

**Laura Giltner (Autumn Sunshine)  
1946-2021**

Laura Giltner of Channing,, who used the name Autumn Sunshine when attending rendezvous, died July 21, 2021, in Powers, Michigan. Membership rolls show Laura and her husband Paul (rendezvous name "Otter") joined the UPMLA about 2012 and began attending the July rendezvous regularly.

Each year the couple traveled to several rendezvous in the upper Midwest. Laura enjoyed participating in the hawk and knife throwing competitions.

UPMLA members who attend future rendezvous will sadly miss seeing Laura. We extend heartfelt condolences to Otter, whom we hope to see at upcoming events.



**Autumn Sunshine meeting Sandy Henkel at the 2013 UPMLA Rendezvous**



**Autumn Sunshine throwing hawk at UPMLA Rendezvous**



**Jim Mead coaching Autumn Sunshine in Pan Throwing**

**Elton Kalm  
1937-2021**

Elton Kalm, an active and long-time member of the UPMLA, died unexpectedly in Marinette, WI, on December 13, 2021, just a month short of his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday.

It's uncertain when he first became associated with the UPMLA, The archives show him participating in the 1985 championship shoot as an A-class rifle shooter, indicating he had been participating in UPMLA shoots previously. He was active in the shooting events of the July 2021 Rendezvous. and showed his shooting skills were still pretty intact, shooting the 3<sup>rd</sup>-highest score of all rifle competitors from the 25 yard line. This is all the more remarkable because some few years ago he had to shift from right- to left-handed shooting to due vision problems. Elton really hustled through the timed cannon fuse part of the Friday Fun Shoot, which had a running components. He managed to make better time than all the other shooters except for one 77-yr-old. youngster.

Elton was able to tease other shooters without hurting any feelings, a part of the wonderful sense of humor mentioned in his published obituary. We will genuinely miss Elton's presence at future activities of the Association, and we wish him Godspeed .



**Elton with his hawk-throwing trophy – UPMLA 2012 Rendezvous**



**Elton reloading at 2011 UPLMA Rifle Championship**



Elton helps his grandson Jake Coburn hold the heavy Long-Distance Championship trophy that Jake won at the 2019 UPMLA Rendezvous.

**James Mead  
1951-2021**

Jim Mead, one of the UPMLA's most active members, died in Ishpeming on December 21, 2021, after a battle with cancer. He joined the UPMLA shortly after 2000, although he had been quite active in organized muzzle loading shooting in Michigan in previous years.

Jim's published obituary notes his extraordinary talent for being helpful. The participants in UPMLA monthly events for the past several years will remember Jim as the man with the flashlight, helping shooters on the darkened indoor range to see their locks for capping or priming. He helped during the annual rendezvous in setting up events and keeping them running, and in lending a hand with food preparation. His acting as a heckling target during the Pan Throw was unforgettable.

When Sandy, his wife, passed along the job of UPMLA secretary, he tackled the very large job of organizing the records and other artifacts from UPMLA history and creating a workable archive.

Jim left us far too soon, and his willingness to pitch in and help with events will be sorely missed. We offer our most sincere condolences to Sandy.



Jim Mead helping in the kitchen at the 2011 UPMLA Rendezvous



Jim helping Sandy in the kitchen at Rendezvous



Indoor range, January 2016, Jim displays target he designed