



# THOSE PASSED FROM THE CLASS OF 1955

John Adler ( 2013 — 8/27/2013 )  
Edward H. Atherton, Jr. ( 2018 — 7/14/2018 )  
Darrell H. Bacon ( 2006 — 8/4/2006 )  
James H. Becker ( 2009 — 9/24/2009 )  
Jacqueline Marie CHALLENGER Bradshaw ( 2019 — 2/17/2019 )  
Lawrence E. Cody ( 2005 — 3/17/2005 )  
Pauline DOXSIE Dixon ( 1991 — 11/12/1991 )  
Vonda K. DUNHAM VanNeste ( 1997 -- 12/13/1997 )  
Ellen Gail DURLING Yager ( 2018 — 9/11/2018 )  
Josephine Edwards ( 2012 — 3/10/2012 )  
James Roy Eimer ( 2020 -- 5/9/2020 )  
Carl N. Falor ( 2019 -- 9/21/2019 )  
Marilyn FINE Hufnagle ( NO OTHER INFORMATION WAS AVAILABLE. )  
John W. Frank ( 2016 — 11/20/2016 )  
Dawn GAKLE Custer ( 2019 -- 6/17/2019 )  
Judith "Judy" GILMORE Daymon ( 2018 — 10/9/2018 )  
Hilda GRIESE Goetzka ( 2017 — 1/1/2017 )  
Gerald A. Haddix ( 2023 -- 6/16/2023 )  
Dan E. Hankins ( 2016 — 12/21/2016 )  
Richard Hintz ( 2010 — 4/5/2010 )  
Janice Lee IRISH Vermeersch ( 2023 -- 9/2/2023 )  
Bruce Jarstfer ( 2011 — 12/10/2010 )  
Raymond Laverne Landon ( 1991 — 12/17/1991 )  
David Stuart Lyon ( 2022 -- 9/2/2022 )  
Marvin "Mickey" Harold Maguire ( 2023 -- 11/11/2023 )  
Loraine V. MAIER Kelsey ( 1994 — 8/27/1994 )  
Joyce Arleene McINTYRE Middaugh  
Patricia E. MILLER Stade ( 2020 -- 12/15/2020 )  
Robert A. Morrill ( 1994 — 7/25/1994 )  
Gene H. Moyer ( 2006 — 1/17/2006 )  
Cynthia Ann MURPHY Shepard ( 2016 — 1/7/2016 )  
Richard Charles Northrup ( 2017 — 2/24/2017 )  
Richard Parkhouse ( 2012 — 12/23/2012 )  
Phillip F. Plunkett ( 2004 — 10/21/2004 )  
Kenneth Pyle ( 2011 — 10/17/2011 )  
Frank O. Robinson ( 2022 -- 12/2/2022 )

Wayne Floyd Robinson ( 2018 — 7/6/2018 )  
Wilma R. ROWLADER Moyer ( 2008 — 2/9/2008 )  
Almond "Pete" Sanders ( 2000 — 1/2/2000 )  
Linda Lee "SHATTUCK" Miske ( 2017 -- 2/27/2017 )  
Marion L. Shepard ( 2005 -- 7/22/2005 )  
Ralph Shepard ( 2010 — 5/2/2010 )  
Richard H. Sherman ( 2019 — 4/30/2019 )  
Gail Lee "Shoey" Shoemaker ( 2020 -- 11/15/2020 )  
Gary Sironen ( 2011 — 10/17/2011 )  
Shirley SMITH Abfalter ( 2012 — 12/30/2012 )  
Elizabeth Ann THORN Hudson ( 2023 -- 10/21/2023 )  
Ralph L. Tillitson ( 2019 -- 12/24/2019 )  
Gerald Westrick ( 2003 — 10/4/2003 )  
Richard Glenn Wise ( 1979 — 7/30/1979 )



## **John P. Adler**

**Class of 1955**

**DATE OF PASSING: 8/27/2013**

John P. Adler of Delta Township, born February 22, 1937 in Yankee Springs, MI, to the late Henry and Isabell (Ritchey) Adler, went to meet his Lord and Savior on Tuesday, August 27, 2013 at age 76. John retired as a Supervisor at Oldsmobile in 1992, after 37 years of service. After his retirement, John and his son Doug formed Adler Wealth Management, where he worked for 20 years. John's passion in life was flying and "everything" cars. He especially loved spending time with his family and friends. John is preceded in death by his parents and a brother, George Adler. John is survived by his wife of 55 years, Maxine (Hildenbrand) , 3 children: Linda (Chuck) Reid, Stan (Julie) Adler and Doug (Rene) Adler, 6 grandchildren: Ryan, Rachel and Jack Reid and Sammy, Danielle and Quinn Adler, a sister, Dorothy LeVan, a brother, Henry (Janice) Adler, a brother in law, Roger (Shirley) Hildenbrand and many loving nieces and nephews. Funeral Services will be Friday at 11:00a.m. at South Church with Pastor Don Denyes officiating. Interment will follow in Delta Center Cemetery.



Visitation is Thursday 5-8p.m. at the Palmer Bush & Jensen Family Funeral Homes, Delta Chapel, and Friday, 10-11 a.m. at the church. Memorial can be made to South Church Mission Fund, 5250 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing, MI, 48917, in memory of John. Condolences can be made at [www.palmerbush.com](http://www.palmerbush.com).



## **Edward H. Atherton, Jr.**

**Class of 1955**

**DATE OF PASSING: 7/14/2018**

Edward H. Atherton Jr., passed away July 14, 2018, at the age of 81. Edward was born in Lansing, Michigan on July 18, 1936, the son of Edward and Fern (Sweet) Atherton. He retired from maintenance working for Grand Ledge Public Schools. Edward enjoyed word searches, visiting family and taking trips to Mackinaw.



Edward is survived by daughter, Laurie Pool; sisters, Ellenor Newcomer, Mary Dean, Kathy Peterson and Nora Dietrick; several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, Sally; parents; brothers, Clare, Lee Roy, Ralph, Richard and Michael Atherton; son-in-law, Jeff Pool.

Funeral services will be held 11 a.m. Thursday July 19, 2018, at Peters & Murray Funeral Home, 301 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge, MI 48837. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Interment will follow at Wacousta Cemetery. For those desiring, memorial contributions may be made to American Cancer Society, 1755 Abbey Road, East Lansing, MI 48823. Online condolences may be shared at [www.petersandmurrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.petersandmurrayfuneralhome.com)



## **Darrell H. Bacon**

**Class of 1955**

**DATE OF PASSING: 8/4/2006**

Birth 31 Jul 1937  
Death 4 Aug 2006 (aged 69)  
Burial  
Delta Center Cemetery  
Grand Ledge, Eaton County, Michigan, USA





## **James H. Becker**

**DATE OF PASSING: 9/24/2009**

### **Class of 1955**

James H. Becker, age 71, of Fayetteville, N.C., formerly of Eagle, Michigan, retired educator, died September 24, 2009.

Graveside services 11 a.m. Saturday at Delta Center Cemetery, Delta Township.



## **Jacqueline Challender Bradshaw**

**DATE OF PASSING: 2/17/2019**

### **Class of 1955**

Jacqueline Marie Bradshaw of Dimondale passed away February 17, 2019. Jacque was born January 4, 1937 in Grand Ledge to the late Lavern "Jack" and Cassie (Hulbert) Challender. She graduated from Grand Ledge High School Class of 1955, was a stay at home mom and worked A&W in Grand Ledge. Jacque was a "social butterfly" and enjoyed having coffee, playing cards and games with her friends. She also enjoyed to crochet and created many beautiful doilies and keepsakes for her family.

She is survived by daughters, Debby (Dave) Kenney, LeeAnn (James) Buckingham, Trudy (Greg) King and Pennie (Douglas) Armstrong; step-daughter, Lucy (Tom) Bisson; grandchildren, David, Mitch (Virginia), Craig (Laraine), Jennifer, Eric, Laura, Zac (Jaime), Rachael (Dan), Kaitlyn, Ashleigh, Emma Sue; great grandchildren, Cole, Alivia, Evangeline, Delaney, Ethan, Avery, Baby Lake and brother, John (Karen) Challender. Jacque was preceded in death by her husband, Adrian H.

A celebration of Jacque's life will be held Friday, February 22, 2019, 12:00 p.m. at the Dimondale United Methodist Church. Visitation will be at the church Friday from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service at 12:00 p.m. Memorial contributions in Jacque's name may be given to the American Heart Association, 2140 University Park, Suite 210, Okemos, Michigan 48864. Arrangements by the Holi-han-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home, Grand Ledge.



## **Lawrence E. Cody**

**DATE OF PASSING: 3/17/2005**

### **Class of 1955**

Lawrence E. Cody, 68, of Charlotte, formerly of Grand Ledge, died Thursday, March 17, 2005 at his residence.

Larry was born Dec. 14, 1936 in Grand Ledge, the son of Edward and Ursal (Wilcox) Cody. He was a 1955 graduated of Grand Ledge High School, served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1956 to 1958 and was employed in the printing industry for 36 years. Larry was a member of Lawrence Avenue United Methodist Church in Charlotte, where he worked on the church sponsored blood drives. He was a Mobile Meals volunteer and an avid supporter of Grand Ledge High School sports.

Surviving are his wife, Sandra (Granger) Cody, to whom he was married on Jan. 14, 1956; his parents, Edward and Ursal Cody of Grand Ledge; sisters, Marian Kinnison of Grand Ledge and twin sister Lorrene Cody of Charlotte; brothers, Jerry (Sherril) Cody of Portland and Joseph Cody of Grand Ledge; sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Phillis and Gene Montgomery of Charlotte, Sue and Gary Pruden of Charlotte and Carol and Charlie McGlaughlin of Whitehall; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by a brother, James Cody, in 2001.

Cremation has taken place. Memorial services were held March 22 at Lawrence Avenue United Methodist Church, Charlotte, with Rev. Karen Wheat officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to Lawrence Avenue United Methodist Church or Eaton Community Hospice. Arrangements were by Burkhead-Green Funeral Home, Charlotte.





## **Pauline Doxsie Dixon**

### **Class of 1955**

Birth 14 Jan 1937  
Grand Ledge, Eaton County, Michigan, USA  
Death 12 Nov 1991 (aged 54)  
Eagle, Clinton County, Michigan, USA  
Burial: North Eagle Cemetery  
Eagle, Clinton County, Michigan, USA

**DATE OF PASSING: 11/12/1991**



## **Vonda K. Dunham VanNeste**

**April 12, 1937 — December 13, 1997 (aged 60)**

Burial: Meadowbrook Cemetery  
Mulliken, Eaton County, Michigan, USA

( NO OTHER INFORMATION WAS AVAILABLE.)



## **Ellen Gail Durling Yager**

### **Class of 1955**

Ellen Yager , 81, of Lake Odessa, passed away on September 11, 2018 at Green Acres Ionia. She was born on August 31, 1937 to Rollin and Velma (Fosket) Durling in Detroit, MI. Ellen grew up in Lake Odessa and Grand Ledge. In 1955 she married Everil Manshum and after living in California and New Mexico they returned to Lake Odessa with their five children. Ellen married Duane (Buck) Yager in 1986 and were happily married until Buck's death in 2014. Ellen's home was always open to family and friends. She treasured her Thursday lunch meetings with friends. Golfing, traveling, reading and her flower gardening also brought much joy to Ellen's life. Ellen will be dearly missed by: children; Sue (Rick) Spagnuolo of Wixom, Mike (Mechele) Manshum of Columbus, Texas, Jeff (Connie) Manshum of Portland, Scott (Nancy) Manshum of Austin, Texas, Amy (Brian) Robinson of Lake Odessa, Tammy (Kendall) Smith of Lake Odessa, Jim (Polly) Yager of Gravois Mills, MO, Tim (Kathi) Yager of Katy, Texas, she is also survived by many grandchildren and great grandchildren along with many nieces and nephews. Ellen was preceded in death by: her parents, husbands Everil Manshum and Buck Yager, siblings; William Durling and Betty Conrad and special companion Happy. Visitation will be held on Friday, September 14, 2018 5pm – 8pm at Koops Funeral Chapel in Lake Odessa and 1hr prior to service on Saturday, September 15, 2018 11am at Koops Funeral Chapel. Burial will take place immediately following at Lakeside Cemetery in Lake Odessa. Memorials in Ellen's name can be given to the Lake Odessa Library, 1007

**DATE OF PASSING: 9/11/2018**



4th Avenue, Lake Odessa, MI 48849 Tel: 1-616-374-4591. Online condolences can be left for the family at [www.koopsofc.com](http://www.koopsofc.com).



## James Roy Eimer

**August 21, 1937 - May 9, 2020 (Aged 82)**

James Roy Eimer lifelong Grand Ledge resident passed away May 9, 2020 in Lansing after a courageous battle with cancer and will be missed by his loving family and many friends. Jim was born August 21, 1937 in Grand Ledge to Orville (Dude) and Thelma Eimer. He graduated from Grand Ledge High School, Class of 1955. Jim worked for the City of Grand Ledge for over 40 years, holding various positions, and retired as the Director of Public Works. He took many fishing trips to Rice Lake in Canada and hunting trips out west with his friends over the years. Jim was a huge MSU fan and especially enjoyed women's basketball and volleyball. After his wife Jan passed away from cancer, Jim became actively involved in donating blood and plasma to the Red Cross to help those in a time of need. Spending time with family was very important; whether it was taking trips to Florida, spending time at the lake, or cooking a meal with enough food to feed an army, Jim cherished the time they were able to spend together.



Jim is survived by children, Christine (Bob) Boyd and Mike (Kris Young) Eimer; grandchildren, Erica McDiarmid, Monica (Joe) Michael, Phil (Lindsay) Boyd, James and Andy Eimer; great-grandchildren, Jaden and Mia Michael, Samantha, Brad and Ben McDiarmid, Waylon Boyd, Braden and Abbygale Eimer; siblings, Annie (Tom) Spitzley, Chuck Eimer and Mary Beachnaw; brothers-in-law Gale (Dianne) Twitchell and Jim (Dawn) Twitchell; sisters-in-law, Karen Corts, Clara Twitchell and Carol Twitchell along with numerous nieces and nephews. Jim was preceded in death by his first wife Jan and second wife Carol; siblings, Bob Eimer, Mitzie Burton, numerous brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law.

A gathering for family and friends will be announced when the current shelter in place restrictions have been lifted. Memorial contributions in Jim's name may be given to the Sparrow Cancer Center, 1322 E. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48912 (<https://www.sparrowfoundation.org/give>) or the American Red Cross of Mid-Michigan, 1800 E. Grand River Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48909 (<https://www.redcross.org/donate/donation.html/>). A special thank you to the staff of Sparrow Health System. Arrangements by the Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home, Grand Ledge.



## Josephine Mae Edwards

**DATE OF PASSING: 3/10/2012**

**Class of 1955**

Josephine Mae Edwards, originally of Grand Ledge, MI, went home to her Lord on March 10, 2012. She was 75 years of age. Josephine was the daughter of the late Earl and Lila (Burman) Edwards of Grand Ledge, and is preceded in death by brother Leo and sisters Virginia and Wilma.

She is survived by daughters Amy J. Armstrong, Annie Armstrong, and Susan Armstrong (David Hoyt) all of Richmond, Va., grandchildren Nicole Lambert and Dustin Taboada of Richmond, Va., great grand kids Michael Poglese, Gavin Hoyt, Maddyn Taboada, and Jayce Lambert, brothers Paul (Alice) Edwards of Grand Ledge MI, Jim (Audrey) Edwards of California, Gayle Edwards of Mississippi, Gerald (Faye) Edwards of Texas; sisters Marge Collins of Belleville MI, Joyce Lott of Grand Ledge MI, and many nieces and nephews.

Josephine will rest in eternity overlooking the beloved mountains that brought her solace. She will be greatly missed by those who loved her so well.





## **Carl N. Falor**

**June 6, 1937 -- September 21, 2019 (Aged 82)**

Carl N. Falor, age 82, passed away Saturday, September 21, 2019. He suffered several complications from being a diabetic, heart attack and even an amputation, but faced them all with no self-pity and some humor. He was a former and also worked construction, retiring from Granger Construction.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Juanita, 4 children: Carol, Jim (Kerry), Tim (Barb), and Eric, 5 grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren.

Visitation will be Peters & Murray Funeral Home in Grand Ledge on Sunday, September 29, 2019 from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. There will be a luncheon on Monday, September 30th at Eagle Park at 1:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, please send contributions to North Eagle Cemetery Society or Hospice. [www.petersandmurrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.petersandmurrayfuneralhome.com)



## **Marilyn Fine Hufnagle**

**DATE OF PASSING: UNKNOWN**

*( NO OTHER INFORMATION WAS AVAILABLE.)*



## **John W. Frank**

**DATE OF PASSING: 11/20/2016**

**Class of 1955**

John W. Frank, 79, of Charlotte, died November 20, 2016 after a lengthy illness. John was born on April 5, 1937 in Charlotte the son of Oscar and Helen (Worden) Frank. He was a Grand Ledge High School graduate and had served his country in the United States Marine Corp. On March 4, 1961, he married Collette Rose, daughter of Harold and Nancy (Farrier) Rose. He retired after 32 years at the GM-Oldsmobile plant in Lansing, starting out working on the engine block floor and retiring as a supervisor there. John loved cars, music, woodworking, and having coffee with friends at Willie's Restaurant.

He was preceded in death by his parents, son Jamie, and sister, Darlene Briskie. John is survived by his wife of 55 years, Collette, son, Jeffrey (Linda) Frank, daughter, Marcie Julson and 4 grandsons. Services will be held Monday, November 28, 2016 at 11:00 AM at the Burkhead-Green Funeral Home in Charlotte with Pastor John Bailey officiating. Visitation will be held on Sunday, November 27, 2016, from 3-5 PM. Interment will be in the Maple Hill Cemetery in Charlotte.



## **Dawn Gakle Custer**

**DATE OF PASSING: 6/17/2019**

**Class of 1955**

*(NO OTHER INFORMATION WAS AVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF HER PASSING)*





## **Judith "Judy" Gilmore Daymon**

**DATE OF PASSING: 10/9/2018**

### **Class of 1955**

Judith A. Daymon, loving mother, grandmother, sister-in-law and aunt passed away October 9, 2018. She was born August 12, 1937 in Lansing, MI, daughter to John and Velda (Langham) Gilmore. Judy was a graduate of Grand Ledge High School, Class of 1955; enjoyed word search puzzles, reading, bowling, ceramics, and was addicted to ice cream.

She is survived by daughter, Debra (William) Rust; grandchildren, Michael (Chrissy) Rust and Tymothy (Ashley) Rust and their children, Peyton and Zooley; brothers-in-law, Tom Voige (Nancy Seidl) and Richard (Donna) McKinney, nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband of 58 years, Robert (2014), son Richard "Rick" Daymon (2017) and daughter Barbara Daymon (2003). Funeral services will be held Monday, October 15, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at Peters & Murray Funeral Home, Grand Ledge, with interment to follow at Oakwood Cemetery, Grand Ledge. Visitation will be held Sunday from 4-7 p.m. at the funeral home. For those wishing, memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Assoc. or Olive Branch Assisted Living, Perry, MI. Online condolences may be shared at [www.petersandmurrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.petersandmurrayfuneralhome.com)



## **Hilda Griese Goetzka**

**DATE OF PASSING: 1/1/2017**

### **Class of 1955**

Hilda M. Goetzka, age 79, went to her Lord on January 1, 2017. She was born May 22, 1937 to Frank and Flora Griese. She was baptized as an infant and confirmed into her faith in 1950. She graduated from Grand Ledge High School in 1955. She then attended Henry Ford Nursing School in Detroit from 1955 -1958 where she received her RN degree. After her graduation, she continued to work there for 6 months. Hilda met her future husband Donald Goetzka in 1955 while attending her home church, Immanuel Lutheran of Grand Ledge. They married in 1959 and moved to Grand Rapids and then settled in Sparta where they started their family. Hilda was a registered nurse for many years eventually serving as director of nursing for Luther Home for 12 years. She continued her career into her seventies performing vaccinations for the Kent County Health Department. She learned how to play the piano at age 4 from her mother who played organ for the church and taught music. Hilda was steadfast in her Christian faith and used her musical talent as church organist for 47 years at Mamrelund Lutheran Church of Kent City. Hilda, her sister Lucille, and her mother Flora would all be church organists for their own respective churches. Her mother played organ at Immanuel Lutheran in Grand Ledge for 55 yrs. Her sister played organ at Calvary Lutheran in Lansing for 25 years until her death. Hilda's family had a long history of serving the church starting with her great-grandfather Pastor John Klindworth who immigrated from Germany and established St. Matthews Lutheran church in Galena,

Il. where he presided for 50 years. Both of his sons became pastors, one of which was Hilda's grandfather, Gustave Klindworth. She was preceded in death by her Father, Mother, Sister Lucille, and daughter Susan, who passed away suddenly Nov. 14th, 1967 at the age of 7 years old. She will be deeply missed by her loving husband of 57 years, Donald; her three children; David (Tsering), John (Julia), James (Margo) and five grandchildren; Matt, Grace, Katja, Jaegar and Fiona.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday January 4, 2017 at 11:00 am at Mamrelund Lutheran Church located at 4085 Lutheran Church Rd, Kent City, MI 49330. There will be visitations held Tuesday January 3, 2017 at Hessel-Cheslek Funeral Home in Sparta from 2 pm to 4 pm and then 6 pm to 8 pm. Any donations as a memorial to Hilda Goetzka can be sent to the Helping Hands Fund in care of Mamrelund Lutheran Church. [www.hesselcheslek.com](http://www.hesselcheslek.com)







**Class of 1955**

## **Gerald A. Haddix**

**December 1, 1935 — June 16, 2023 (Aged 87)**

Gerald A. Haddix of Grand Ledge, passed away June 16, 2023 at the age of 87. Gerald was born in Grand Ledge on December 1, 1935, the son of Harold and Mattie (Pennington) Haddix. He graduated from Grand Ledge High School, class of 1955. Gerald then went on to serve his country in United States Army. He was a life-long farmer and also the owner of Haddix Sand & Gravel. Gerald enjoyed fishing, hunting, tracking down woodchucks, and making maple syrup.

Gerald is survived by his children Jeri Haddix, Julie (Carl) Ennes and Joseph (Jennifer) Haddix, grandchildren: Allen (Teresa) Haddix, Samantha (Eliot Hawker) Newth, Michaela Mosher, Forrest Miller, Nicole Mekeever, Rachel (Michael) Smith, Janel (Josh Smith) Haddix, Ashley (Isaac) Weller; 15 great-grandchildren, several nieces, nephews and cousins. He is preceded in death by his parents, wife Nancy, infant son Edward and 4 sisters.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, June 21, 2023 - 11:00 a.m. at the Mills Funeral Home, Peters & Murray Chapel, Grand Ledge, with interment to follow at Union Cemetery, Oneida Township, Eaton County. The family will begin to receive friends at the funeral home Tuesday from 6-8 p.m. and one hour prior to the service. For those desiring, contributions made to the Watson School or the Ever Ready Club.



## **Dan E. Hankins**

**Class of 1955**

**DATE OF PASSING: 12/21/2016**

On December 21, 2016, God called home one of his most faithful and loving Servants, Dan E. Hankins.

A graduate of Grand Ledge High School in 1955, Dan went on to serve his country in the Marine Corps (1957 – 1959). Upon returning, Dan found a passion for the law, first as a Sheriff's deputy with Eaton County and then with the Michigan State University Department of Public Safety (1960 – 1969), where he founded the Tri-county metro squad. Dan took his passion for law one step further by attending Detroit College of Law (1969 – 1972) where he was the recipient of the Ben Probe Memorial Moot Court Competition award. While an attorney, Dan specialized in labor law and worked tirelessly to advocate for the unions of the hardest workers in the state until his retirement in 2014.

In 2007, Dan felt a new calling--to serve the people of his community who needed help the most. Dan used his faith in God to found Manna's Market, a food, clothing bank and baby pantry which grew from Dan buying all the food himself, to serving an average of 800 people per month as a United Way charitable partner.

Dan's belief in God was the foundation for which he lived his life, built his family, guided his marriage and propelled him to serve others using all of his talents. Dan was always there to encourage, support, and offer his hand to walk with you when you needed him the most and had a unique love of animals.

Dan has been reunited in heaven with his Mother and Father, Jack and Ruby (White) Hankins; his brothers Jack and Thomas; his sisters Joyce (Ron-deceased) Cypher and Irene (Phil- deceased) Plunkett; his nephew, Chad Hankins; and father-in-law, Roger Flanigan.

He is survived by his wife of 26 years, Jayne (Flanigan) Hankins, loving father of Elizabeth (Trish) Hankins and Jessica (Paul) Melson, beloved Papa to Audrey and Maura Melson, dear brother to Marjorie (Jim-deceased) Darnell and David (Kathy) Hankins, and his mother-in-law Janice Flanigan.

He was a husband, father, grandfather and friend. He was the one that we all could count on. He will be profoundly missed by his family and his community, but we all take comfort in knowing that Dan had answered every call from us and has now answered his final call, the call home from his Lord. May we honor his memory by continuing his legacy of service to others in the name of Christ. God be with you till we meet again.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, December 27 at the Koops Funeral Chapel in Lake Odessa from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. with Rosary at 7:30 p.m. His celebration of life will be held at the Lakewood United Methodist Church at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 28, officiated by Randall Bertrand, Pastor of the Woodgrove Brethren Christian Parish, and John Waite, Assistant Pastor of the Lakewood United Methodist Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks you consider honoring his memory by contributing to Manna's Market, PO Box 18, Woodland, MI 48897.



## **Richard Edward Hintz**

**DATE OF PASSING: 4/5/2010**

### **Class of 1955**

Richard Edward Hintz -- Bath

Richard Edward Hintz, age 72, passed away on Monday, April 5, 2010 at his home. Richard was born on June 22, 1937 in Detroit, the son of Gustav and Blanche (Bengtson) Hintz. He was retired from the Michigan State Police where he worked as a computer programmer. He served in the U.S. Air Force and was a member of the Laingsburg American Legion and Honor Guard and Patriot Guard. He is survived by his wife Marie, children Lisa Shepard of Bath, Scott (Shanna) Hintz of NC, Richard E. Hintz Jr. of Bath, step-son, Christopher Hintz of AR, step-daughter Danita (Michael) Peck of Atlanta GA, grandchildren Michael and Stephanie Shepard, Harley, Tylor, Christopher and Haley Hintz, one great-grandson Bryant Shepard and one brother James (Gloria) Hintz of NC.

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, April 10, 2010 at Watkins Brothers Funeral Home, Laingsburg Chapel at 11:00 a.m. with Pastor Elbert Dulworth officiating. Family will meet with friends on Friday from 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home. Burial will take place in Rose Cemetery, Bath. Memorials can be made to the Laingsburg American Legion. Online condolences can be sent to [www.watkinsfuneralhomes.com](http://www.watkinsfuneralhomes.com)



### **Class of 1955**

## **Janice Lee Irish Vermeersch**

**October 5, 1936 — September 2, 2023 (Aged 86)**

Janice Lee Vermeersch, St. Johns, went to be with our Lord on September 2, 2023.

Janice was born on October 5, 1936, to Ward and Adeline Irish of Grand Ledge. She is survived by four children: Jeffrey, Lynda (Anthony) Randazzo, Leslie (Craig) Howard, Joseph, and daughter-in-law, Linda. Her siblings, Kay, Ward, Michael, Robert, and Mary Jo; along with numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Janice was preceded in death, by her parents, Ward and Adeline; brothers, James, Stephen, and soul sister, Sue; and sons, Jerry and James.

Janice led a life, one would easily define as spirited, generous, and completely saturated with family, friends, and adventurous people. Her generous heart and vibrant personality led her to find lifetime friends through every conversation. We always knew, our family was ever expanding, secondary to her willingness to love, listen, and laugh.

Janice was also a lifetime educator and guidance counselor, since she devoted decades to St. Johns' educational system with a focus of developing the human spirit; whereby, compassion, generosity, and love were deeply implanted in their youthful

minds. Janice lastly maintained a robust community and social presence with her election volunteer time, blood drives, book clubs, Ya Ya Sisters, Mentor Program, and as a swimming instructor.

Memorial Visitation will be held at McGeehan Funeral Home, Keck-Coleman Chapel, 1500 Waterford Pkwy, St Johns, MI 48879, on Thursday Sept. 7, 2023 from 6 - 8 PM. A Memorial Mass is planned for Friday Sept. 8, at St. Joseph Catholic, 109 Linden St, St Johns, MI 48879, at 11 AM with an hour of visitation before the service. A luncheon will follow at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1108 Old U.S. 27, St Johns, MI 48879.

In lieu of flowers please donate to Sparrow Hospice or the Briggs District Library.

For further information please contact McGeehan Funeral Home, Keck-Coleman Chapel at 989-224-4422





## **Dr. Bruce Stacy Jarstfer**

### **Class of 1955**

Dr Bruce Stacy Jarstfer

BIRTH: 16 Jan 1937

Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, USA

DEATH: 20 Dec 2010 (aged 73)

Denton, Denton County, Texas, USA

**DATE OF PASSING: 12/20/2010**



## **Raymond Laverne Landon**

### **Class of 1955**

Birth 28 Aug 1936

Grand Ledge, Eaton County, Michigan, USA

Death 17 Dec 1991 (aged 55)

Lakeland, Polk County, Florida, USA

Burial: Oakwood Cemetery

Grand Ledge, Eaton County, Michigan, USA

**DATE OF PASSING: 12/17/1991**



### **Class of 1955**

## **David Stuart Lyon**

**DATE OF PASSING: 9/2/2022**

**(NO OTHER INFORMATION WAS AVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF HIS PASSING.)**





## Class of 1955

# Marvin "Mickey" Harold Maguire

**October 2, 1937 — November 11, 2023 (Aged 86)**

Marvin "Mickey" Harold Maguire, a longtime resident and respected Grand Ledge, Michigan community member, passed away peacefully on November 11, 2023. Born on October 2, 1937, in Grand Ledge, Mickey spent his 86 years creating a legacy of love, wisdom, and dedication to his family, friends, and community.

Mickey is survived by his partner Carolyn Sodini; his children, Michael Maguire and Deborah (Chris Bussey) Maguire; his grandchildren, Alexander Maguire, Colleen (Matthew) Davis, Elizabeth Burkhardt, Blake Burkhardt, and Davis Burkhardt; and great-grandson, Sawyer Davis. He is also survived by his brother Leo (Elva) Maguire, his sister Mary (Ed) Moore, and his longtime companion, Gibbs, the family dog. Mickey's death was preceded by his parents and wife, Donna Maguire.

He served in the United States Marine Corps from 1956-1963. In civilian life, he founded Maguire Mailing Systems with his wife, Donna, and grew the company to three locations and 25 employees. Mickey was a dedicated Grand Ledge First United Methodist Church member for more than six decades.



Mickey was passionate about life, family, and community. He enjoyed traveling, RV camping, and trail riding. Mickey was a familiar figure in the Grand Ledge equestrian community, and he and his family often enjoyed the Michigan outdoors with camping and riding weekends.

A funeral service will be held at 2:00 pm, Friday, November 17, 2023, at the Grand Ledge First United Methodist Church, 411 Harrison St, Grand Ledge, MI 48837, with visitation from 1:00-2:00 pm. Interment with Military Honors will follow at Oakwood Cemetery, Grand Ledge. There is also visitation on Thursday, November 16, 2023, from 2:00-4:00 pm and 6:00-8:00 pm at the Mills Funeral Home, Peters & Murray Chapel, 301 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge, MI 48837. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Grand Ledge First United Methodist Church in memory of Marvin "Mickey" Maguire.



# Loraine V. Maier Kelsey

**March 19, 1938 — August 27, 1994 (Aged 56)**

Loraine Maier Kelsey, 56, of Delta Township died August 27, 1994, at her residence.

Born March 19, 1938, in Watertown Township, she was the daughter of Lawrence and Ruth (Garlock) Maier. She was a 1955 graduate of Grand Ledge High School and a 1959 graduate of Michigan State University with a bachelor's degree in home economics education.

Mrs. Kelsey was one of the founders of Ledge Craft Lanes, Ltd. with a record of 20 years of volunteer service. Her voluntary efforts earned her a Michigan Minute Man Citation of Honor in 1971.

She was a lifetime member of Emanuel First Lutheran Church in Lansing and a life member and past president of the Grand Ledge Jaycee Auxiliary. She was also an active member of the Grand Ledge High School Music Boosters organization. Her other activities included the Child Study Club (honorary member), Harmony Club, Grand Ledge Area Historical Society, and Holiday Home Tour committees. She was an avid gardener.

Survivors include her husband, Forrest; son Daniel Kelsey of Grand Ledge; daughter, Lynn Kelsey, at home; sister, Marilyn (Norman) Smith of Delta Township; brother-in-law, Richard (Ginny) Brinkey of Grand Rapids; and sister-in-law, Carolyn (Robert) Harvey of Battle Creek.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Lawrence and Ruth Maier, and a sister, Arlene Brinkey.



Services are held Tuesday, August 30, 10:30 a.m. at Emanuel First Lutheran Church, 1001 N. Capitol Avenue, Lansing, with Rev. John Vogt officiating. Interment is at Delta Center Cemetery, Delta Township.

Peters and Murray Funeral Home, Grand Ledge, is handling arrangements.

Contributions may be made to Emanuel First Lutheran Church Expansion Fund, MSU Development Fund, or Eaton County Hospice.





**Class of 1955**

## **Joyce Arleene McIntyre Middaugh**

**May 14, 1937 — April 7, 2024 (Aged 86)**

Joyce Arleene (McIntyre) Middaugh, age 86, peacefully passed away, surrounded by her loving family in Lansing, MI, April 7, 2024. She was born May 14, 1937, in Mulliken, Michigan to Harley and Geraldine McIntyre.

On a beautiful summer day, July 16, 1955, Joyce married her soulmate Marion E. Middaugh, with whom she embarked on a life-long journey of companionship and devotion. Together, they raised a family, creating a home filled with laughter, delicious meals, and unconditional love.

As a passionate gardener, Joyce found solace and joy in the beauty of nature, tending to her plants with the same care she extended to all aspects of her life. She delighted in the blooms and harvests that were the fruits of her labor. As an enthusiastic sports fan she was always cheering on her favorite MSU Spartans. Joyce was sure each family member was given one of her handmade quilts, either knitted, crocheted, or embroidered, and each is a cherished heirloom.



Above all else, Joyce is celebrated as a perfect mother, not just in name but in every action and sacrifice. She instilled love and kindness in her children: Julia Middaugh-McArthur, Michael Middaugh, and James E. (Rena) Middaugh. Her grandchildren: Tina Cole-Day, Rebecca Lobdell, Lisa (John) Warner, Michael Middaugh II (Katie Baum), Sheri (Jeff) Ide, Sheli Knott, Jaclyn (Tyler) Ripley, Janet (Matthew) Kruse, and James R. (Mikayla) Middaugh, knew her as a source of endless encouragement and wisdom. She was a treasured matriarch to 23 great-grandchildren and 14 great-great-grandchildren. She is now reunited with her parents and her dear husband, Marion, who preceded her in death.

A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, April 13, 2024 at the Mills Funeral Home, Peters & Murray Chapel, Grand Ledge with visitation starting at 10:00 a.m. A graveside service will follow at the Delta Center Cemetery. For those desiring, memorial contributions may be made to the Leukemia Research Foundation, in memory of Joyce Middaugh.



## Patricia E. Miller Stade

**July 28, 1937 -- December 15, 2020 (Aged 83)**

MADISON - Surrounded by family, Patricia (Miller) Stade, beloved wife, mother and grandmother passed away peacefully on Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2020, at the age of 83.

Pat was born on July 28, 1937, in Coloma, Mich., to Kenneth and Margaret (Hill) Miller. She graduated from Grand Ledge High School in Michigan and completed college in 1959 - the first in her family to do so - at Albion College, then worked as a Community Organizer in South Chicago and as the Associate Director of the Methodist Student Foundation at Northwestern University.

In June of 1964, she married Ramon Stade at Englewood Methodist Church in Chicago. After living in Wausau, Wis., through the birth of their first son, Nathan, they sought adventure, moving to East Africa where they lived for nine years, during which time they had a second son, David. Upon returning to the United States, the family settled in Stevens Point, Wis. in 1976 where Pat pursued her passion in social services, culminating as the Director of the Portage County Commission on Aging.

Upon retirement, Pat and Ramon moved to Madison where they have resided for the past 21 years, regularly traveling throughout the world, as she never lost her taste for a good adventure. Pat engaged her love of song through participation in many choirs throughout her life and notably

passed this to both of her granddaughters, Isabella and Samantha. She also loved to cook, birdwatch, travel, watching the Green Bay Packers and Badgers basketball, and most of all spending quality time with friends and family.

Patricia was preceded in death by her father, Kenneth and mother, Margaret. She is survived by her husband, Ramon; her sisters, Sally (Phletus) Williams and Joan (Bill) Webb and their families; two sons, David (Megan Sweeney) and Nathan; and her granddaughters; as well as a wonderfully diverse and caring extended family and group of dear friends. Her warm, engaging presence, enthusiasm, and especially her kindness will be deeply missed by us all. Online condolences may be made at [www.gundersonfh.com](http://www.gundersonfh.com).



## Robert A. Morrill

**Class of 1955**

Birth 12 Jan 1937

Death 25 Jul 1994 (aged 57)

Burial

Evergreen Cemetery

Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, USA

**DATE OF PASSING: 7/25/1994**



## Gene H. Moyer

**Class of 1955**

Gene H. Moyer, age 68 died in Foley, Alabama on January 17, 2006. He survived by his wife Wilma and children Yolonda O'Bryant (Jeff) of Mulliken, Ron Moyer of Lyons, Wanda VanAmburg (Steve) of Lyons, and Beverly MacLeod (Mike) of Woodland. Seven Grandchildren Chris (Brandi), Natasha, Dorothy, Rylee, Scott, Raiden, and Molly. Two Great Grandchildren Trent and Tyler. Also survived by brothers and sisters Robert Moyer, John Moyer (Marge), Barry (Carolyn) Moyer, Elizabeth Wieber, Eleanor Ackerson, Beverly Nowak, Margaret Skinner (Ron) and three sister-in-laws Margurite Huhn, Georgia Fry

(Ken), and Joyce Morr (Ralph). In addition many nieces, nephews, and friends. Gene was a U.S. Navy Veteran and worked as a plumber and pipe fitter for Local 388 for thirty-seven years and retired in 1997. He enjoyed spending winters with his wife Wilma in Foley, Alabama. Gene was a loving and giving man and was known for his peanut brittle, beaded Christmas trees, and wind chimes. A funeral service will be held 11:00 am Tuesday, January 24, 2006 at the Holihan-Atkin Funeral Home, Grand Ledge with The Reverend Judy Scholten. Visitation Monday 1-4:00 pm and 6-9:00 pm. Memorial contributions may be given to the Breslin Cancer Center, 401 W. Greenlawn Lansing, MI 48910.

**DATE OF PASSING: 1/17/2006**



# **Cynthia Ann Murphy Shepard**

**DATE OF PASSING: 1/7/2016**

## **Class of 1955**

Cynthia Ann (Murphy) Shepard

April 19, 1937 - January 7, 2016

Beloved by all, no matter where she lived, Cindy was born and raised in Grand Ledge, Michigan. She graduated from Grand Ledge High School in 1955 and was a member of St Michael's Catholic Church. In 1984, she and husband Jim Shepard opened the Murphy Mall on Bridge Street.

Her adventurous spirit led her to make homes in Fort Lauderdale, FL, Chicago, IL, Los Angeles, CA, Edmonton, KY, Hayward, CA, finally settling in Roseburg, OR in 1992.

She served in the US Air Force and worked over the years as a bookkeeper, administrative assistant, business owner, textile artist and social worker, retiring from the State of Oregon Disability Services.

Cindy's most important roles were as a mother to her five children and as 'Grandma Cindy' to her extensive family. She will be greatly missed by the Roseburg community where she served in a variety of leadership roles and personally enriched the lives of many people.

She was known for her gardening expertise, turning her Sunshine House into an explosion of color every year.

Cynthia was surrounded by family as she passed away from complications of a stroke. She is predeceased by her parents James and Barbara Murphy and sister Bobby Jo Hendy. She is survived by her children: Michael (Esther Thomas) Murphy - Roseburg, OR; Patrick (Mary Oleri) Starnes - McKenzie River, OR; Jacinda (Tim McLaughlin) Sullivan - Chelan, WA; James Donovan Starnes - Hayward, CA; Shannon Gordon - Sutherlin, OR; twelve grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She has seven surviving siblings: James (Jo Lynn) Murphy - Costa Rica; Penny (John) Lind - Roseburg, OR; Veronica Murphy - San Diego, CA; Deborah Church - Grand Ledge, MI; Scott (Christine) Murphy - Gaithersburg, MD; Kim Murphy - Herbster, WI; and Ned (Lisa Barranco) Murphy - Winter Haven, FL.

Cynthia's ashes will be interred at Roseburg National Cemetery on April 22, 2016.





## **Richard "Dick" C. Northrup**

**DATE OF PASSING: 2/24/2017**

**Class of 1955**

Richard "Dick" C. Northrup -- East Lansing, formerly of Grand Ledge



Richard "Dick" C. Northrup, 80, passed away peacefully on Friday, February 24, 2017 in East Lansing, Michigan. Dick was born on December 23, 1936 in Chicago, Illinois to Richard and Alison (Griffiths) Northrup, and grew up in Allegan and later Grand Ledge surrounded by a large and loving extended family. He spent many summers at the Griffiths' family cottage on Lake Michigan where his grandmother secretly taught him to drive at the age of 12. Dick attended Grand Ledge High School and Michigan State University and worked in several businesses before finding his true calling: connecting people and professions by managing trade associations. He most recently led the Michigan chapter of the Sheet Metal & Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association (SMACNA). His natural ability to see a solution to any problem, made him very effective at working with trade associations of all kinds, from florists to funeral directors to the sheet metal and HVAC industry. This same attribute would also make Dick a great and trusted friend and confidant to many people over his lifetime.

Dick married the love of his life, Mary Jane Swanson, in 1959, and their honeymoon at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island inspired them to return many times over the years. Generations of Northrups will remember trips to Mackinac Island during the 57 years of Richard and Mary Jane's marriage. Dick and Mary Jane also traveled extensively and often attained coveted preferred frequent flier status.

Outside of his work, Dick's larger than life personality led him to become involved in many organizations. He was active in the Capitol Club, the Michigan Admirals Club, and served on the East Lansing Housing Commission, the Board of Okemos Community Church, the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum, as well as the Sparrow Cancer Advisory Board. Dick was also a tenacious fundraiser, and his efforts included the MSU Cowles House, the Mildred Erickson Fellowship, and most recently the MSU Alumni Memorial Chapel New Organ Fund. Dick was a fixture of MSU athletics as a fan and season ticket holder for multiple sports. His social calendar never lacked for opportunities to gather with friends at local restaurants, including Dollar Burger Night at Culvers, Friday breakfast at The FlapJack Shack with the ROMEOs (Retired Old Men Eating Out), Panera's, and the University Club.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Barbara Hazel; and his uncle, William "Bill" Northrup.

He will be lovingly remembered and missed by his wife Mary Jane, his children, Richard "Rick" (Dawn) Northrup III and Karen (Mark) Kissinger; his grandsons, Colin Douglas Northrup, Graham Richard Northrup, John "Jack" Richard Kissinger, and Peter David Kissinger; his brothers, Bruce (Jan) Northrup and Gary Northrup; his sisters-in-law, Marta (Jack) Giesecke and Kathy (Jeff) Jackson; and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, March 18, 2017 at 3 pm at Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Rd., Okemos. Guests are invited to stay after the service for a reception at the church. The family will receive friends on Friday, March 17, 2017 from 1 pm to 3 pm and again from 5 pm to 8 pm at Gorsline Runciman Funeral Home, East Chapel, 1730 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing and also from 2 pm to 3 pm prior to the funeral service on March 18. Private interment will follow.

For those desiring, memorial contributions may be made to The MSU Alumni Memorial Chapel New Organ Fund, University Advancement, 535 Chestnut Road, Room 300, East Lansing MI 48824 (make a gift online at <https://givingto.msu.edu/gift/?sid=3332> ; or make checks payable to "The MSU Alumni Memorial Chapel New Organ Fund AE060781"), or The Mildred E. Swanson Foundation, care of Dorothy Korb, U.S. Trust, 225 West Wacker Drive, Suite 2140, Chicago, IL 60606 (make checks payable to "The Mildred E. Swanson Foundation"), supporting medical research and college scholarships.

Online condolences may be expressed at [www.greastlansing.com](http://www.greastlansing.com).



## **Richard L. Parkhouse**

**DATE OF PASSING: 12/23/2012**

**Class of 1955**

Richard L. Parkhouse, age 76, passed away on Sunday, December 23, 2012 after a short illness. Memorial visitation will be Friday, December 28, 2012 from 3-6 p.m. at the Lehman Funeral Home, Portland Chapel. There will be no funeral service. Arrangements are by Lehman Funeral Home.





## **Phillip F. Plunkett**

### **Class of 1955**

Birth 6 Feb 1937  
Michigan, USA  
Death 21 Oct 2004 (aged 67)  
Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, USA  
Burial: Oakwood Cemetery  
Grand Ledge, Eaton County, Michigan, USA

**DATE OF PASSING: 10/21/2004**



## **Kenneth Pyle**

### **Class of 1955**

NO OTHER INFORMATION WAS AVAILABLE.

**DATE OF PASSING: 2011**



### **Class of 1955**

## **Frank O. Robinson**

**March 15, 1937 — December 2, 2022 (Aged 85)**

Frank O. Robinson, age 85, passed away Friday, December 2, 2022, at Burcham Hills Rehab Center in East Lansing. A funeral service to honor and celebrate his life will be held at 11:00 AM on Thursday, December 8, 2022. Rev. Dr. Tom Rundel will officiate. The family will receive friends and family from 5:00-7:00 PM on Wednesday, December 7, 2022, at Watkins Brothers Funeral Homes, 203 East First North St., Laingsburg, Michigan 48848.



Frank was born March 15, 1937, in Lansing, Michigan to Forrest Otto and Margaret Grace (Preston) Robinson. He graduated from Grand Ledge High School in 1955. Frank played semi-pro softball and football for the Lansing All Stars and continued to stay active his entire life, even riding in the DALMAC with his son in 2002. He married the love of his life, Helen on February 16, 1957, in Lansing, Michigan. He was an avid outdoorsman; enjoying hunting, fishing and camping, but he enjoyed spending time with the large family he created most of all. He retired from Michigan Bell following 39 years of faithful service. He enjoyed working so much, he decided to continue working

for an additional 10 years with his sons after retirement.

Frank is survived by his wife of 65 years, Helen; children, Fred (Maria) Robinson, Terry (Linda) Roberson, Sue (Todd) Thomas, Mark (Angie) Roberson, and Amy (Casey) Morrill; grandchildren, TJ (Jenica), Fred Jeremy (Gwen), Bobby (Sara), Stephanie, Jenny (Mike), Jacqualyynn (Chad), Eric (Bryan), Ryan (Arin), Amanda (Darren), Christopher (Kit), Jeff, Alex (Cayden), Zachary (Marissa), Joshua, Ashley (Akash), Brett, Justin, Emily, Megan, Stanley, Sarah, and Samantha; great-grandchildren, Taylor, Jaylei, Ayva, Kierstin, Jadelyn, Kacey, Logan, Payten, Akayden, Kyler, Lyndie, Jocelyn, Airyona, Gabriel, Lyla, Avery, Vivian, Reed, and Camden; brother, Chuck (Ellen) Roberson; brother-in-law, Spencer Vrooman, several nieces and nephews and many friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Forrest and Margaret Roberson; son Randy Roberson, brother, Jim Roberson; and sister, Joan Vrooman.

In lieu of flowers, memorials honoring Mr. Roberson can be made to the Laingsburg Sports Boosters or to Laingsburg Robotics.

Online condolences may be shared at [www.watkinsfuneralhomes.com](http://www.watkinsfuneralhomes.com).



## **Wayne Floyd Robinson**

**DATE OF PASSING: 7/6/2018**

### **Class of 1955**

Wayne F. Robinson -- Grand Ledge

Wayne Floyd Robinson, life-long area farmer of Grand Ledge, MI, passed away July 6, 2018 at the age 80. Wayne was born on July 25, 1937 in Grand Ledge, the son of Wayne and Pearl (Hallam) Robinson.

Wayne is survived by his wife of 62 years, Connie; children, Jeff (Lena) Robinson, Lori (Rick) Brassington and Julie (Jim) Mapham; grandchildren, Zach (Amy) Robinson, Josh (Jessica Diaz) and Isaiah (Jesi Salinaz) Brassington, Jake and Bronson Sharp; great grandchildren, Jackson and Case Robinson, Wyatt Brassington and Dayton Salinaz; brother, Stanley (Virginia) Robinson. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Lorna Johnston. Private family services will be held. For those wishing, memorial contributions may be given to the Eaton Siren Shelter, P.O. Box 369, Charlotte, MI 48813 in memory of Wayne Robinson.

The family is being served by the Peters & Murray Funeral Home, Grand Ledge. Online condolences may be shared at [www.petersandmurrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.petersandmurrayfuneralhome.com)



## **Wilma R. Rowlader Moyer**

**DATE OF PASSING: 2/9/2008**

### **Class of 1955**

WILMA R. MOYER of Grand Ledge, age 71, passed away Feb. 9, 2008 at her winter home in Foley, Alabama. She was born Nov. 8, 1936, the daughter of George and Flora Rowlader of Grand Ledge. She married Gene Moyer on Feb. 14, 1956. The two were married until Gene's passing in 2006. After raising her children in Portland, she returned to her hometown of Grand Ledge. She was a loving and devoted wife, mother, grandmother and sister. She enjoyed spending her winters in Foley, AL. She looked forward to getting beads at Mardi Gras parades and going to potluck dinners every weekend. Along with spending time with family and friends, she loved going to her grandchildren's activities. She was a great cook and enjoyed growing flowers. She is survived by her children Yolonda (Jeff) O'Bryant, Ron Moyer, Wanda (Steve) VanAmburg, and Beverly (Mike) Macleod; grandchildren Chris (Brandi), Rylee (Chad), Natasha, Dorothy, Scott, Raiden and Molly; great grandchildren Trent and Tyler; sisters Marguerite Huhn, Georgia (Ken) Fry, Joyce (Ralph) Morr, in laws, Bob Moyer, Elizabeth Wieber, Elenor Ackerson, John (Marge) Moyer, Bee Nowak, Bud (Carolyn) Moyer, and Margaret (Ron) Skinner. Funeral Services will be held Friday, Feb. 15, 2008, 11am at Holihan-Atkin Funeral Home Grand Ledge, Rev. Judy Scholten officiating. Visitation Thursday 2-4, 6-8pm. Memorial contributions may be made to The Arthritis Foundation 1050 Wilshire Dr. Ste 302 Troy, MI 48084-9762.



## **Almond "Pete" Sanders**

**DATE OF PASSING: 1/2/2000**

### **Class of 1955**

Birth 26 Apr 1932  
Death 2 Jan 2000 (aged 67)  
Burial  
Palm Memorial Park  
Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada, USA





## Linda Lee Shattuck Miske

**April 3, 1937 — February 27, 2017 (Aged 79)**

Linda Lee Miske 79 of rural Harrison passed away Monday, February 27, 2017 at Medilodge of Clare. Linda was born April 3, 1937 in Lansing, Michigan the daughter of Dale and Esther (Bloom) Shattuck. On August 19, 1955 in Wacousta, Michigan, Linda was united in marriage to Mr. Ronald Allan Miske. After fifty- seven years of marriage, Mr. Miske preceded Linda in death on April 3, 2013.

Linda graduated from Central Michigan University of Mt. Pleasant with her Bachelor Degree in Humanities and Social Behavioral Science in 1988. Linda worked many years at the Ionia Maximum Correctional Facility, Ionia, Michigan as a Probation Agent and Prison Guard. Linda also worked many years on the family farm. When Linda wasn't working or attending college, she enjoyed painting, vegetable and floral gardening, Fly Tying, making Fly Rods, fishing and collecting and selling Pontiac Fiero cars and parts.



Linda is survived by her two sons: Bryan Scott Miske and wife Teena of Beaverton, Michigan and Ronald Lee Miske of Harrison, six grandchildren: Elizabeth Rumpfelt and husband Matthew of Beaverton, Jeffrey Miske and wife Christy of Saucier, Mississippi, George Miske and wife Susan of Harrison, Annie Ryder and husband Chris of Hart, Michigan, C.W. Miske of Harrison and Angel Miske of Clare, thirteen great-grandchildren, one sister, Bonnie Roberts and husband John of Grand Ledge, Michigan, one brother, Dallas Shattuck and wife Carol of North Carolina, her

close children, Roger and Connie Hackworth of Harrison, many nieces, nephews, her three beloved dogs; Frankie, Daisy Mae and Paula and her grand dog, Pie. Mrs. Miske also was preceded in death by her parents, one sister, Carolyn "Kitty" Carlson.

Funeral services honoring Mrs. Miske will be held Friday, March 3, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. from Stocking Funeral Home, Harrison with Mr. Bill Ryder officiating. Family and friends are encouraged to gather for a time of visitation on Friday, March 3, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. until time of services. Burial will be in Hatton Township Cemetery, Clare. Memorial gifts in honor of Mrs. Miske may be considered to: Heartland Hospice. To share an online memory or condolence with Linda's family, please visit: [www.stockingfuneralhome.com](http://www.stockingfuneralhome.com). Arrangements for Mrs. Miske are entrusted with Stocking Funeral Home, Harrison (989) 539-7810.



## Marion L. Shepard

**December 20, 1937 — July 22, 2005 (Aged 67)**

Dr. Marion L. Shepard, professor and associate dean emeritus at Duke University, died Friday, July 22, 2005, after several years battling cancer.

Dr. Shepard joined the Duke faculty in 1967 as an assistant professor of materials science in the department of mechanical engineering and materials science in the school of engineering. In 1977, he accepted appointment as associate dean for undergraduate programs and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1999. During his tenure at Duke, Dr. Shepard gave significant service to the university as a member of the Academic Council, the Athletic Council and the Engineering Faculty Council. He worked closely for many years with the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and the Office of Student Affairs. His leadership contributions were recognized as he was presented a Faculty Service Award in 1978 and the Engineering Alumni Council's Distinguished Service Award in 1989.

Dr. Shepard was a registered professional engineer in North Carolina and a member of the American Society for Engineering Education and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. Together with his wife, Cynthia, he was a decade-long supporter of the university and the Washington Duke Club.

Born on December 20, 1937, in Owosso, Michigan, to the late Lola (Koivuniemi) Shepard and Marion E. Shepard, Marion resided many years in Grand Ledge, Michigan.

Following graduation from Grand Ledge High School in 1955, he received a B.S. degree in metallurgical engineering from Michigan College of Mining and Technology, now Michigan Technological University in 1959 and earned his master's and doctoral degrees from Iowa State University in the early 1960s.

Before his academic career, Dr. Shepard was in the materials department with United Technologies' Pratt and Whitney Aircraft Division in East Hartford, CT.

In 1999, Dr. Shepard and his wife retired to Cypress Landing in Chocowinity, NC. He was an avid golfer and served as a member of the Cypress Landing Golf Club Board of Governors.

In 2004, Dr. Shepard accepted appointment as an honorary co-chairman for fund-raising for Beaufort County Hospital's new Oncology Center, which is scheduled to open in late 2005.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife of 43 years, Cynthia; his daughter Lori Gagnon and her husband, Jon and daughter Jolie of Harpswell, Maine; his sisters, Sally Page of Boyne City, MI, and Rebecca Fenrick of Janesville, WI; and his brothers Gordon Shepard of Petoskey, MI, James Shepard of Roseburg, OR and William Shepard of Palisade, CO, and their families; his wife's mother, Helen Swift of Taunton, MA and a special friend, "Butch." Dr. Shepard was predeceased by a sister, Nancy Figgs of Roseville, Michigan.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, August 27, 2005 at 10:30 a.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church, 201 East Jefferson Street, Grand Ledge, Michigan.





## **Ralph W. Shepard**

### **Class of 1955**

Ralph W. Shepard -- Grand Ledge

**DATE OF PASSING: 5/2/2010**

Ralph W. Shepard, age 73, went home to be with his Lord on May 2, 2010. He was born August 29, 1936 in Grand Ledge, MI, son to Ralph and Anna (Sweet) Shepard. Ralph was a graduate of Grand Ledge High School, Class of 1955 and a retired employee of General Motors. He served as Vice-President of the Local 652 from 1987 - 1993 and President from 1993 until his retirement in 2002. He was a member of the Grand Ledge Church of the Nazarene; an avid golfer and loved his time spent with his grand and great grandchildren. Survivors include his wife of 53 years, Sandra, three children: Rodney (Janet) Shepard, Kevin Shepard, and Kim Maloney all of Grand Ledge; 6 grandchildren: Kira (Jamey) Quick, Kyle, Sarah, and Harley Shepard, Chase and Ryan Maloney, 2 great grandchildren Tyler and Brenner Quick; three sisters: Donna Johnson of Sunfield, Melba Cooper and Sharon (Sam) Dukes both of Grand Ledge, one brother Greg Shepard of Grand Ledge; sister-in-law, Dawn (Jim) Glasgow of Mulliken, brother-in-law Spike Cooper of Lewiston, numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents; grandsons, Brent Shepard and Luke Shepard, and son-in-law Larry Maloney.



Funeral services were held Thursday, May 6, 2010 - 11:00 a.m. at the Grand ledge Church of the Nazarene, 3432 Jefferson Hwy., Grand Ledge, MI 48837, with Rev. Richard Hand officiating. Interment will follow at Oakwood Cemetery, Grand Ledge. Arrangements by Peters & Murray Funeral Home, Grand Ledge. For those desiring, contributions may be made to the Grand Ledge Church of the Nazarene Memorial Fund. Online condolences may be made at [www.petersandmurrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.petersandmurrayfuneralhome.com).



## **Richard H. Sherman**

### **Class of 1955**

**DATE OF PASSING: 4/30/2019**

Richard H. Sherman, age 83, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his loving family on April 30, 2019. Richard served in the U.S. Army; retired from General Motors; taught as a flight instructor out of Grand Ledge Airport, and was a member of the Bretton Woods Covenant Church, where he served on the church camp board. He was an avid sailor and enjoyed wintering in Florida.

Richard is survived by his wife of 60 years, Nelva, daughter Krista (Ken Whiting) Sherman; brother William (Dawn) Sherman, 3 sisters: Tamara (Robert) Krueger, Virginia Soltow, and Doris Bas-sar, and was preceded in death by infant daughter, Tina Sherman and son, Mark Sherman.

A Celebration of Life service will be held Monday, May 6, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. at Bretton Woods Covenant Church, 925 Bretton Road, Lansing, MI 48917, with visitation from 1- 2:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions made to Bretton Woods Covenant Church will be greatly appreciated. The family has entrusted arrangements to Peters & Murray Funeral Home, Grand Ledge. [www.peter-sandmurrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.peter-sandmurrayfuneralhome.com)





## **Gail Lee "Shoey" Shoemaker**

**October 19, 1936 - November 15, 2020 (Aged 84)**

Gail Lee "Shoey" Shoemaker lifelong Grand Ledge resident passed away November 15, 2020. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend who will be greatly missed by the many lives that he touched. Shoey was born October 19, 1936 in Grand Ledge to the late Donald T. and Velma M. (Morgan) Shoemaker. He attended Grand Ledge High School where he was a talented athlete playing several sports. Gail graduated in the Class of 1955 and was inducted into the Grand Ledge Sports Hall of Fame in 2002. Shoey loved sports and after graduating played fast pitch softball for many years and also coached his daughters' sports teams. He continued to be a big supporter of Grand Ledge Athletics throughout his life and served the community for many years on the Parks and Recreation Committee. Shoey was also an avid piano player who could play music by ear and he enjoyed performing for his family and friends. Shoey married the love of his life, Marty on April 18, 1964 and they raised three wonderful daughters together. He retired from the USPS in 1998 as a rural mail carrier in Grand Ledge. After Marty's retirement they both enjoyed a memorable trip to Alaska and wintered in Gulf Shores for 18 years.



He is survived by his loving wife of over 56 years, Marty (Armstrong); daughters, Jennifer (Michael) Malmquist, Nikki Moore and Stephanie (Jeff) Talberg; granddaughters, Amanda (Kyle) Lay, Rachel (Nick) Kissane, Laney Moore, Natalie and Morgan Talberg; great grandsons, Cooper and Elijah Kissane and Benson Lay; brother, Gerald and sister, Gloria (Rich) Tucker. He is predeceased by his sister-in-law, Colleen (Brooks) Shoemaker.

A visitation will be held Friday from 3-8:00 pm at the Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home, Grand Ledge. A private family service will be held. Memorial contributions in Shoey's name may be given to the Grand Ledge Bullpen Club, 13433 Wind Spirit Drive, Grand Ledge, Michigan 48837 or Grand Ledge Parks & Recreation, City of Grand Ledge, 310 Greenwood Street, Grand Ledge, Michigan 48837.



## **Gary W. Sironen**

**Class of 1955**

Gary W. Sironen , age 74, resident of Seminole, and Brevard, NC, passed away Oct. 17th. He was a painting and stucco contractor until he retired. He enjoyed golf and was a longtime member of Seminole C.C. and Connestee Falls Golf Club. He was preceded in death by his wife, Cecily. Survivors include two sisters, Judi Dobson of St. Petersburg and Bobbi Gens of Treasure Island; three sons, Greg Sironen of St. Petersburg, Dan Sironen of Brooksville, and David Sironen of Florence, KY; a daughter, Robyn Davidson of Seminole; three grandchildren.

**DATE OF PASSING: 10/17/2011**



## **Shirley Ann Smith Abfalter**

**DATE OF PASSING: 12/30/2012**

### **Class of 1955**

Shirley Ann Abfalter, age 75, of Grand Ledge passed away Dec. 30, 2012 in Lansing, MI. She was born in Lansing, MI August 2, 1937 to the late Earl J. and Vivian (Birdsall) Smith. Shirley was a devoted and active member of Potterville United Methodist Church where she sang in the choir. She worked for many years in various nursing homes as an administrator until recently working as a receptionist at Studio One Hair Salon in Lansing. She is survived by her loving family: daughter, Dana (Joe) Utterback; sons, Daniel (Nadyne), Dale, David (Erin), Darin (Jodi); 10 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren; brothers, David (Terri) Smith, Donald Smith and Jay (Lorrie) Smith. She is preceded in death by husband Daniel and great grandson Joshua David.

A funeral service will be held Thursday, January 3, 2013, 11:00 A.M. at Potterville United Methodist Church. Visitation will be Wednesday 5-8pm at Holihan-Atkin Funeral Home Grand Ledge. Interment will be at Delta Center Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Miracle League of Mid-Michigan, 1635 Clifton Avenue Lansing, Michigan 48910.



### **Class of 1955**

## **Elizabeth Ann Thorn Hudson**

**December 21, 1936 — October 21, 2023 (Aged 86)**

Elizabeth Ann Hudson a lifelong Eagle resident went to be with the Lord on October 21, 2023. Elizabeth was born December 21, 1936 in Eagle to the late Elmer and Bertha (Shriner) Thorn. She graduated from Grand Ledge High School in the class of 1955 and she worked for the State of Michigan Department of Treasury. She loved to spend time with her family, especially during the holidays and special occasions. She is survived by her husband of fifteen years, Richard Hudson; children, Donald J. (Sonya) McMichael, Darcella and Michelle McMichael and Dawn Hudson; grandchildren, Cristy (Joseph) Mayo, Richard Caleb, Travis J. and Ryan C. McMichael, Seth J. and David M. (Louisa) Walker; Andrew Lee Dallas and Adam David Dallas Sobleskey; great-grandchildren, Shianne, Alexandra and Colton; siblings, Georgia (Jerry) Cooper, Thomas and John (Donna) Thorn. Elizabeth was preceded in death by her first husband, Donald Glenn McMichael; son, Richard Lee McMichael, 2 sisters and 6 brothers.

A funeral service will be held Saturday, October 28, 2023, 12:00 PM at the Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home, Grand Ledge with Pastor John Elieff, officiating.

Visitation will be Saturday from 11:00 AM until the time of the service. Interment will follow at N. Eagle Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be given to the family to be used according to their wishes. Share your memories and condolences online at [www.holihanatkin.com](http://www.holihanatkin.com)





## Ralph L. Tillitson

**September 17, 1934 -- December 24, 2019 (Aged 85)**

Ralph L. Tillitson, age 85, of Grand Ledge, MI, passed away December 24, 2019 in Lansing, MI. Born September 17, 1934 in Grand Ledge, son of Leon and Jennie (Maloney) Tillitson. Ralph served in the United States Air Force during the Korean Conflict. He retired from the City of Grand Ledge Waste Water Treatment Plant and also served the City of Grand Ledge as a volunteer fireman for 23 years, serving as Assistant Chief for a time. He enjoyed spending time at the lake, fishing and spending time with his family.



He is survived by his loving wife of 59 years, Lillian, their children: Kerry (Jim) Jesse, Ken (Dawn McCune) Tillitson, and Kimberly (Mel) Manning; grandchildren Shannah (Jonathan) Ashbay and Tayah Lee; great granddaughter Caroline Ashbay; brother Donald (Mary Lou) Tillitson, and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his sister Mildred Norris.

In honoring Ralph's request, cremation has taken place and no services will be held. Memorial contributions can be made to the Hospice House of Mid-Michigan, Grand Ledge Fire Dept., or Parkinson's Foundation in memory of Ralph Tillitson. The family has entrusted arrangements to Peters & Murray Funeral Home, Grand Ledge. Online condolences may be shared at [www.petersandmurrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.petersandmurrayfuneralhome.com)



**DATE OF PASSING: 10/4/2003**



## **Gerald Westrick**

### **Class of 1955**

Some would say he was a man of contradictions: he loved to travel the world, yet sit home and watch "Wheel of Fortune", he was educated and earned an advanced degree--yet enjoyed the simple pleasures of bowling, hunting and fishing. Gerald John Westrick was a Renaissance man. A tall, good looking and opinionated man who trekked through Europe, Hawaii, Mexico and Canada. Yet, he was also a loving and dedicated family man who loved to cook, bird watch and host a heck of a pig roast.

Gerald was born in Beal City, MI on March 21, 1936 to Cyril and Ruth Westrick. He was the oldest of four children. As the young parents welcomed their bundle of joy, the world was watching history in the making. During the first year of Gerald's life, Franklin Delano Roosevelt was re-elected President, Joe DiMaggio joined the New York Yankees who won the World Series and Joseph Stalin begins his "great purge" to liquidate his enemies.

Meanwhile the Westrick's moved to Grand Ledge shortly after Gerald was born. Gerald and his siblings had a happy childhood and one of his fondest memories was of going to his grandparent's home in Beal City during the summers. He was also a natural in the ring, and won the Golden Gloves boxing title. When he graduated from Grand Ledge High School in 1955, Gerald signed up to serve in the Air Force. He was stationed in San Antonio, Texas for one year until he was released on a medical discharge.

It was fate that he moved back to Grand Ledge. In 1957 his friends introduced him to a beautiful young lady named Kay. Kay and Gerald dated for four years and he felt honored to take her to her junior year prom. Kay thought that Gerald was attractive and enjoyed his sense of humor. Once, when Kay thought she lost her engagement ring at the beach, Gerald had it and didn't give back to her until one year later! The couple was engaged for two years and married on July 21, 1962. They were married in St. Michaels Catholic Church.

During the first year of their marriage, U.S. space program's John Glenn became the first American to orbit the Earth; President John F. Kennedy sent troops to the University of Mississippi to enforce integration and Marilyn Monroe died.

Gerald was strong willed and did a great job of balancing his pursuit of education, family and work. He was bright and earned a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and went on to receive his master's degree from Western Michigan University. The couple lived in Minnesota for awhile where their son was born. Later, Gerald took a job with General Foods in Battle Creek and Kay gave birth to their two daughters.

The family lived in Battle Creek for nine years, and then moved to Holland in 1976, when Gerald took a job with DePree Pharmaceutical. Later he took a position with Perrigo, and retired from there in 1996.

Gerald worked hard to support his family but never forgot to make it fun. He especially loved Christmas time with his kids, and always made it very special for them. If the toys required batteries he would always make sure they had them in it, because he was the first one that had to try them out. He always had a joke and enjoyed one himself. One year when he went fishing with the family on Rice Lake, his boat unexpectedly popped a tire. He had to wait from 5:00 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. to get a new tire. However, there were no boat tires so he bought a car tire. That year, the kids gave him a laugh when he opened up a spare tire holder for Christmas.

One of Gerald's greatest joys was having his family around and he was always there when someone needed him. The family respected him as a principled man, an excellent father and a loving husband. When his wife Kay was sick, Gerald took care of everything-- washing, cooking, caring for the kids and never asked for any help.

Friends and family loved Gerald for his unique nature and eclectic tastes. He got pleasure from the simple things: a little country music on the radio, Robert Schuler on the television, star-trek episodes, and spending some time on the green.

He was also an outdoorsman who loved to fish and hunt, he enjoyed bowling in a league and loved to tinker with things. His family respected his ability to "fix anything" He was very opinionated but his loved ones knew he was "all bark and no bite".

Gerald Westrick gave his all in life. From pursuing the heights the education to caring for his family, he lived his life with principals, integrity, joy, and originality. He will be missed.

Gerald John Westrick, 67, of Holland died Saturday, October 4, 2003, at his home. Surviving are his wife of 41 years, Kay; his children, Mike and Diane Westrick of Allendale, Michelle and Roy Adkins of Holland, Marcey Westrick and Greg Mantras of Minneapolis; five grandchildren; brothers Dale and Doris Westrick of Grand Ledge, and Jim Westrick of Hartford, Conn; sister Pat and Gordon Ruckert of Grand Ledge; in-laws Flora Mae and Charles Roth of Grand Ledge, Marilyn Mills of Grand Rapids, Juanita Wakefield of Barryton; aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins. Funeral services will be held Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. at the Northwood Chapel, Dykstra Funeral Homes, with the Rev. Paul Burmeister officiating. Visitation will be on Tuesday from 7-9 p.m. at the Northwood Chapel. Please visit Gerald's personal web page at [www.lifestorynet.com](http://www.lifestorynet.com) where you can read his life story, share a memory, or order flowers online.

Gerald John Westrick gave his family a gift: he gave them his best. It shows in the love that people hold in their hearts for this wonderful man.



## **Richard Glenn Wise**

### **Class of 1955**

Birth 7 Jan 1937

Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, USA

Death 30 Jul 1979 (aged 42)

Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, USA

Burial: Oakwood Cemetery

Grand Ledge, Eaton County, Michigan, USA

**DATE OF PASSING: 7/30/1979**

