



Roy W. Helmka

July 25, 1928 - December 1, 2015

Roy Woodruff Helmka, 87, passed away peacefully in his sleep, Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at the Prestige Place in Clare. He was born July 25, 1928 in Flint and was raised in the Farwell and Marion area by his adoptive parents, Charles and Lillian Helmka.

He leaves his children James (Linda) Helmka, Charles (Mechelle) Helmka, Mariann (Paul) Santa Maria, Roy M. Helmka, Keith (Wendy) Helmka, Diann (Carl) Nowland, and Jamie Kocur. He also leaves many grandchildren and great grand children, and many close friends. Roy was preceded in death by his parents, wife Shirley Rose Helmka, wife Ilene Kay Helmka, and son Joseph (Sharon) Patrick Helmka.

He married Shirley Rose Clemente on July 31, 1949 and his life revolved around family and his work in the Retail Grocery business. After the death of his wife Shirley he found the second love of his life Ilene Kay Kocur and they were married on February 10, 1972. Later in life he always loved joking and having fun with his Grandchildren and loved to make them laugh. He purchased a small party store in near Marion, Chuck's Corner where he bought and sold groceries and produce. Roy worked for the majority of his life for supermarkets; Big Bear, Wrigley, Ray's Food Fair, and Giant. He was a hard worker and knew the business inside and out.

Roy had a passion for making a good deal with his vendors but always treated them fairly. He loved seeing his customers everyday and he would do anything for them. He always said "If you sell what your customers want to

buy you will always be successful so listen to what they have to say". He always took pride in his business, but truly relished the friends he made along the way.

Roy will be greatly missed and always loved by his family and friends.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, December 6, 2015 at the Clare Chapel of Stephenson Wyman Funeral Home, 1005 N. McEwan St., Clare, from 5 pm until 8 pm.

The Funeral Mass will be held on Monday, December 7, 2015 at the St. Joseph Catholic Church, 811 E. Oliver St., Owosso at 11 am with Father Michael O'Brien officiating. Burial will follow in the St. Paul Catholic Cemetery in Owosso. on-line guestbook at www.stephenson-wyman.com

Cemetery Details

St. Paul Catholic Cemetery

Corner South Street and Morrice Street
Owosso, MI 48867

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 6. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Service

DEC 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Joseph Catholic Church
811 E. Oliver St.
Owosso, MI 48867

Tribute Wall

WK

“ *With All Our Love Terry Smith and Janet Kilgore purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Roy W. Helmka.*



With All Our Love Terry Smith and Janet Kilgore - December 04, 2015 at 11:58 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Roy W. Helmka.*



December 03, 2015 at 05:06 PM

SH

“ *Some of my best memories as a child were going to see Grandpa Helmka in the summer on Budd Lake. He might have had a tough exterior at times but he made myself and my brother and sister Jimmy and Jami feel loved and cherished beyond words. Rest in peace Grandpa. I love you.*
Scott Helmka

Scott Helmka - December 03, 2015 at 02:10 PM

TS

“ Roy Helmka was one of the finest men I ever had the pleasure of knowing.

He was a man that treated everyone the way they wanted to be treated. I am thankful for the years that I got to know him. He always made me feel welcome in his home, May you rest in peace and you will be missed by all. May God be with the ones you have left behind and give them a peace that passeth all understanding.

*Terry S Smith
Lake City, Florida*

Terry S Smith - December 02, 2015 at 06:51 PM

JH

“ Dad taught me so many things over the last 66 years, I could not mention them all here. The 2 biggest things were be Loyal and be a Friend. He was a loving man even though it wasn't always apparent. He was not only my Dad he was my Friend. I will Love you and miss you forever. Your son Jim.

James Helmka - December 02, 2015 at 03:30 PM

KH

“ My dad was one of the hardest working men I have known. We always had food, shelter, and clothing. We might have not had the best, but was always provided for in all of our families needs. I have been blessed to have such a providing, and loving dad, and thankful to be your son. I will always cherish the memories, and will miss you.

Keith

Keith Helmka - December 02, 2015 at 03:09 PM

RH

“ 1 file added to the album RpyM



Roy M Helmka - December 02, 2015 at 02:32 PM

RH

“ 1 file added to the album RpyM



Roy M Helmka - December 02, 2015 at 02:31 PM

RH

“ 1 file added to the album RpyM



Roy M Helmka - December 02, 2015 at 02:31 PM

RH

“ 1 file added to the album RpyM



Roy M Helmka - December 02, 2015 at 02:30 PM

RH

“ 2 files added to the album RpyM



Roy M Helmka - December 02, 2015 at 02:30 PM

RH

“ 1 file added to the album RpyM



Roy M Helmka - December 02, 2015 at 02:29 PM