



Richard "Dick" Ellis III

August 31, 1945 - December 19, 2024

Richard "Dick" G. Ellis III, age 79 of Clare, passed away unexpectedly Thursday, December 19, 2024 at home. Dick was born the son of Richard Ellis II and Muriel Engelston on August 31, 1945 in Oswego, NY. He served in the Vietnam War in the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines; the unit was nicknamed "The Walking Dead" due to their high casualty rate. Upon returning from Vietnam he was united in marriage to Victoria "Vicky" Eberhart on March 8, 1968. He and Vicky moved to Clare from Lansing in 1984. Dick had worked as a welder for Morbark Manufacturing; retiring in 2009. Following his retirement Dick became very active at the Clare/Farwell American Legion where he became Sergeant at Arms, commanding the Post's Honor Guard from 2010 until last year. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and camping. When his sons were younger, Dick was active in the Boy Scouts where he enjoyed being their troop master. Dick had been a friend of Bill W. for the last 43 years.

Dick is survived by his wife Vicky; sons Chris (Leann) Ellis of Mt. Pleasant and Matt (Tina) Ellis of Clare; his sisters Kathy (Edward) Ellis, Tina Arcadi, and Terrie Cooper all of Oswego, NY; 13 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and his son Richard G. Ellis IV in 2014.

A Celebration of Life will take place on Saturday, January 4, 2025 at the Clare Farwell American Legion where his family will receive friends from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Memorial contributions may be directed to Vicky Ellis for a donation to be made to a local charity at a later date. Arrangements were

handled by the Clare Chapel of Stephenson-Wyman Funeral Home. On-line
condolences may be left at www.stephenson-wyman.com

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN 4. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Clare Farwell American Legion Post 558
400 E. Ludington Drive
Farwell, MI 48622

Military Honors

JUN 7. 1:00 PM (ET)

Clare Farwell American Legion Post 558
400 E. Ludington Drive
Farwell, MI 48622

Tribute Wall

SM

“ It's been many years ago that the Ellis's & the Smith's (of St. John) had contact. Only saw Dick's parents a few times after his father made a recording at my wedding in 1969. One of my older brother's had dated his sister. The Ellis's are good people. (Sue Smith Miller, now Mesa, AZ)

Sue (Smith) Miller - June 07, 2025 at 06:41 PM

BH

“ You will all be in my thoughts during this difficult time.

Bruce Hales - May 01, 2025 at 07:55 PM

CO

“ It has been 4 mths. since you passed. I and many others do miss you. You have left a legacy of being there to help others on their sobriety path. That is a good legacy to be remembered by. Once I got to know you and after butting heads with you a few times, I realized you meant well. In the time that I knew you I seen you soften up. Grateful that I got to know you and for your wisdom and that you took the AA program " pretty damn serious". ODAAT

Cordelia S Ouellette - April 17, 2025 at 01:26 AM

TH

“ Timothy Hartman purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Richard "Dick" Ellis III.



Timothy Hartman - December 29, 2024 at 01:01 PM

AR

“ Vicky & family, so sorry for your loss!

Arlene Robison - December 22, 2024 at 12:24 PM

JD

“ I first met Dick by accident at a funeral I was working with through our church. Vicky and I went to school together and so was introduced to Dick. Indeed he had an open heart and the respect he shown to those he paid tribute to was very sincere and real. So sorry Vicky for your loss may he rest in peace.

Joanne Dana - December 21, 2024 at 07:06 PM

JO

“ Dick was one of my best friends ever. We went through recovery together for a long time. I'll miss being each others right hand. It'll never be same again. See you in heaven. Say hello to Babe for me . All prayers for Vicki and family. God Bless you all.

jeff orser - December 21, 2024 at 12:57 PM

ST

“ Dick was a sweet guy always there to give a helping hand and he is so much more to the people he helped R.I.P Dick till we meet again at coffee pot in ski. Hugs to you Vicki and the family he will be Deaply Missed

Sandy & Stan Turley - December 21, 2024 at 12:49 PM

PM

“ Dick was a very good man. A marine corps veteran who served in Vietnam. He was a member of the Farwell Clare American Legion and a lifetime member of the Vfw Post 1071 in Coleman, Michigan. He was continually helping veterans past and present! He would ensure that anyone who served in the military would receive a proper military funeral with honor. He marched in parades and ceremonies all over the country side of Clare, Isabella and Midland counties when needed and probably many more that I am not aware of. He was a well known respected member of the city of Clare! He has helped 100's of people in one of the fellowship he attended on a regular basis and was instrumental in the recovery of men and women in the fellowship! If you called upon his help during the day or the middle of the night he was always there! I had the pleasure of meeting him many years ago and him and Vicky became part of our family in the fellowship. When I heard of his passing it was like someone put a dagger through the middle of my heart. I have the utmost respect and love for him. It brings tears to my eyes just thinking of his passing, but until we meet again Dick, May you Rest In Peace and SemperFi Marine!



Pat Murray - December 21, 2024 at 11:56 AM

TP

Cousin Vicky sorry to hear about your loss as I met your husband only a couple of times. I was not always very verbal with his being as we usually had a lot of catching up on when our paths crossed. Currently I'm dealing with my brother Don's passing but will keep you in my Prayers. I always admired his allowing you and I catching up and he seemed like a great person. Take care and may he rest in peace. Love Ted A. Papesh RN

Ted A. Papesh - January 02, 2025 at 03:05 AM