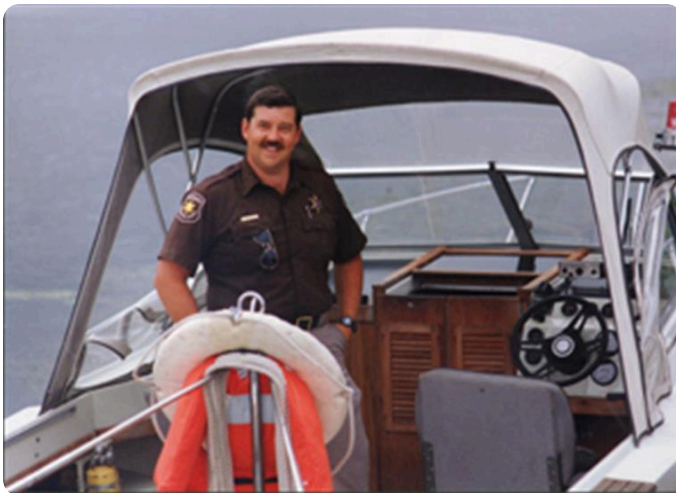
August 23 at 11:45 AM



Recently, at his (adopted) Irish family's wedding celebration



Honeymoonin' with his "Heavenly Voice"



Water Cop on White Lake



Walks-As-Bear



Media

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Walks-As-Bear Clan



Son of a Confederate Soldier



Wedding Bells, Maureen and Dave in 1976



Ohana



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring David by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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