



Jack D. White

August 20, 1929 - September 7, 2018

Jack D. White, 89 of Elk Rapids peacefully passed away September 7, 2018 at his home.

Jack was born on August 20, 1929 on the family farm just outside Elk Rapids, son of Vernon Pearl and Edna Unita (Murray) White.

On December 11, 1954 he married the love of his life, Barbara Ann McColley.

Jack gave his family, community and world enduring gifts.

He was a lifelong fruit farmer who took immense pride in the quality of the cherries, apples and peaches he grew. He taught his children how to farm and harvest the rewards of hard work. He lived to see his family succeed through a fifth generation farm.

He taught by example and an adage that "...if you plan on doing something, do it right and be proud."

He also led by example, believed in giving back to community and did so through public service and civic organizations. He was a dedicated commissioner for Antrim County for 32 years. He served on the Elk Rapids School Board. He was a Mason, Shriner and Eastern Star. In 2012 Jack was honored with the Cherry Festival Lifetime Achievement Award.

Above all else, Jack put family first.

The manner of this man, his genuine, unconditional love of family and his unwavering commitment and sacrifice are qualities that live on and will never leave this world. The success and accomplishments of his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren were the priceless fruits of his love, faith and labor.

Jack was a man of faith. He was devoted to the First Presbyterian Church of Elk Rapids.

He served as an Elder for many years. He lived the principles of his faith and faith became imbedded in the lives of his children.

He is and will be missed.

Jack was preceded in death by his youngest son John; grandson Joseph Philip, siblings Vernon, Robert, Josephine, William, Versil, George "Richard", and his parents.

Jack is survived by his wife of nearly 65 years, Barbara, children Betty (Robin) Tezak, Jean (Pat) Derenzy, Joann (Eli) Brown, David (Kathleen), William (Anne), Doug (Michelle), Paul (Stacey); 18 grandchildren; five great grandchildren and sister Betty Jane VanGorden.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday September 11, 2018 from 5 to 7 pm at the Reynolds Jonkhoff Funeral Home in Traverse City. The funeral service to honor and celebrate Jack's life will be held on Wednesday, September 12, 2018 at 11 am with visitation one hour prior at the First Presbyterian Church in Elk Rapids. Interment will take place at Maple Grove cemetery in Elk Rapids at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Shriners Hospital or to the Acme Christian Thrift Store.

Please visit www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com to share your memories and condolences with the family.

The family is being cared for by Reynolds Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Cemetery

Maple Grove Cemetery

Elk Rapids, MI,

Events

SEP 11 Visitation 05:00PM - 07:00PM

11

Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home
305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

SEP 12 Visitation 10:00AM - 11:00AM

12

First Presbyterian Church
404 Spruce St., Elk Rapids, MI, US, 49629

SEP 12 Funeral Service 11:00AM

12

First Presbyterian Church
404 Spruce St., Elk Rapids, MI, US, 49629

Comments



“ My deepest sympathy to the family of Jack White. He was a man I will always remember as kind, generous and having a great sense of humor. I enjoyed working with him during the time that I was employed by Antrim County. As a County Commissioner I always felt he was able to "get things done" but in doing so, he took time to listen to the input of others and take the time needed to make the right decisions. He will be missed by many.
Margie VanLooy

Margie VanLooy - September 12, 2018 at 09:41 AM



“ I remember when the State took over the Antrim County Building Department. Jack was Chairman of the Board of Commissioners. We had to schedule a meeting with the State Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs. Jack insisted on having the State officials over to his house. He and Barb were excellent hosts, and I have no doubt that (as we ended the meeting with a toast of homemade cherry wine) their hospitality made a huge difference toward the improving relations between the two governmental entities. As Jack was fond of saying about other honorable guys - he was a good man - words that describe my feelings about Jack. Those of us at the County that had the pleasure and honor of working with Jack will miss his presence in this community.

To Barb and the family I wish you peace as you grieve his death and celebrate his life.

Peter Garwood - September 11, 2018 at 03:05 PM



“ To Barb and family:

Our sympathy and love to you and your family. We enjoyed our time with you and Jack at Lily Lake. Your generosity of sharing apples and dried cherries will always be remembered. Enjoyed stopping by your house and sharing stories with you and Jack. So happy that our paths crossed for a short time. Love, Jim and Betty Phillips

Jim Phillips - September 10, 2018 at 03:38 PM



“ WILBUR-ELLIS COMPANY purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Jack D. White.



WILBUR-ELLIS COMPANY - September 10, 2018 at 02:12 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Jack D. White.



September 10, 2018 at 08:18 AM



“ I would catch him napping when stopping for apples. I love his apples so we chatted quite a bit the last few years. He was a dear man.

Margaret Edgington - September 09, 2018 at 07:34 PM



“ I first met Jack when I became an employee of Antrim County in 1979 and liked him immediately. He had a wonderful sense of humor and it was obvious he loved representing the people of Elk Rapids as a County Commissioner. As the years rolled on we became workplace friends and it was so easy to talk with him on different issues. When I became a union steward he surprised me in some of the things he suggested I do as the steward for the employees and most of the time he was right. I missed him when he retired but was fortunate to see him at various functions thru the years. My thoughts are with Barb and the family.

Marilyn Prezkop

Marilyn Prezkop - September 09, 2018 at 06:46 PM



“ We are saddened by the news of Jack’s passing. As I mentioned in Lily Lake Chatter, if someone missed knowing Jack they missed one of life’s truly great men. Sadly we’re in the Dakotas so will not be able to attend Jack’s visitation and give personal condolences to the family. Rest assured our hearts are broken. Thoughts to Barb and family.

Sheila and Mike Kovalchik (Traverse City and Lily Lake, FL)

Sheila & Mike Kovalchik - September 09, 2018 at 12:34 PM



“ Mildred McColley and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Jack D. White.



Mildred McColley and Family - September 08, 2018 at 06:06 PM



“ Jack was NO is one of the very best people I've had the pleasure to know in my life time. Steve Louiselle. I can only imagine the big hole, left for his family. God Bless Jack. It was indeed a honor.

Steve Louiselle - September 08, 2018 at 04:15 PM