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Mackey eased his grip on the man's jacket and allowed him to lower himself to the graveled shoulder. As the old man got within a foot of the ground, he snatched a small rock. He sprung up and swung it at Mackey's head.

Mackey reflexively threw his hands up to block the blow, and the rock banged against his knuckles. The old man tried to attack again, but Mackey was ready this time, grabbed his wrist and turned it until the old man grimaced and dropped the rock.

"Look, I don't want to hurt you! But you aren't leaving here, you got it?!"

The old man just wagged his head.

"But I need that job. I need it to pay the bills. You don't understand. We need the money!"

"Who's we?"

"Me and my wife!"

"What's her name?"

"Her name's Helen."

"And what's your name?"

The old man squeezed together his eyes and clenched his teeth. He shook his head from side to side.

"I don't know! I don't know," the old man said sadly. "I don't know who I am. I don't know where I am. I just want to see Helen! I just want to be with Helen! She's sick. I need to be with her. We need the money to pay the doctor bills. I need to go see Helen!"

"Okay old-timer," Mackey said softly. "We'll sort all this out."

Then, from a long way up a crest he saw headlights and flashing red and blue lights approaching. "Thank God," he murmured.

Deputy Billy Kimball stepped from his patrol car with a flashlight and sized up the situation. He looked at Mackey.

"Sir, are you the one who called?"

Yes I did. This guy needs help. He's a little confused. Doesn't know who he is. I nearly hit him as he walked along the highway. I rounded the curve and there he was. Dressed all dark like that, I just didn't see him. He wanted me to let him keep walking. He says he needs to go to Commonwealth to go work at the mine."

As another emergency vehicle rolled up toward them, Kimball eyed the old man up and down. Then he spoke to him.

"Are you Mr. Wallace?"

As the EMTs checked over the old man and prepared to load him into the ambulance, Kimball walked over toward Mackey's car and looked it over.

"Have you been drinking Mr. Mackey?" he asked.

"I had a few. But I'm sober as a judge. I'll do the roadside test if you want."

The deputy shook his head. "Nah, you seem okay. But just go straight home. Will you do that?"

"Absolutely," Mackey answered. "By the way, is that the guy's name, Wallace?"

"Appears to be. Fits the description. Name's Gill Wallace. We've been looking for him. He was reported missing

by his sister three days ago from near Cavour. She said she heard a clunk downstairs and was going to get up and check on him, but then she heard the kitchen door close and figured he was fine. Long and short of it – he didn't come back. A day later, the sister notices that some old clothes he had hanging in a shed are gone. I guess he used to wear them to work a long time ago and never got rid of them. Speculation is that the clunk the sister heard was him falling and hitting his head. Looks like he came to with amnesia. Thanks to you, though, it seems like we've got a happy ending here."

Mackey thanked the deputy and drove home.

A few weeks later, Mackey sat down during a break at work and scanned the local paper.

He was stunned to see an obituary – first the photo of the deceased and then the name.

Graveside services for Gilbert Wallace, 89, of Cavour will be 10 a.m. Saturday at St. Mary's Cemetery in Commonwealth.

Wallace was one of the last men to mine iron ore at the open pit Davidson mine in Commonwealth. He later worked for the U.S. Forestry Service, from which he retired in 1995. He is survived by a sister, Jane Munson, of Cavour.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Madison and Jane Wallace, and by his beloved wife, Helen, who died in 1960. He will be interred at her side.

DNR Learn to Hunt program instructed more than 800 novice hunters in fall and spring

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) today announced that more than 300 youth and adult hunters participated in Learn to Hunt programs in 2021.

Last year, 19 organizations coordinated Learn to Hunt events statewide for bear, deer, waterfowl and pheasant hunting, with 117 volunteers providing instruction to more than 300 novice hunters.

The Learn to Hunt program provides opportunities for organizations to help novice hunters learn how to hunt a variety of species, including turkey and small game like pheasants and waterfowl, and big game like deer and bear.

"Learning to hunt and teaching someone to hunt are long-term processes that can feel daunting, both to the people who want to learn and to experienced hunters who have jobs, families and their own hunt-

ing seasons," said Emily Iehl, DNR Hunting and Shooting Sports Program Specialist. "Part of what makes hunting amazing and worth pursuing is the amount of time spent in nature. The Learn to Hunt program provides the extra time and flexibility needed for a quality learning experience."

The Learn to Hunt program is open to anyone new to hunting and helps address challenges such as equipment needs, effective hunting techniques and finding a place to hunt. With DNR approval, participants may hunt in a sanctioned Learn to Hunt event without a hunting license, provided they are within arm's reach of an experienced volunteer hunting instructor who has passed a background check.

To host a Learn to Hunt event, volunteer instructors commit to at least four hours of classroom and field instruction covering species

biology, safe handling and use of firearms, hunting strategies and tactics, and more. The events typically culminate in a one-on-one hunt with an experienced volunteer hunting instructor.

Beginning this past fall, the DNR Hunting and Shooting Sports Program asked Learn to Hunt instructors to document their hours spent volunteering for the program. These volunteer hours help the future of hunting and management of wildlife populations by helping to secure federal funding dedicated for conservation in Wisconsin.

Of the 22 organizations that submitted volunteer hour reports, 323 instructors logged 6,154.5 volunteer hours, more than 19 hours per person. Some volunteers contributed over 100 hours.

The DNR is grateful for the volunteers and landowners who are willing to share their



Photo Credit: Emily Iehl
A group of novice hunters and their mentor Jacob Zeuske (second from the left) on a pheasant hunt outing as part of the Learn to Hunt program.

time, experience and property to promote the future of hunting through the Learn to Hunt program.

The Learn to Hunt program is already off to a strong start in 2022. This spring, 40 organiza-

tions and more than 500 volunteers coordinated Learn to Hunt events for turkey hunting for nearly 500 participants.

Experienced hunters at least 18-years-old can become hunting mentors to share their knowledge

and passion with those seeking to learn more about hunting. Learn more about becoming or finding a hunting mentor on the DNR's Hunting Mentor webpage.