



Richard F. "Dick" Haynak Sr.

September 19, 1936 - October 7, 2025

Richard F. "Dick" Haynak, Sr., age 89 of Clare, passed away peacefully at his home on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, surrounded by his loving family. On September 19, 1936, Dick was born the son of Frank and Josephine (Gibis) Haynak. Dick was united in marriage to the love of his life Jean Wood on August 23, 1958, and together they shared four children and sixty-six cherished years until Jean's passing in October of 2024. Dick was a lifelong resident and champion of Clare. Many will remember Dick's friendly nature and service over his forty-plus years serving the community as a meat cutter for his self-operated Jackson's Market and Giant Way Foods—which later became Witbeck's Grocery. Dick loved his community and was a friend to everyone in it: he served on the Clare Fire Department for twenty-four years and held every office including five years as acting Chief; he served eighteen years on the Clare County Road Commission; he served multiple terms as a City Commissioner—serving as Mayor for part of that time; and he worked for the Clare Auto Auction for many years. In his retirement years, Dick enjoyed deer hunting and playing the part of the meat cutter for the H. & H. Buckshit Ranch (his 40-acre hunting parcel in Lake George) and serving as the "self-appointed" Mayor of Five Lakes, where he had every bass and bluegill personally named. He never missed an opportunity to make others feel welcomed and appreciated, and his kindness and honesty will be missed by many.

Dick is survived by three children Dewey (Kim) Haynak, Kim (Boot) Mashue,

and Kelly (Larry) Edwards, eight grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren, one great-great-granddaughter, and his sister Veronica (Stewart) Murie. Dick was preceded in death by his wife Jean Haynak, his son Richard "Dickie" Haynak, Jr., his grandson Casey Haynak, his twin brother Robert (Jeraldine) Haynak, and his parents Frank and Josephine Haynak.

In keeping with Dick's wishes, cremation has taken place. A private graveside service will take place with fireman's honors in the St. Cecilia Catholic Cemetery of Clare, where Dick will be laid to rest with his wife Jean and son Dickie. Memorial contributions in honor of Dick are encouraged to the Clare Fire Department Equipment Fund and online condolences and memories may be shared on Dick's tribute page at www.stephenson-wyman.com

Cemetery Details

St. Cecilia Catholic Cemetery

411 Schoolcrest Ave.
Clare, MI 48617

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall

JB

“ *Janice Buckley lit a candle in memory of Richard F. "Dick" Haynak Sr.*



Janice Buckley - October 12, 2025 at 12:35 PM

MW

“ *My heartfelt condolences to Stevie, Kimmy, Kelly and their families during this time. When I think of Uncle Dick, I have a lot of sweet memories. He always greeted you with a smile and a loving embrace. It didn't matter where you saw him at or when...you could count on that! Uncle Dick was such a kind and caring human, who made you feel special. He had a playful wit, always with a perpetual twinkle in his eyes. That explains why he was the perfect Santa! When we were young, he visited all of the cousin's houses at Christmas dressed as Santa to make sure we were all behaving! He still referred to Aunt Jeannie as his "bride". Their love transcends and I know she was there to meet him when he passed. His love was apparent for his family and children and their families too. He had a full life of love and cherished memories, as well as providing that to those who knew him. Uncle Dick is a truly an example of a life well-lived. R.I.P. Love and prayers!*

Mary Wood - October 08, 2025 at 04:47 PM

JD

“ *You could never be sad around Dick because he felt it was his responsibility to make people smile. Kindness and a listening ear were his gifts to this world. Will miss him.*

Joanne Dana - October 08, 2025 at 03:24 PM

CB

I will so miss your hugs, kindness, laughter with that beautiful smile ... so you can bet when I get to Heaven .. I will get all the hugs you will give !!!!! Always in my thoughts!! 🙏

Cindy Brown - October 08, 2025 at 04:40 PM

DD

Heartfelt Condolences to Family and Friends of Dick Haynak.

Dan Duma - October 09, 2025 at 10:46 AM