



Willis V. Bouchey

May 11, 1930 - March 16, 2026

Willis V. Bouchey, age 95 of Clare, passed away peacefully on Monday, March 16, 2026, at the Pioneer Golden Estate Assisted Living of Clare. On May 11, 1930, Willis was born one of eight children to John and Cecil (Cook) Bouchey in Clare where he remained a proud, lifelong resident. When Willis was just fourteen, he was introduced to his first love of farming, which he enjoyed doing his entire life. On September 1, 1951, Willis was united in marriage to his greatest love, Betty Funnell, and he remained by her side every day for the next seventy-four years that followed until the time of Betty's passing just ten weeks before Willis in January of 2026. A few years after their marriage, Willis began his second career for thirty-two years as a cheesemaker and foreman for Clare's Kraft plant until it's closing in 1989. When he wasn't tending to his hay or dairy cattle on his eighty-acre farm south of Clare, Willis enjoyed fishing and camping around Michigan with his family, especially trips to the Buckley Antique Tractor Festival. He also enjoyed wintering in Central Florida for many years, playing cards with his children and grandchildren, and he was a founding and active member of the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church of Clare.

Willis is survived by his four children Doug (Jane) Bouchey of St. Croix, Jean (Larry) Jackson, Judy (Scott) Hacker, and John Bouchey, all of whom reside in Clare and his grandchildren Marci (Ryan) Fritz, Jillian (Brent) Nixon, Shawn (Tracey) Jackson, Matthew (Kimberly) Jackson, Sara (Bryan) Kieffer, Serena (Tim) Bentley, and Kevin (Britani) Hacker, and his thirteen great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife Betty Bouchey, his parents John and Cecil Bouchey, his infant daughters Marjory and Marcy, and his siblings Clifton Bouchey, Charlotte Livingston, Lida Myers, Janet Simrau, Jack Bouchey, Ilene Caulkins, Vergilene Schrader, and infant brother Lewis Bouchey.

A funeral in honor of Willis will take place on Monday, March 23, 2026, at 12:00 P.M. at the Clare Chapel of the Stephenson-Wyman Funeral Home with Pastor Dave Winningham officiating. Visitation will take place at the funeral home on Monday the 23rd from 10:00 A.M. to the time of service at 12:00 P.M. Burial will follow in the Cherry Grove Cemetery of Clare, and a luncheon will be held at the Clare Moose Lodge starting at 1:30 P.M. Memorial contributions in honor of Willis may be directed to the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church of Clare. For those unable to attend services, online condolences may be shared at www.stephenson-wyman.com

Cemetery Details

Cherry Grove Cemetery

1000 Cedar St.
Clare, MI 48617

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 23. 10:00 AM - 12:00 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/>

Service

MAR 23. 12:00 PM (ET)

Stephenson - Wyman Funeral Home (Clare)
1005 North McEwan St.
Clare, MI 48617
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Tribute Wall

JR

“ Janet R. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Willis V. Bouchey.

Janet R. - March 23 at 03:21 AM

JB

“ A good man has gone home. Willis' love of farming was contagious. I fondly remember "helping" him deliver a litter of baby pigs. He explained what he was doing and I was fascinated. I'm sure there is a beautiful garden in heaven waiting for Willis to tend. He will be missed and remembered with love.

Jill Boardman

Jill L. Boardman - March 20 at 03:42 PM

LM

“ So sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. Didn't know him, but you kids were great people. The only way that happens is by the example that was set for them. Will keep you all in my prayers. Lynn David Mattis

Lynn Mattis - March 20 at 08:25 AM

BH

“ An excellent neighbor for the Doherty Road group. I always enjoyed talking with Mr. Bouchey when we bumped into each other downtown shopping or enjoying a meal at one of Clare's restaurant. He will be missed.

Bruce Hales - March 19 at 10:35 PM

MG

“ Our condolences to the Willis Bouchey family upon hearing of his passing. Our mom worked with Willis throughout her entire 25 years at Kraft. In those times the men and women who worked at the plant became a family. Mom enjoyed much of her time there all because of the friendship she had with her crew. Willis was one of the first employees that welcomed her. She and he truly shared the same hard work ethic and endearing love of family.

*Mark Green and the
family of KC and Betty Green*

Mark Green - March 19 at 05:52 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Willis V. Bouchey.*



March 19 at 01:45 PM

CS

“ *Our neighbors Willis and Betty were the BEST! We are sending love and sincere sympathy to the family. So sorry we can't attend the service for Willis. Remember all of the great times together on Doherty Road. Carl & Connie Strouse*

Connie Strouse - March 19 at 10:23 AM



“ *Sorry, to hear about the passing of Mr. Bouchey.
I grew in on Dunlop Rd neighbors of the Boucheys, if the country
was made with families like the Boucheys as. neighbors it would be
a much better world.
Rest in Peace my fellow neighbor.*

Charles Shayler - March 18 at 05:49 PM