



## Laurence D. "Skip" Cloutier

March 16, 1933 - February 9, 2022

Dodgeville – Laurence D. "Skip" Cloutier, age 88, of Dodgeville, left this crazy world on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 after a brief, non-Covid related illness.

Skippy was born on March 16, 1933 to Laurence W and Ida J (Carlson) Cloutier in Superior, WI. His humble beginnings in Superior were hard spent, the early death of his father left him to help his mom raise his little sister Jeanyne. He spent 4 years in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War as a parachute repairman.

Skip had a passion for the outdoors that led him to spend the majority of his life in a career with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as a Game Warden. When he retired from the DNR in the late 80's he and Franny purchased a camper and hit the road. They traveled the country for many years before they settled down and split their time between Donna, TX and Superior. When they gave up the nomad life they put down loose roots in Dodgeville.

Skip had more hobbies that you could shake a (walking) stick at, they included photography, whittling, beading, painting just to name a few. Doting over his grandkids was one of his greatest joys.

Skip was a lover of life who never missed a chance to laugh or tell a good

story. You could spot him anywhere by looking for the man with the cowboy hat. He was a generous, loving and very kind man who treated everyone like family.

Skippy is survived by his loving wife Franny; his children Scott (Margo) Cloutier of Fernley, NV, Christy (Jerry) Kelley of Dodgeville, Cathy (Dale) Elsbernd of Decorah, IA, Tom Cloutier of Dodgeville and Joe (Patty) Cloutier of Blanchardville, WI; his grandchildren Lacey, Brittany (James), Melinda (Alan), Shayla, Lindsay (Zach), Spencer (Morgan), Nikki (Matt), Jena and John; several great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; his brothers-in-law Joe (Sandy) Gucinski and Gerald (Delois) Gucinski and many special nieces and nephews.

Skippy is preceded in death by his parents, in-laws Stanley and Anna Gucinski, his sister Jeannyne Olson, his daughter-in-law Connie Cloutier, his brother and sister in-law Marty and Judy Gucinski, as well as several beloved nieces and nephews.

Skippy will be dearly missed by all who knew him,

All things must come to an end...IT'S IN THE BOOK!!

Private family services will be held.

A Public Celebration of Life will held at a later date.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Laurence D. "Skip" Cloutier*

November 15, 2022 at 06:49 AM



“ *We offer our deepest condolences to the family. To know him was to truly love him. He was a great friend and one of the most interesting people we ever met. We are so fortunate to have met him. Maira & Al Erickson. "the Canadians"*



**al erickson** - March 09, 2022 at 10:12 AM



“ *Dear Fran and family, I am so sorry to hear of Skips passing. I always enjoyed seeing him in Superior when you came up for the summer. When my boys were little he always brought something for them from Texas. I was glad that I was able to attend some of the cousins reunions in the past few years, I will cherish all those memories.*

*Babbette Dalbec*

**Babbette Dalbec** - February 15, 2022 at 08:10 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Laurence D. "Skip" Cloutier.*



February 14, 2022 at 01:22 PM

CA

“ Dear Fran, Family and Friends: All my sympathy for your loss of one great guy, I was shocked to hear of Skip's passing. When you folks were stationed at Medford I was stationed as the warden at Park Falls. Both of us were stationed in the same work area and worked together on group checks, and other work and area meetings. I really didn't get to know skip very well until we were assigned to design and sew snowmobile covers, made from surplus GI pup tent halves at the Medford Ranger Station, for the new 12.3 Skidoo snowmobiles we were issued. This assignment was supposed to save the Department money over the purchase of factory covers that actually fit and protected the new machines. After over a week of daily work on the covers they were finished. They were the laughing stock of everyone who was issued one, as well as the general public, as they flopped around in the wind as they were trailered down the roads. During that week of construction Skip and I got to know each other very well and became life long friends. The snowmobile covers were eventually laughed off the road and trashed. I will truly miss my old friend Skipper, he was one great guy who left me with a lot of wonderful memories.... RIP SKIP! Clark Amundsen

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Clark Amundsen - February 14, 2022 at 10:40 AM

JG

“ Dear Fran and family, You and the world are missing a one of a kind man. You and Skip gave me a great orientation to being a game warden's wife . I have such fond memories of our visits together and hearing about your camping and family. I don't know how many cabbage soup diets Skip and I tried together and I still think of him when I see the soup diet!!

I was so pleased to get a card from you about 5 years ago. I have intended to answer it and now am so sorry I didn't. It was just like you and Skip to remember me after so many years.

I pray for your comfort as you miss Skip and I thank you both for your kindness and laughter.

Jane Greiling

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**Jane Greiling** - February 13, 2022 at 11:08 PM

DI

“ Chris & family--so very sorry for your loss. Thinking of you!  
Diane Hermanson

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**Diane** - February 13, 2022 at 02:40 PM

DG

“ Skip Cloutier was already legendary when I worked deer season with him in the 1970s and 1980s while serving as a Game Manager for the DNR. He gave me my instructions in a gruff manner in the group setting that I soon learned as classic Cloutier. However, talking to him in private, his words were always kind and his stories endless. While I only knew him for a short time, his memory is indelible. My deepest condolences to the Cloutier family. David L. Gjestson

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**David L. Gjestson** - February 13, 2022 at 09:52 AM

DW

“ *Deb & Denny Wilkinson lit a candle in memory of Laurence D. "Skip" Cloutier*



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**Deb & Denny Wilkinson** - February 13, 2022 at 07:02 AM

MK

“ *Two of the most kindest and town to earth people  
So many fond memories  
My sister was married to his son Tommy but my family were always  
happy to see them at family function he will be missed  
To the entire clan mad love 💕  
From ny mary k(ray)*

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**mary kruzinski** - February 12, 2022 at 04:13 PM