



William "Bill" Wood

February 27, 1922 - November 5, 2017

William J. "Bill" Wood, age 95, of Clare, passed away peacefully at his home on Sunday, November 5, 2017, surrounded by his family. He was born the son of Dewey and Eleanor (Thering) Wood on Feb. 27, 1922, near Clare. He married Audrey Wild on June 24, 1950 and she preceded him in death on April 7, 2008. A product of the Great Depression and the Second World War, Bill epitomized the humility of that era's citizen heroes and common values of "duty, honor, economy, courage, service, love of family & country". Following his service during the war, he returned to Clare and was a Tool and Die maker for the Holley Carburetor Company and later for Brown Machine in Beaverton. Bill's life centered around his wife Audrey and his family. Bill & Audrey shared many happy years raising their family, playing with their grandchildren, traveling, camping, and polka dancing. They played pepper regularly with their lifelong neighborhood friends for over 50 years. He was a member of the Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church in Clare, was a life member of the Clare VFW, Pettit-Kapplinger Post where he served as Quartermaster for 37 years and marched in scores of parades, and he was one of the founding members of the Credit Union in Clare, now known as Members First Credit Union, serving on it's Board continuously for over 5 decades. In the last year, Bill was able to remain living at home in large part due to his 5 devoted caregivers (The Fab Five) whom he loved. His family will treasure a wealth of memories and a legacy of service. He will be dearly missed.

Bill is survived by his children, Jeff (Jacquie) Wood of Montague, Jennifer Wood of Petoskey, Joy (Bob) Mussell of Midland, and Jill Smith (Tim Franck) of Harrison, three sisters, Margie (Dave , deceased) Koos of Livonia, Jeanne (Dick) Haynak of Farwell, Linda (Tom) Jones of Pinckney, seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Audrey, son Jerry, and two brothers, Clair and LaVern Wood.

Funeral Services will be held on Thursday, Nov. 9, at 11:00 AM from the Our Lady of Hope Parish – St. Cecilia Site in Clare with Fr. Peter Nwoyoke officiating. Burial will follow in the St. Cecilia Cemetery. Friends may meet with his family on Wednesday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 PM at the Clare Chapel of Stephenson-Wyman Funeral Home, and on Thursday from 10 to 11 AM at the church. Memorials may be directed to Clare County Veteran's Freedom Park, PO Box 581, Harrison, Mi., 48625 or to Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church, 106 E. Wheaton Ave., Clare, Mi., 48617.

Cemetery Details

St. Cecilia Catholic Cemetery

411 Schoolcrest Ave.
Clare, MI 48617

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 8. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

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

Visitation

NOV 8. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

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

Visitation

NOV 9. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Hope Parish, St. Cecilia Site
106 E. Wheaton Street
Clare, MI 48617

Service

NOV 9. 11:00 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Hope Parish, St. Cecilia Site
106 E. Wheaton Street
Clare, MI 48617

Tribute Wall

CW

“ *Miss you gramps!*

Chris Wood - March 12, 2024 at 10:14 AM

BR

“ *Sorry for your loss. Bill was a great guy!*
-- *Carissa, Derek, Ayla, Dylan, and Jace!*

Brettinghams - November 09, 2017 at 04:54 PM

LZ

“ *My condolences to you all. It is hard to lose your parent, even when you have been blessed to have had him so long. We will miss his smile.*

Linda Zemko - November 08, 2017 at 04:12 PM



“ *Sweet Liberty was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Wood.*



November 08, 2017 at 11:30 AM

MB

“ *What an amazing privilege it has been for me to spend time with Bill over the last year! I truly enjoyed every minute I spent in his home. He is funny, witty, smart, and very caring. He has never complained about any type of challenge he was dealt, he just handled one day at a time. His family is his true pride and I loved to listen to the stories of his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, he loves them all very deeply. He was very proud to tell me all about spending the day in Higgins Lake late this summer with his entire family (except for 1 or 2 who were out of state). He was very tired when he returned home, but spent the rest of the evening telling me all the details of the get together, especially the delicious food that he had eaten. He has an amazing family who will always treasure the fabulous memories of dad and grandpa! Thank you for allowing me to be part of the Fab Five team of caregivers and sharing your dad with me!*

*My deepest sympathy and love to every one of you!
Melanie*

Melanie Bell - November 08, 2017 at 10:06 AM

MB

“ *Melanie Bell lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Wood*



Melanie Bell - November 08, 2017 at 09:48 AM

BD

“ *Betsy Dillingham lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Wood*



Betsy Dillingham - November 08, 2017 at 09:42 AM

EB

“ *Ellyce Brinkerhoff lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Wood*



Ellyce Brinkerhoff - November 08, 2017 at 08:08 AM

 Janelle
Brandon

“ *Such great memories of Grandma Esther always saving a giant red apple for Uncle Bill. We'd go near it to ask whose it was, before we could even get it out.." I'm taking that to uncle Bill!"*
I will always remember him sitting outside in front of the garage when I'd pass thru Clare.
May he rest in peace and dance many new dances with Aunt Audrey in Heaven!!

Janelle Brandon - November 07, 2017 at 09:43 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Wood.*



November 07, 2017 at 08:53 PM

TJ

“ *Bill, was a very kind and thoughtful brother-in-law. I am fortunate to have him be part of my life. I certainly had great admiration for his past military service in the Pacific during WWII.*

Tom Jones

Thomas N Jones - November 07, 2017 at 02:15 PM

MK

“ *Mike Krzyzanowski lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Wood*



Mike Krzyzanowski - November 07, 2017 at 09:08 AM

WI

“ *I knew Bill and his wife many years ago when I lived in Michigan*

Wayne Irwin - November 07, 2017 at 08:08 AM

 Linda English

“ *Linda English lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Wood*



Linda English - November 07, 2017 at 07:46 AM

JL

“ *Juliann E Lloyd lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Wood*



Juliann E Lloyd - November 06, 2017 at 09:57 PM

BB

“ *Rest in peace my friend, thank you for your service, you and your brothers truly saved the world from evil. Tell mom and dad that I love them and miss them. Until we meet again.*

Bob Bergey - November 06, 2017 at 05:40 PM

BB

“ *Bob Bergey lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Wood*



Bob Bergey - November 06, 2017 at 05:36 PM