



## Brian A. Cook Sr.

November 26, 1961 - March 12, 2023

Brian Arthur Cook Sr., age 61, of Manitowish Waters, WI passed away on Sunday, March 12, 2023 at home. He was born November 26, 1961, the son of Lloyd “John” Jr. and Leola “Ducky” (Dalbeck) Cook. Brian married Rosemary Tibaldo on December 9, 1978, and shared 36 years of marriage before her passing in 2014.

Brian was a hard-worker who was devoted to his job. He spent almost 50 years working at the cranberry marsh in Manitowish Waters, Wisconsin. To say Brian was an avid outdoorsman is an understatement. When he wasn't working, Brian could be found spending his time outside fishing, hunting, or gardening. If you were lucky, Brian would take you to his secret fishing holes. He was most excited when he was watching or teaching others to fish.

In addition to his parents, John and Ducky, and his wife Rosemary, Brian is preceded in death by his son, Brian Cook, Jr. Brian is survived by his brothers and sisters; significant other, Joanna Johnson; daughter-in-law, Tammy Cook; children, Joseph (Adrian) Johnson, Jennifer (Michael) Bruzas, and Jessica Cook (Jared Anderson); grandchildren, Kaitlyn, Joey, Erik, Kaleb, Lexi and Logan; great-grandchildren, Axel and Olivia; and many nieces and nephews.

Friends and family may gather at the Bolger Funeral Home, 1212 First Ave, Woodruff, on Saturday, March 18, from 2pm – 5pm. A private graveside

memorial service will follow at a later date.

In lieu of gifts or flowers, please spend an afternoon fishing with loved ones. Don't think of the other tasks that need to be done, just go. And cherish every minute of it. As your red and white bobber drifts across the surface of the water, think of Brian.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 18. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Bolger Cremation & Funeral Services - Woodruff Chapel

1212 First Avenue

(mailing address P.O. Box 40, Woodruff WI 54568)

Woodruff, WI 54568

(715) 356-6006

[bolgerfuneral@gmail.com](mailto:bolgerfuneral@gmail.com)

<https://www.bolgerfuneral.com>

# Tribute Wall

JC

“ If you knew my Dad, you knew Dad was a quiet man. That’s not to say he couldn’t get worked up or was never loud, because I’m pretty sure us kids had a gift of pulling that side out of him, especially during our teen years. But Dad lived and loved with quiet intention.

*I can remember when I was a kid, maybe 6 or so, Dad was getting ready to go fishing. I asked him who he was going with, and I remember being absolutely horrified when he told me he was going by himself. All I could think about was how lonely he would be, so after that, anytime he was going fishing, especially by himself, I had to go with him, right? It took me a good 30 years to realize that the poor guy never got a moment’s peace with my chatty self interrupting every chance he got to escape the chaos of three kids at home. Dad never said a word to stop me from coming, though, and he’d always wait patiently as it I got ready to go..*

*When I got a little older and wanted to go sit with Dad in his deer stand when he was hunting, he’d remind me regularly that I had to sit still, but always let me go with him. It wasn’t until I was almost 20 when I was talking to Dad about how we never saw any deer when I went out with him, when he finally admitted “we never saw any deer, because you never sat still! You scared them all away” as he laughed that chuckle he had where the corners of his eyes would crinkle up.*

*After my mom passed away, since I don’t live close by, I’d taken to calling Dad whenever I could. During those phone calls, Dad had this way that always made me think he hadn’t heard me, or wasn’t paying attention to what I had said, but it always came back around. I’d say something like “So, Jen got a big promotion at work,” and his response would be “You know the baby ducks out on the marsh? I fed them during break this morning,” I’d later hang up the phone wondering 1. if he had heard me, and 2. What the hell was he feeding the baby ducks? The first question would be answered the next day, though, when Jen called and asked “Did you tell Dad about my promotion? Cuz I called him earlier and it was the first*

*thing he mentioned!"*

*Most recently, when Dad was in the hospital, knowing that his granddaughter, Lexi and Logan were coming to see him; for the few days before we arrived, he ordered extra fruit cups and applesauce with all of his meals, and saved them so his girls would have snacks when they arrived. And as we were there, he'd try to order extra food for anybody visiting him. If he got himself a popsicle, he got two so his girls could have one too. It was his way of taking care of us as much as he could in those moments.*

*Dad lived and loved quietly. Whether it was him sharing a jar of his homemade maple syrup, bringing some of his homemade soup or tater tot casserole because he made too much, or picking up extra pasties from Randalls and delivering them to friends. From fixing friends' cars or front steps to cutting down some trees, all of those little moments were Dad's way of telling us he cared, in his own quiet way.*

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**Jessica Cook** - March 19, 2023 at 05:33 PM

HK

*I am so sorry for your loss. I grew up with your father as a child. I moved away in ninth grade but always kept up to date from my sister in law Candy. your written words are beautiful. Hugs*

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**Heidi Lundwall Kohler** - March 25, 2023 at 08:29 AM

MO

“ *Brian's impact on Vilas Cranberry would take 100 pages to describe. His absence will forever forever effect us all. Such a friendly, knowledgeable and capable man.*

*Vilas Cranberry Owners and Crew.*

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**Michael OBrien** - March 18, 2023 at 11:40 AM

JA

“ Brian and Rosie were two of the kindest people I had the pleasure of knowing while growing up in MW. Never an ill word about someone but I smile today remembering his Yooper smack talking while playing pool at the Cozy Cove, especially when 14 year old me would beat him.

I remember his pride and joy Mustang and him taking me down 51 way faster than I have ever been and him telling me not to tell Rosie....

RIP Brian and please give Rosie and your son a hug for me.

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**JOEY M ALONSO** - March 17, 2023 at 11:27 AM

JR

“ We only got to meet Brian Cook a few years ago through work. He was a wonderful person and when he talked about Foxy and his lady and kids, his eyes lit up. Sending our condolences and prayers to his family in this hard time.

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**Jade R** - March 15, 2023 at 06:24 PM

NM

“ I am heartbroken for your loss! I had some pretty good times with Brian!! He was one of the first people I met when I moved up in 1984! Please keep all the memories you can close at hand and he will be with you forever! God Bless all of you!



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**Nancy Malouf** - March 14, 2023 at 08:03 PM

RR

“ *richard R. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Brian A. Cook Sr..*



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**richard R.** - March 14, 2023 at 05:15 PM