

Frank Azure was born May 13, 1946, in Belcourt, ND, to Arthur and Anna (LaFrance) Azure, Frank came into the world with a full head of curly red hair - until his father cut it all off when he was three.

Frank was a proud member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa. He began his education at St. Ann Indian Mission before his family moved off the reservation when he was about twelve. He graduated from Wahpeton High School in 1964 and from the North Dakota State School of Science in 1966.

Frank served his country with honor in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War, completing two tours aboard the USS Preble (DLG 15) as a Data Systems Technician PO2. He served six years in total, including time spent finishing his schooling as an Electrician Mechanic. He was honorably discharged in 1972.

After returning home, Frank worked at the Circle of Nations in Wahpeton, ND, until retirement. He later joined his brother at Murphy Electric in Fargo and most recently enjoyed helping at the Link farm near Mooreton, ND.

Frank was an avid outdoorsman who found peace and joy in nature. He loved hunting, fishing, and bowling, and was also a talented baker who always had something sweet to share. On June 30, 1979, he married the love of his life, Linda Tingum, and they built a life full of laughter, love, and family.

Frank is survived by his children, Justin (Mindy) Azure and Christa Azure; and his five grandchildren: Braden, Harper, Logan, Aurora, and Collins. He is also survived by his siblings: Arthur J. Azure Jr., Earl J. (Linda) Azure, Deborah (Pete) Lingen, Anna Schuler, and Vita Azure; sister-in-law Sharon (David) Score; two lifelong friends who were like sisters to him, Irene Mohn and Linda Johnson; as well as several beloved nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Arthur and Anna Azure; his wife, Linda; and his brother, Linus Azure; in-laws, Art and Florence Tingum; and brother-in-law, Gary Tingum.

Frank will be remembered for his deep love of family, his service to his country, and his quiet generosity. He had a warm, unmistakable laugh—when something really got him going, he'd break into a big grin and his shoulders would bounce up and down with joy. Each Christmas, he wrote a personal note in every card he sent, never missing a chance to connect. He was a kind man with a gentle soul, and he leaves behind a legacy of warmth, integrity, and love.



A Sailor's Prayer

Dear Lord, I'm just a sailor
A protector of our land.
A servant called to battle
When my country takes a stand.
I pray for strength and courage
And a heart that will forgive.
For peace and understanding
In a world for all to live.
My family's prayers are with me.
No matter where I roam.
Please listen when I'm lonely
And return me safely home.
Amen



The USS Preble (DLG-15) was a Farragut-class guided missile Destroyer in the United States Navy. USS PREBLE DUS-15 the fifth ship to be named after Commodore Edward Preble.



Frank Azure

Born

May 13, 1946 | Belcourt, North Dakota

Passed Away

May 19, 2025 | Wahpeton, North Dakota

Age

79 Years | 6 Days

Memorial Service

1:00 PM | Tuesday, May 27, 2025

Vertin-Munson Funeral Home | Wahpeton, North Dakota

Officiant

Jeanne Putnam

Organist

Pat Keaveny

Soloist

Cindy Masching

Music

"On Eagles Wings" - Solo

"One Moment In Time" - Dana Winner

"The Lord's Prayer" - recording by Art Azure

"Anchors Away" - Military Band and Felix Slatkin

Pallbearers

Gerald "Butch" Giwoyna | Jessie Schuler | Greg Buboltz

Dave Link | Braden Berndt | Dominique Richels

Military Honors

North Dakota Navy Honors Team | American Legion Post 20

Special Native American Ritual

Old Agency Singers and Drummers Group

Interment

Fairview Cemetery | Wahpeton, North Dakota