



## Jeff D. Arnold Sr.

March 13, 1923 - December 7, 2022

Jeff Daniel Arnold, Sr., age 99 of Clare, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at the Niche Senior Care Assisted Living of Clare, with his family by his side. On March 13, 1923, Jeff was born the eldest child to Leonard and Bessie (Evans) Arnold in Peerless, Texas, where Jeff grew up and resided into his late teens. At just the age of seventeen, Jeff embraced his "Tough Texan" upbringing and enlisted into the Army Air Corps to aid in the WWII effort as part of the 39th squadron, but it didn't take the Army long to identify Jeff's culinary skills as he became an accomplished baker during his enlistment—a skill and passion that followed him throughout his entire life. When the war effort was over, Jeff travelled right to the Central Michigan area to find work with relatives that had careers in the oil fields, a decision that would prove fruitful after thirty-plus years of service as an oil driller before his mid 80's retirement from North American Drilling. Jeff met his first love Elsie M. Barnhouse shortly after arriving in Michigan, and the couple was united in marriage on May 1, 1948, and shared thirty wonderful years together until Elsie's passing in November of 1978. On February 9, 1984, Jeff entered his second marriage to Madelyn M. VanBuskirk, and she survives him. Along with his love for baking, Jeff also took joy in watching westerns, reading the tabloids, and he was an accomplished builder and cabinet maker. However, those that knew Jeff well, knew that his family was the thing that he most passionate about.

Jeff is survived by his children Craig (Ann Metzger) Arnold of San Rafael, CA. and Jill (Jim) Archbold of Farwell, his wife Madelyn Arnold of Farwell, his stepson Ona Hinkle of Farwell, and his grandchildren Danielle, Sierra, Hattie, Derek, Megan, Skyler, Jarred, and Tony. Other survivors include his twelve great-grandchildren and his siblings Billy (Katherine) Arnold of Grand Prairie, TX and Helen (Fred) Lock of Fort Worth, TX. Jeff was preceded in death by his parents Leonard and Bessie Arnold, his first wife Elsie Arnold, his son Jeff Arnold, Jr., and his siblings Lasca Hahn and Mary Jo Williams.

In keeping with Jeff's wishes, cremation has taken place. A celebration of life service will be held in Jeff's honor on Saturday, March 11, 2023 at 11 A.M. at the Clare Church of the Nazarene. His final resting place will be in Farwell's Surrey Township Cemetery. Memorial contributions in honor of Jeff may be directed to the Care Team Hospice, and online condolences may be shared on the Arnold family page at [www.stephenson-wyman.com](http://www.stephenson-wyman.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Surrey Township Cemetery

101 W. Ludington Dr.  
Farwell, MI 48622

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAR 11. 11:00 AM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall

JM

“ *Jill and Craig  
Sorry for your loss  
Always enjoyed seeing the ole guy many good chats  
Sincerely Sharon and Jeff Michels 🙏*

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**Jeff Michels** - December 09, 2022 at 11:06 AM

DD

“ *I was saddened to hear of Jeff's passing. My family offers prayers to Jeff's family and friends with the loss. Now here is a guy who left lasting impressions to anyone he met. I most enjoyed and laughed with Jeff over many subjects. He worked in the oilfields with my Father in Law and together they shared very amusing stories, some of it causing a lot of laughter. I learned a lot from Jeff especially the humor side. Together he could always see a bright side even when things didn't go exactly as planned.  
Dan Dysinger and Family*

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**Dan Dysinger** - December 09, 2022 at 09:21 AM

KG

“ *So many fond memories of Jeff - his sense of humor and that ever present twinkle in his eye.  
Love you, Craig and Jill!  
Keith and Jean Gaede*

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**Keith Gaede** - December 08, 2022 at 05:40 PM

SH

*Our family sends our love to your family. Your dad was one of the nicest people I have ever met. He always made me feel welcome in your home when Jill & I were growing up. Some of my fondest memories were in your home. I am going to miss his beautiful smile and good nature. He will be forever remembered. Love you guys! ❤️*



**Stacey Haring** - December 16, 2022 at 01:01 PM

TP

*My prayers and thoughts are with you both Craig and Jill. I empathize with you, having lost both my parents and husband, especially at this time of year. Some of my fondest teenage memories were at your house with your family. I know it has been a long time, but if there is anything I can assist with, please reach out.*

*Tina (Irwin) Pate*

**Tina Pate** - December 21, 2022 at 10:11 AM

BA

*Uncle JD was something else, he loved to aggravate me telling me he found that skeleton in Peerless TX and not my dad. He really got a kick out of that. I liked his Oilfield stories and his great sense of humor. Always seemed to be in a good mood, he had to be a awful good man to have raised such nice kids. I regret we lived so far apart. RIP Uncle JD*

**Brent Alan Arnold** - March 09, 2023 at 05:26 PM