



## Clifford T. Wellman

December 11, 1939 - June 23, 2016

Clifford Thomas Wellman, Sr., age 76 of Big Rapids, formerly of the Clare area, passed away at his home on Thursday, June 23, 2016. Clifford was born December 11, 1939 in Detroit, the son of Carl and Irene (Reynolds) Wellman. He was united in marriage to Frances Ann Nixon on August 22, 1964 at the St. Agatha Catholic Church in Detroit. They raised their family in Clare and became parishioners of St. Cecilia Catholic Church, now Our Lady of Hope Parish, St. Cecilia Site.

Clifford began his teaching career in Milford where he taught English and coached football and tennis. After five years he and his family moved to Capac where he taught another five years. He also coached baseball and football and taught Drivers Education. He and his family then moved to Clare where he finished his teaching and coaching career.

Clifford is survived by his wife, Frances, his four children Elizabeth (Jerry) Loyselle, Clifford Jr. (Michelle) Wellman, Robert (Danyelle Bylo) Wellman and Kathleen (Matthew) Merony; ten grandchildren, Jerry Jr. Loyselle, Matthew Loyselle, Clifford Thomas Wellman III, Kendall Wellman, Taylor Merony, Makayla Merony, Jenna Merony, Tyler Cremeans, Max Cremeans and Mya Cremeans; three sisters Yvonne O'Neil, Beverly Markulicz and Betty Johnson; one brother Raymond Wellman. Clifford was predeceased by his parents, four brothers, Robert, Neil, Louis and Donald and a sister Joanne Rothenstein.

Visitation will be held on Monday, June 27, 2016 from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 P.M. at the Clare Chapel of Stephenson-Wyman Funeral Home. Funeral Services will

be held on Tuesday, June 28, 2016 at 11 A.M. at Our lady of Hope Parish, St. Cecilia Site. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Michigan or to Our Lady of Hope Parish, St. Cecilia Site

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 27. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Stephenson - Wyman Funeral Home (Clare)  
1005 North McEwan St.  
Clare, MI 48617  
(989) 386-7451  
wymanhf@chartermi.net  
<https://www.stephenson-wyman.com/>

## Visitation

JUN 27. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Stephenson - Wyman Funeral Home (Clare)  
1005 North McEwan St.  
Clare, MI 48617  
(989) 386-7451  
wymanhf@chartermi.net  
<https://www.stephenson-wyman.com/>

## Scripture Vigil Service

JUN 27. 7:30 PM (ET)

Stephenson - Wyman Funeral Home (Clare)  
1005 North McEwan St.  
Clare, MI 48617  
(989) 386-7451  
wymanhf@chartermi.net  
<https://www.stephenson-wyman.com/>

## Service

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JUN 28. 11:00 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Hope Parish, St. Cecilia Site  
106 E. Wheaton Street  
Clare, MI 48617

# Tribute Wall

JO

“ Hello Fran and family, I'm so sorry to hear about Clifford's passing. May you find piece and condolence in your many memories.

*Jeanne O'Connor*

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**Jeanne O'Connor** - July 09, 2016 at 11:56 AM

DL

“ We were so surprised to learn of Cliff's passing. He was such a huge part of our Irish Festival experiences!! What wonderful memories of co-chairing, bed races and more. Our live to Fran and their family.

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**donna and ken longton** - July 05, 2016 at 02:02 PM

RJ

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of Cliff. He was a great guy, always so upbeat. Cliff was a great teacher/coach at Clare High School where we enjoyed working with him. He and Fran raised such a wonderful family. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Fran, Liz, Cliff Jr., Bob, and Kathy.

*Rob and Jude Johnson*  
*Goodyear, AZ*

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**Rob Johnson** - June 29, 2016 at 07:13 AM

VV

*FRAN,*  
*So sorry to of your loss, I am sorry that I could not be there for you, like you were for me. Trying to get your address, sending this for now.*

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**Vickie Vander Velpen** - October 26, 2016 at 02:13 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.



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June 28, 2016 at 07:09 AM



“ *Jim & Dalis Rust* purchased the *Beautiful in Blue* for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.



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**Jim & Dalis Rust** - June 27, 2016 at 09:15 PM

JR

“ It is so hard to believe that my Uncle Cliff has passed. the world will not be the same without him. I will share a memory of my Uncle, back when we were much younger. I, my brother, mother and stepfather made the car trip from South Florida to Lavonia to visit with my Grandma & Grandpa Wellman. I was introduced to my Uncle Clifford who was only about 7 years older than me & I was about 8 or 9. We developed a fast relationship where we would start horsing around with each other, which would lead to a wrestling match, where he would proceed to kick my butt. Over the years we would stay in touch and I would remind him about the permanent injury he had cause to my psyche. He would laugh and say that's what gave me character. I will always miss his character! He was always all energy, outgoing and optimistic guy. He loved sports. Any kind of sports. He was a bit of an obsessive compulsive, but hell most of us Wellman's are. "I CAN RELATE! He will be sorely missed by all. My condolences to my Aunt Fran and the rest of the family. My he have a safe journey to rest in piece.



*Jim (Wellman) Rust & wife "Dalis"*

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**James (Jim) Rust** - June 27, 2016 at 07:57 PM



“ My condolences to the family. Mr. Wellman was my former English teacher and I was a teacher cadet for him for two years. I also spent many a Sunday morning playing basketball with Cliff and the crew.

*Daryl Phillips, Clare*

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**Daryl Phillips** - June 27, 2016 at 06:35 PM

DD

“ Cliff, Was fellow team mate and friend for many years at Clarenceville H.S. I remember driving him to his first week of college in Wisconsin in the 60's. I also had a chance to play golf with him in Farwell a couple of times. (HE SURE DID LIKE TO TALK EVEN WHEN A PERSON WAS IN HIS BACK SWING) made for a interesting outing. Did enjoy it though. GOD BLESS TO THE WELLMAN FAMILY FOR YOUR GREAT LOSS.

DALE & MARGARET DEVITT

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Dale Devitt - June 27, 2016 at 03:06 PM



“ Spring Has Sprung Mixed Basket was purchased for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.



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June 27, 2016 at 10:23 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.



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June 26, 2016 at 02:03 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.*



June 26, 2016 at 01:12 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.*



June 26, 2016 at 12:49 PM



“ *Justin and Ashley Day purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.*



**Justin and Ashley Day** - June 26, 2016 at 12:08 PM



“ *Jean DeVries lit a candle in memory of Clifford T. Wellman*



**Jean DeVries** - June 26, 2016 at 09:39 AM

JD

*Uncle Cliff you forever be in my heart. I will always remember how silly you were and your big smile. Thinking of the Wellman Family. Love You, Jean*

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**Jean DeVries** - June 26, 2016 at 09:44 AM

CL

*I am so sorry to hear of your loss. I remember Mr. Wellman from high school. He was my teacher for creative writing and I remember well how much that class inspired me.*

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**Carrie L. (Garver) Lewis** - July 03, 2016 at 08:14 PM

JO

“ Coach Wellman,

*I'm so sorry to hear about your dad! Both of you were such a huge part of my life and basketball career. I will never forget how much he supported us. Thoughts and prayers to you.*

*-Jodi Ostergren*

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**Jodi Ostergren** - June 26, 2016 at 08:54 AM

JM

“ *Deep sympathy to the Wellman family. Did not know Cliff , but, sure sounds like one very, very special man. So sorry cannot be w/ you at this difficult time but, Liz & family, you continue to be in my prayers. Liz, you do have your Daddy's big smile !!!!  
Love & Hugs, Jeanne Mayan*

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**Jeanne Mayan** - June 26, 2016 at 07:29 AM

JL

“ John , Jackie, Laura, Carolyn, and Sarah Leppanen purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.



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**John , Jackie, Laura, Carolyn, and Sarah Leppanen** - June 25, 2016 at 08:31 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.



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June 25, 2016 at 02:15 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.



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June 25, 2016 at 01:37 PM

KT

“ Coach Wellman,  
So sorry to hear about your Dad! What a great guy! Thoughts and prayers to your family!  
Bob, Kristen, Ellie, Maizie, and RJ Taylor

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**kristen taylor** - June 25, 2016 at 01:01 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.*



June 25, 2016 at 11:54 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.*



June 25, 2016 at 11:11 AM



“ *The O'Neill Family purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.*



**The O'Neill Family** - June 25, 2016 at 11:03 AM



“ *Our hearts are full of sadness. What a wonderful man with a gentle soul. Praying for all of the family.*

*The Arent Family*



**susie arent** - June 25, 2016 at 10:36 AM

TB

“ *The Staff At Benchley Brothers lit a candle in memory of Clifford T. Wellman*



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**The Staff at Benchley Brothers** - June 25, 2016 at 10:29 AM

KT

“ *Cliff was always the biggest fan for Dow High girls basketball and never missed a game or a chance to yell at a referee! It was great talking with him after each game so he could tell us exactly what we did wrong and then had a story of how he did the right way in his coaching career. Every memory I have with Bob includes Cliff, because he supported his family in everything they did. He had the strongest hand shake I have ever seen. I miss you and will always keep you in my heart. Love, Kyle.*

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**Kyle Theisen** - June 25, 2016 at 08:04 AM

EL

“ *Elena purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.*



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**Elena** - June 25, 2016 at 04:06 AM

EL

“ August 1986, Tri-City Airport, Michigan. I was 18 and starting a year abroad that would definitely change my life and shape my future. There he was, together with mom and Kathy. Big in body (huge, in fact, from my 5 ft and compared to what I was used to!), big in smile, big in heart. He gave me a bear hug and a kiss in the lips... A kiss in the lips! Not that he was the first guy to kiss me, but your dad!!??? I was shocked... We would then kiss many times throughout the year.

Dad was all laughs, energy, funny stories, optimism, sense of humor. A tireless worker as well, always looking for new opportunities. He loved a good discussion. And he loved things done 'the right way'. An upright man, indeed. And boy did he love mom! He would not get tired of telling her how beautiful she was and how much he loved her. An attitude to learn from.

I talked to him a few days before he passed and I could once again enjoy his great sense of humor -- he would say that I was his favorite Mexican daughter, I would pretend to get mad because I'm not Mexican but Spanish and reply that he did not know his geography... A 'joke' we've played since 1986. I will miss that. I will miss him...

Dad, thanks for including me in the family, for treating me like a real daughter. Thanks for all the beautiful moments spent together. Thanks for your legacy. Thanks for your love.

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Elena - June 25, 2016 at 02:46 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.



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June 24, 2016 at 10:30 PM



“ *Heavenly Sentiments Spray was purchased for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.*



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June 24, 2016 at 07:19 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.*



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June 24, 2016 at 03:47 PM



“ *Ken and Sue Brigham purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.*



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**Ken and Sue Brigham** - June 24, 2016 at 01:59 PM

AW

“ *Dearest Uncle Cliff  
We all love you so very much!!!!!! All of the sweet, beautiful and loving Wellmans!! We will all miss the tremendous joy and kindness you gave to all of us.  
The Wellman sense of humor was something to see to believe and to be a part the whole experience:)  
What great love and laughter you brought to all of us!*

*May God watch over your family in this time of sorrow.  
All our love, sympathy and prayers.  
From your brother's (Lewis) children*

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**Anita Wellman-Pence** - June 24, 2016 at 12:25 PM

CT

“ *Participants around Clare in the over 50 (age) pick up basketball games will be looking for Cliff and his well positioned elbows for years to come. Needless, to say he left a lasting impression. He lived life fully. He loved to tell stories (occasionally some of the stories even had some truth to them -- ha). Heaven's hoop team just picked up a bruiser!*

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**Chris Tracy** - June 24, 2016 at 10:12 AM



“ *Basket of Joy was purchased for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.*



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June 24, 2016 at 09:48 AM

SM

“ I'll always remember his humor and that great laugh. Hugs and prayers to Cliff's entire family during this sad time. May you find peace in all your wonderful memories and knowing his suffering is over. I'm sure he had a cocktail and was telling stories in heaven last night!

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**Sue Murawski** - June 24, 2016 at 06:47 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Clifford T. Wellman.



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June 24, 2016 at 12:07 AM

NO

“ Too many memories to recount because our families have been so close for so many years. A good man left us today ... Norm (Naumy) Cliffy is gone ...,

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**Norm** - June 23, 2016 at 04:28 PM