



Officiant

Jeanne Putnam

Music

“How Do I Say Goodbye | “Give Heaven Some Hell”
“Daniel” | “When I get to Where I’m Going”

Urn Bearers

Kolten McLaren | Caleb Flink

Honorary Urn Bearers

Karmah McLaren | Kenleigh McLaren | Joshua Thompson
Connor McLaren | Domnick Flink | Jayden Stevens | Jayce Beasley

Acknowledgements

The family wishes to express their sincere gratitude to all of you for your prayers, presence, love, telephone calls, and all other expressions of concern that you have shown during our time of bereavement. Never more than now was your kindness needed and more appreciated.

Celebrating the Life of
Daniel Roy McLaren Sr.

Sunrise

March 23, 1969

Sunset

February 20, 2026



Joseph Vertin and Sons Funeral Home
Breckenridge, Minnesota
Friday, March 6, 2026 | 12:00 PM

Shingles and Stars

He walked the world with a roofer's stride,
Sun on his shoulders, hammer by his side.
Long days working, doing all he could,
A father whose love ran strong and good.

He taught with patience, guided with care,
Always the one who'd show up, be there.
From fixing problems to easing fears,
He built his love across the years.

But the place he treasured most of all
Wasn't a rooftop standing tall;
It was the circle of little hands
Pulling him close, calling "Papa" again.

He left too soon, No warning given,
no long goodbye,
Just an empty coat and a quiet sky.

Yet in every grandchild's laugh that rings,
In all the bright and simple things,
And in the stories his children tell,
His spirit lives, and it always will.

For love like his doesn't fade or fall—
It holds up the hearts of his family tall.
A legacy not just in roofs he raised,
But in the way his children love these days.

And when the little ones look up high,
Searching for him in the evening sky,
He's there—on a rooftop made of light—
Papa watching over them every night.



Dan was born March 23rd, 1969, to Raymond and Ruth (Douglas) McLaren in Saginaw, MI. Dan, his brothers, and his parents Ray and Almeda moved to rural Foxhome, MN, in 1974. Dan lived around the Breckenridge area most of his life. Dan had many jobs in his lifetime; including working at Four Seasons Greenhouse, Waste Management where you always heard him coming to get your trash with the music blaring, and many years as a roofer, later in life creating his own company, DCT Roofing. Dan enjoyed camping, fishing, and just being outside. His children have many memories of spending the weekends camping or fishing on the shores of many Central MN lakes. Dan also enjoyed going out to the family farm in Foxhome to visit with family and to have cookouts. He recently took a trip to Michigan and got to visit with a lot of his family before his death. On November 29th, 1989, Dan married Mary Ann Miller in South Dakota and together they had three children. Dan and Mary later divorced and after raising their three children for some years as a single father, Dan married Jody Stevens on February 15th, 2003, in Breckenridge, MN and created a life with her and their combined 6 kids. Dan is survived by his three children, Daniel (Sheena) McLaren, Cody (Samantha) McLaren, and Tara (Micheal) Thompson; his stepchildren Tiffany Stevens, Amy (Daniel) Beasley; his 17 grandchildren; his father Raymond McLaren, Sr., brothers, sisters, and extended family; and his beloved dog Nuna. He is preceded in death by his mother and stepfather Ruth (Al) Douglas, stepmother Alameda McLaren, his brother Raymond McLaren, stepbrother Ivan Eaves, and his two stepsons Jeffrey and Justin Stevens. Dan's children would like to thank Riverwood Healthcare Center in Aitkin, MN, for everything they did to keep Dan comfortable in his last moments. The family would like to invite those who knew and cared for Dan to a celebratory potluck luncheon, honoring Dan's life at the Breckenridge Senior Center after the service.

