



## Harold C. Atkinson

December 13, 1938 - March 1, 2014

Harold C. "Tootie" Atkinson, 75, of Strattanville, died early Saturday, March 1, 2014, at the Butler Memorial Hospital after a brief illness.

Born on December 13, 1938 in Hickory (Hermitage); he was the son of Philip and Helen Warner Atkinson.

He grew up in Hermitage, where he worked at the former Rust Dairy and Sharon Steel.

Harold was married on January 31, 1960 to the former Jacqueline Webber, and she survives. They moved to Curwensville then settled in their current home in Strattanville.

He worked at the former Excello Corp in Detroit where he was a machinist, travelling to various local dairies in western Pennsylvania and western New York.

In the 1970's, he started his own fire safety business, Atkinson Fire Safety. After selling this in the 1980's, he worked for Potlatch Corp in the state of Indiana, where he worked until he retired in 2004.

Harold was one of the original founding members of the Clarion Eagles. He was also a member of the Loyal Order of the Moose, Clarions Lion Club, Masonic Lodge, and past president of the Strattanville Fire Department. He attended the Asbury United Methodist Church in Strattanville.

Throughout his life, Tootie was very active in the local dirt track sprint car circuit, both as a car owner/builder and spectator, where in the 1970's, Harold was seen every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights. He enjoyed his annual

camping retreat to Eldora Speedway to watch the World of Outlaw Sprint Cars. During the summers, he enjoyed working in his garden and repairing tractors. He was always working on something for someone and would always lend a helping hand to friends and family.

He is survived by his wife, Jacqueline; a son, Jeff Atkinson and his wife, Suanne, of Clarion; two daughters, Deborah Bottaro and her husband, Joe, of Sharon, and Nancy Wensel and her husband, Terry, of Limestone; and four grandchildren, Ashley and TJ Wensel, and Kyle and Sarah Bottaro; and two step-grandchildren, Jeffrey Coull of Pittsburgh and Elizabeth Coull of Clarion. Also surviving is a nephew, Rick Atkinson and his wife, Jeanne, of Masury, Ohio; two grandnephews, Ricky and Ryan Atkinson; and a beloved cat, Butch. He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Richard Atkinson and Philip Atkinson.

Family will receive friends from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4, 2014, at the Robert V. Burns Funeral Home, 638 Wood Street, Clarion.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, March 5, 2014, in the funeral home with Rev. Betsy Cooper, pastor of Shippenville United Methodist Church.

Interment will be held in the Cedarview Memorial Park in Strattanville.

Memorials and donations can be made to the Clarion Forest VNA, 271 Perkins Road, Clarion PA 16214.

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# Tribute Wall

FZ

“ *Please accept my Condolences to the family!*

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**Frank (Frankie) Zerbe** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

FR

“ *Jackie  
Our sympathy goes out to you and your family. We have passed your home so many times going to events for our grandchildren at CL and I always toot the horn and tell Erla a toot for Tootie. I will always think of him when I'm in the area.  
God Bless, Erla and Fred*

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**Fred & Erla Rombold** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ *U have our deepest sympathy of the passing of Harold. Sorry we could not be there for we have really bad colds. R.I.P*

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**Bill and Jessica Leadbetter** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ *Sorry for your loss, our thoughts are with you. Roxanne Wheeler Davis and Clarice Wheeler*

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**Roxanne Wheeler/Davis** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Jackie,Debbie, Jeff (Yak) and Nancy so sorry to hear of the passing of Tootie, the years I worked for him are memorable some we will not mention or will. ( when he would meet me in Curwensville and end up at the Fire mans club)Yikes!!!

*Mike*

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**Mike Shaffer** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

ED

“ Jeff,  
I am saddened to hear about the passing of your father. I remember waiting on him years ago and from his picture he looks the same. I can not be there but you are in my heart and prayers. God Bless you and your family and bring you through this difficult time. Love Elaine

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**Elaine Daum** - March 03, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ We are so sorry to hear that Harold passed away. He was a nice man. Our prayers are with the family!

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**Michelle, Dan and Jake Reid** - March 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ This week we will say farewell to Harold Atkinson aka "Pops" (name given to him by my our taxi driver in St. Thomas U.S.V.I.). Tim, Cole, Julia and I have been so blessed to have Jackie and Pops in our lives. They paid a huge roll in raising Cole and Julia. Jackie has been my one and only babysitter since Cole was 6 weeks old. My kids could not have asked for a better set of extra grandparents. Over the past 16 years are families (along with my brothers Steve & Paul and their families) have vacation together many times. Pops and Jackie also where another set of parents for Tim and I. Pops always had an open garage and gave a helping hand when Tim had a tractor or something broke down. The reality of it all really set in tonight as Jackie shared Pops pictures he took of our vacations together and pictures he has taken of Cole and Julia over the years. Jackie, Debbie, Joe, Nancy, Terry, Jeff and families we will keep you close in thought and prayer. Your husband, father, grandfather, father in law will be truly be missed by the Aarons and many.

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**Jill Aaron** - March 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM