



Mark R. Fraley

July 18, 1960 - February 19, 2010

Mark R. Fraley, age 49 of Marine City, passed away February 19, 2010.

Born in St. Clair on July 18, 1960; he was a long-time resident of Marine City and the lakes. Mark was a Merchant Marine on the Great Lakes for American Steamship Company for 30 years. He started as a deck hand and rose through the ranks to Captain.

He will be deeply missed by his wife Debbi (nee Herbert). Daughter, Samantha, and son, Jacob. Parents, Roy and Martha (nee Chmielewski) Fraley. Sisters; Sue (John) Reik, Kathy (Ron) Tobola, Jennifer (Mike) Delor, Jayne (Cliff) Fraley-Burgette. Mother-in-law Dorothy Herbert. "Outlaws" Cindy (Steve) Hutchins, Doug (Lisa) Herbert, Chris Herbert, Denise (Cheryl) Herbert, and many nieces and nephews.

Preceded in death by his sister, Christina Fraley and father-in-law, Douglas Herbert.

Visitation at Young Funeral Home on Monday 6-9pm with a 7pm Rosary and Tuesday 2-4 and 6-8pm. Funeral service beginning at the funeral home Wednesday 11:15am and going in procession for a 12noon Mass at Our Lady on the River Parish – Holy Cross, Marine City. Memorials to Blue Water Hospice. To express condolences, please visit

Events

FEB **Service** 11:15AM

24

Young Colonial Funeral Home
4061 St. Clair Hwy, East China, MI, US

FEB **Service** 12:00PM

24

Holy Cross Catholic Church
Marine City, MI, US

Comments



“ I was sad to hear of your loss through Remie today. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.
The Zucchiatti Family

Kristine Zucchiatti - February 24, 2010 at 05:38 PM



“ Debbie and family
I am sorry for your loss. I, as well as the rest of the guys he sailed with will miss him. I remember one time on the old Nicolet going under the Mackinaw Bridge, Mark had climbed the after mast, "approximately 60 feet high", to change a navigation light bulb and as we passed under the bridge there were some bridge workers working on the superstructure of the bridge. From where I was standing on deck it looked like the bridge workers and Mark would be able to high five each other going under the bridge, however they were not able to high five but did do a lot of waving and yelling at each other. As I recall it brought a smile to my face, as he could do so often. I'm sure everyone who sailed with him has a Mark story and I hope you get to share in them. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Capt Tim Kehl - February 24, 2010 at 01:47 PM



“ I knew mark from Holy Cross Elementary when I worked there and he was a student. He also worked there with my father-in-law Cam Maas. Mark was a sweet guy with a good sense of humor. Never raised his voice or caused one bit of concern. The world will not be the same without his quiet soul.

Connie (Maas) Sochacki - February 24, 2010 at 12:19 PM



“ My condolences on your loss. I met Mark in 1989 on the Indiana Harbor. I photograph and write on the Great Lakes maritime industry. We caught up again years later in 1996 on the John J. Boland where he was working his first job as a 3rd Mate. Over the years we have kept in touch. He was a wonderful person, always friendly, helpful and willing to share his knowledge. His spirit will always be on the waters. I know how much you will miss him. God speed.
pat

Patrick Lapinski - February 24, 2010 at 08:55 AM



“ We are so so sorry to hear the news of Mark. Jeff came up through the ranks with Mark and were long time friends. Our thoughts and prayers are with Debbi and family now and for a long time to come. Mark will be truly missed.

Jeff and Callie Johnson - February 24, 2010 at 07:14 AM



“ i will miss you very much and i am so sorry i am not their with my family

Nichole Dheel (Young) - February 23, 2010 at 11:46 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. Mark was a great guy and it was a honor to work with him. He will be greatly missed.

Daniel Lind - February 23, 2010 at 07:54 PM



“ Dear Debbi, Samantha and Jake,
We were so saddened to hear of Mark's sudden death. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all in this time of sadness. May God bless you all.

Sue and Carl Szabelski and Family - February 23, 2010 at 07:15 PM



“ I was very saddened to learn of Mark's death. I knew him when he was the Bosun and Outstanding Mariner back in 88 and I knew him as Captain Fraley. His character never changed - competent, friendly and always there to lend a hand. Mark's smile as you climbed the ladder will be deeply missed. He was a great guy.

Tom Emery - February 23, 2010 at 02:34 PM



“ I am so sad to hear of Marks passing. I am an old friend of Sue's. I know Mark when he was growing up. I to remember his great smile. I am so sad for all of you. May he rest in peace. And may you be confronted by the Lords words.

Jill Prieskorn - February 23, 2010 at 08:06 AM



“ Debbi, Sam, and Jake

I clearly remember the first moment I met Mark. I was standing on the dock in Calcite in May 1995 in my khaki Great Lakes Maritime Academy uniform as the John J. Boland made the dock. I was coming aboard as a cadet and was not really looking forward to it. The boat came alongside and Mark leans over the rail, looks down at me and yells, "Take that f-ing uniform off right now and I never want to see it again!" He was a 3rd mate then and I was put on watch with him. He taught me more about my job on deck than anyone else I have run into throughout my career. When I sailed with him again, he was Captain. He continued sharing his knowledge with me, letting me handle the boat.

He has been a friend for 10 years now. Jake and Sammy, he talked about you so much. He was so proud of you. I've heard about so many of your accomplishments, trials and tribulations. He took that white Blazer off my hands for you. And when he came to pick it up, he installed a deadbolt on the front door of my house because he thought the lock I had was insufficient for me living out in the woods by myself. Always looking out for his friends, his family, his shipmates.

He was a great friend, the best shipmate, a captain that I respected immensely, and obviously a great father and husband. He will be missed and always remembered. I am so sorry for your tremendous and unexpected loss. I have tried to get a flight from Singapore in time to make the funeral and I cannot. I am so sorry. I wanted to personally express my condolences. I have asked my parents, Jack and Vicki Staron, to come in my place. They have also met Mark when they came to visit me on the boats.

Again, I am so sorry and you are in my thoughts and prayers.

Jana Staron

Jana Staron - February 22, 2010 at 08:44 PM



“ I'm so sorry to hear about Captain Fraley's passing. I sailed with him as a cadet aboard the H. Lee White two summers ago. I enjoyed the few weeks I sailed with Captain Fraley, I learned a lot from him. His sense of humor made time go by really quickly. I'm know he will be missed.

Amanda Rogers - February 22, 2010 at 06:33 PM



“ Hi Debbi
I work in the office at ASC, I was the person who dispatched Mark. I am very sorry for your loss. He will be missed. My thoughts are with you and your family. Mark was always in good spirits and was always there to lend a hand whenever I needed him. I am going to really miss Mark as will many others in the ASC family. I have only known Mark since the end of 2005 and wish I knew him longer. He was a good friend. I am glad I got to visit with him at the Spring Meetings and when the vessel visited Buffalo. Once again, we here at ASC send our deepest sympathies to you and yours.

Doug Buell - February 22, 2010 at 05:13 PM



“ Debbi
I work in the ASC office. Your husband was a special person to me and so many other people here. He will be sorely missed. My heart goes out to you and your family.

Laurie Montante - February 22, 2010 at 04:44 PM



“ I am so sorry, Debbie. Mark is the one who jumped in and pulled my husband, Ted, out of the water at the dock up here in Superior. Ted went Home in '04, and I know he and Mark are swapping stories of ships and trips right about now. May our Heavenly Father be the Strength of your family during these sad days. Love & Prayers, Bev

Bev La Londe - February 22, 2010 at 02:18 PM



“ Words can not express how sorry we are. I have nothing but wonderful memories of the 30+ years that I have known Mark. He was an amazing man who will be deeply missed. Our thoughts, prayers and love go out to each of you.

David & Michele Levandusky - February 22, 2010 at 01:50 PM



“ Debbi - I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Liz Allor-Waltman - February 22, 2010 at 12:45 PM



“ Jayne and family,
I am very sorry for your loss. My sympathies and prayers are with you all.

Danelle

danelle houde - February 22, 2010 at 09:40 AM



“ We lost a loving husband and father and a loyal brother and friend. There isn't one person Mark wouldn't go out of his way to help. We will miss you.

Doug and Lisa Herbert - February 22, 2010 at 08:08 AM



“ Dear Sue & Kathy:
It has been years, but I still remember laughing with you guys, Mark and my dearest sister Barb. Losing a sibling is difficult, but please know that God will see you through this sorrowful time. Keep your memories close as Mark will always have a place in your heart. You're in my thoughts and prayers. Eternal rest grant to Mark.
With heartfelt sympathy,
Denise

Denise Zaremba Rapp - February 21, 2010 at 09:25 PM



“ Debbi and family,
I am so sorry to hear of your loss. My heart truly aches for you and your children. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Stay strong.
Tina

Tina Provost - February 21, 2010 at 08:26 PM



“ My sincerest condolences.

Jody

Jody Harper - February 21, 2010 at 07:33 PM



“ Dear Debbi, We were so blessed to have had Mark in our lives. Good friends are precious and rare, and he was all of that and more. We were so glad that we could be together. He will be forever in our hearts and prayers. We love you all. Joe & Marilyn

Joe & Marilyn Umloff - February 21, 2010 at 06:02 PM



“ Mark was a really good friend of mine in like 3rd and 4th grade at Holy Cross. Sometimes I would go to his house after school and play and have fun. God Bless him...he was always very good natured when I knew him.
God Bless you Mark...

Patrick D'Onofrio - February 21, 2010 at 04:09 PM



“ I am very saddened to learn that Mark has passed. I remember him from my ASC days and always held him in the highest regard as a sailor, officer, and master. But even more than what I saw in his professionalism I saw a person of character and integrity. Everyone always had the best words for him. He will be in my prayers.

David Schultze - February 21, 2010 at 12:35 PM



“ To the family I am so sorry for your loss. My prays are with all of you.

Julie Jones Davenport - February 21, 2010 at 12:33 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear of your loss. As a service contractor, I have worked and known Mark for many years. It has been my pleasure to know him. I will miss Mark and his constant smile.

David Reynolds - February 21, 2010 at 10:08 AM



“ Debbi,
I had the pleasure to work with Mark for a month this last year, and feel rewarded by the experience of sailing with such a fine gentleman. I am very sorry for your loss. Mark will be missed greatly and thought of often in the solitude of the early morning watches.

Patrick Pettit - February 21, 2010 at 10:00 AM



“ To all the family, I share in your grief. What a beautiful person we have lost here on Earth. Mark always made you smile with either his smile or one of his stories. We will miss him...Thanks for the memories old friend!

Roy & Sheryl - February 21, 2010 at 09:53 AM



“ I will always remember Mark's smiles and his love for his family. My prayers go out to the family.

Sandra Biland - February 21, 2010 at 09:24 AM



“ My heart hurts. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your families Debbie. Good people are so very hard to find, you and Mark...long time friends. Peace be with you.

Michele Leonard Tatro - February 21, 2010 at 08:37 AM



“ Love you so much

sue reik - February 20, 2010 at 09:37 PM



“ Debbi-

I am deeply saddened to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. I am so very sorry.

Patti

Patti Adams - February 20, 2010 at 08:56 PM