



## Erma Maxine (Ott) Kleinhardt

September 26, 1925 - December 23, 2021

Erma Maxine (Ott) Kleinhardt, 96, passed away peacefully December 23, 2021 in her home with her loving family by her side.

No mother wishes to leave her family, but confidently she taught them many important lessons. She was ready to meet her Lord and Savior, and her final statement was, "I want to go home." She is now whole again, hugging her devoted husband Charles of 67 years, her young son, Kevin and her brother Arnold C.Ott.

Erma was born September 26, 1925, the daughter of Charles and Wilma Ott. She spent her entire life on the Centennial Family Farm in Clare, Michigan. The values of love, strength, and Christian principles molded her life at a young age. This spiritual journey continued to create a God-filled life, and an amazing example to her friends and family.

Erma attended Bosley Country School and often told memories of walking in the cold, snow-covered fields to get there. She was a proud 1944 graduate of Clare High School. Upon graduation, she bravely moved to Chicago to further her education, earning a degree as a Lab Technician. She was hired by The Davis Clinic in Mt. Pleasant where she worked for several years.

Charles and Erma were united in marriage on May 12, 1945. They raised a family of four children, focusing on church, friends, and various farm-related activities. Surviving Erma are Richard (Dick) and Connie Kleinhardt, Tim Kleinhardt and Carole Hill, Charma and John Brian, and the late Kevin Kleinhardt.

Erma was an integral part of her seven grandchildren's lives. Those who loved her dearly are Stephanie (Dave) Gomola, Scott (Heidi) Kleinhardt, Rachel (Caelin) Brian, Laura Brian, Sarah (Josh) Bryant, Hannah (Jaired) Messing, and Aubrey Kleinhardt. Erma's legacy will live on through her thirteen, devoted great-grandchildren. Erma will be truly missed by her nieces, nephews and wonderful neighbors.

Charles and Erma were active members of their close-knit community. Many will remember the little Brown Corners Church, where Charles led the congregation in song. Erma graciously played the organ, while her life-long friend Coloma, played the piano. Their ministry was a true team effort and lasted for nearly 50 years.

Erma was a life-time member of Farm Bureau, a member of Brown Corners Church, Clare Church of the Nazarene, The Congregational Church in Harrison, Gideons International, Michigan Milk Producers Association, Christian Women's Group, Women's Missionary Association, and an Arthur Township Trustee. She was an amazing record keeper and balanced the farm expenses to the penny for numerous years.

Visitation will be held at the Clare Church of the Nazarene on Tuesday, December 28 from 3pm to 7pm. The service will be held on Wednesday, December 29 at 11am, with final visitation starting at 10am.

Please share your condolences with the family at [www.stephenson-wyman.com](http://www.stephenson-wyman.com). Arrangements have been made by the Stephenson-Wyman Funeral Home. Memorials may be directed to Gideons International.

Erma's family would like to extend gratitude to Dick and Connie, who cared for Erma after her stroke 2 years ago. Also, to Tim, who kept Erma informed of current events during her final years. A special thanks also to Hospice and Carole Hill who provided the nursing care during the declining days. Charma sharpened Erma's checker game but admits she was hard to beat!

# Cemetery Details

## Cherry Grove Cemetery

1000 Cedar St.  
Clare, MI 48617

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 28. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Clare Church of the Nazarene  
10160 S. Grant Avenue  
Clare, MI 48617

## Service

DEC 29. 11:00 AM (ET)

Clare Church of the Nazarene  
10160 S. Grant Avenue  
Clare, MI 48617

# Tribute Wall

CB

“ To The Kleinhardt Family: So sorry to hear of the loss of Erma, she was one of a kind. You could not help love her. She always gave me much support in my political office and was a joy to be around. Erma was so dedicated and proud to be a large part of Clare County. May the good memories help heal your sorrow.

*Carol (McAulay) Barlage*

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**Carol (McAulay) Barlage** - December 29, 2021 at 10:22 PM

DC

“ Dear Family: It was with deep emotions that Dennis and I belatedly found out about Erma's passing. We met her several years ago, and she became a gift into our lives. She took an interest in Dennis's, black-smithing and my painting and she was a joy to be around. Erma was always involved in life, in her Church, in her family, in her community, with friends and with those she did not yet know. She will continue to be an inspiration for how I should live my own life. My heart goes out to you, her family, as I know she will be greatly missed. Sincerely Yours, Dennis and Deborah Carbeno

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**Deborah and Dennis Carbeno** - December 29, 2021 at 04:22 PM

KH

“ Thinking of the entire Kleinhardt family as you release Erma into the loving arms of her Savior, through your tears.  
She was a woman of such grace & faith who knew that God had a place prepared for her in his heavenly mansion.  
God sent his Angels to escort her home where she was awarded the “crown of eternal life.”  
God opened up his heavens to receive her in & the Glory of the Lord was shone before her very eyes!  
She was filled with complete joy in his very presence!  
Death is not the end of life, it is the gateway to Eternity.  
She took all your love with her & left you with hers.  
In the end, love is all that really matters.  
She loved others her entire life, & was so loved in return!  
Most of all, she loved Jesus!  
What she believed & hoped in became reality for her.  
May the same arms that welcomed her into heaven, comfort each & every one of you!  
Our deepest condolences,  
Karen & Don Harrison

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**Karen Harrison** - December 29, 2021 at 02:48 PM

GH

“ Dick, Connie, Charma, Tim, and all the Kleinhardt family, my sincere condolence to all of you on the passing of Erma. She certainly was an extraordinary woman and I know all you - sons and daughter, grandchildren, and her dearest friends will miss her.

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**Gabrielle (Gabz) Hume** - December 29, 2021 at 02:28 PM

CM

“ Our deepest condolences to the Kleinhardt family. Erma was a beautiful christian lady inside and out. Such a wonderful legacy she has left behind in each of her children and grand children! Our thoughts and prayers are with you.  
*Dallas, Debbie and Cherie Shull*

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**Cherie Mourlam** - December 28, 2021 at 05:27 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Erma Maxine (Ott) Kleinhardt.*



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December 28, 2021 at 12:02 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Erma Maxine (Ott) Kleinhardt.*



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December 28, 2021 at 09:42 AM

NB

“ Tim, I'll never get used to calling you that! In my heart, you will always and forever be Stoney. I know how devastating it is to lose someone as dear as a mother but know she is where she wanted to be as of late. She is happy and well and celebrating her “new” life with your dad and brother. She was an amazing woman and I know how proud you are to be her son! Remember, we are here for you if it's just to talk or to get a hug. We love you, my friend! We also reach out with love to the rest of your extended family! Nancy & Jim (Sporty) Roberts

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**Nancy & Jim Roberts. (college buddies)** - December 27, 2021 at 04:49 PM

TJ

“ Dick, Connie, Tim, Scott, Stephanie, and Sarah and the rest of the Kleinhardt family. Our sincere condolences go out to you all. I did not know Erma I did meet her when Dick, Connie, Scott and Stephanie were part of our lives briefly through a mutual friend when Scott and Stephanie and I were in high school. Erma was a very caring person. Very easy to talk to during the brief time i knew her when over at Dick and Connies. She will be surely missed by you all. Its not easy losing a mother, sister, Grandma. Aunt as she was too many but she is Home now and will be in your hearts forever.

*The Johnston family*

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**The Johnston's** - December 27, 2021 at 10:53 AM

LM

“ I remember your Mom at church functions. She always had a smile that was contagious. Know she spent Christmas in Heaven and was watching you and smiling.

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**Lynn Daviv Mattis** - December 27, 2021 at 10:34 AM

RL

“ So sorry to hear about Erma, our thoughts and prayers are with all the family. God Bless, Ron and Carol Larrance

Ron and Carol Larrance - December 26, 2021 at 08:10 PM

MS

“ All I can say is “What a neat lady.” I loved when she came to the Herrick House and always tried to greet her. She was so sweet to Doc, always going to the kitchen to find him. She gifted us with pickled beets many Christmases. God is so happy to have her come HOME! Mary Ann Shurlow

Mary Ann Shurlow - December 26, 2021 at 05:45 PM



“ We were all blessed by her 96 years here on Earth and now she will continue her blessings in Heaven....

R. Lynn Greer - December 26, 2021 at 04:21 PM

JL

“ Juliann Lloyd lit a candle in memory of Erma Maxine (Ott) Kleinhardt



Juliann Lloyd - December 26, 2021 at 03:33 PM



We were all very blessed by her 96 years here on Earth and now she will continue her blessings in Heaven.

R. Lynn Greer - December 26, 2021 at 04:19 PM

KK

“ *What a wonderful Christian lady Erma was. You were blessed to have her had her in your lives for so many years. Praying for God's grace and peace to be with your family. Roger and Kim Kushmaul*

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**Kim and Roger Kushmaul** - December 25, 2021 at 10:13 PM

BH

“ *Sorry for the loss off this amazing women. She touched many lives and will be greatly missed.*

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**Bruce Hales** - December 25, 2021 at 06:41 PM

BB

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Mrs Kleinhardt was a treasure and a inspiration to those she knew. Now she has enriched heaven and left an empty place in so many hearts but the good news is she shall dwell in the house of the lord forever.*

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**Bob Bergey** - December 25, 2021 at 03:36 PM

BB

“ *Bob Bergey lit a candle in memory of Erma Maxine (Ott) Kleinhardt*



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**Bob Bergey** - December 25, 2021 at 03:25 PM

SA

“ *Such a sweet lady she will be sadly missed. My Deepest Sympathy to the family.*

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**SandraTurley** - December 25, 2021 at 10:28 AM