



## Theodore "Ted" MacTavish

June 7, 1922 - March 30, 2015

Theodore (Ted) MacTavish, aged 92 years and a 50-year Traverse City area resident passed away on March 30, 2015. He was born in Lowell, MI on June 7, 1922 and graduated from Lowell High School in 1942. During World War II, Ted served in the 8th Air Force, and was stationed in Rattlesden, East Anglia, UK as a ground crew member servicing B-17 bombers until April 1945. After returning from military service, Ted married Mary Elizabeth (Betty) Gingrich and together they raised a family of three children. Before settling in 1965 on their Leelanau County farm, they lived in Lowell, MI, Colorado Springs, CO, Traverse City, MI, St. Louis, MI and Phoenix, AZ. Ted held many jobs during his life including cabinetmaker, tailor, butcher, grocery store owner, farmer, and salesman.

Beginning in the late 1960's Ted became active in the Leelanau 4H club and contributed his time to starting a strong livestock program that focused on goats, lambs, and horses. For his work in that program, a popular Traverse City radio station recognized him as a "WCCW Good Guy." In 1989, Ted and Betty sold their farm and divided their time between their summer retirement home in Greilickville and their winter home in Zephyrhills, FL. Ted is survived by his wife of 68 years, his three children, Linda McGlothlin (Marvin), Robert MacTavish (Phyllis) and Thomas MacTavish (Krista), seven grand-children and eleven great-grand children.

In accordance with Ted's wishes cremation has taken place. Private family services will be held at a later date. Burial of Ted's cremated remains will be in Oakwood Cemetery in Lowell, MI.

Donations honoring Ted's life may be made to Traverse Bay United Methodist Church, 1200 Ramsdell Rd, Traverse City, MI 49684

Please feel free to share your thoughts and memories with Theodore's family at his Life Tribute Page at <http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com>.

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

# Comments

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“ Ted was an influence and mentor in my life. He will be remembered.

Paul Burton

**Paul Burton** - April 03, 2015 at 10:50 AM



“ Paul, Thanks. I know that he enjoyed time spent with our generation. With appreciation,  
Tom

**Thomas J MacTavish** - April 03, 2015 at 08:05 PM

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“ When Mr. Mac was mad at Sam the goat for getting out of his pen and rapped him in the head with a hammer. Only time I heard him swear. Our prayers are with you.  
Dick & Fannie

**Dick Wyckoff** - April 03, 2015 at 10:32 AM



“ Thanks Dick, We could fill a book with 'farm stories.' Dad was so patient with the animals and with our collection of friends over running the farm with our summer campouts.

**Thomas J MacTavish** - April 03, 2015 at 08:07 PM

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“ It was a blessing to have known Grampa Ted. I will remember the beautiful day that his grandson Andy and my daughter Ashley opened wedding gifts in the lovely backyard garden and other family picnics that Ken and I were invited to attend. I hope Andy has inherited Ted's farming and gardening talents!

My heart goes out to the family at your time of loss.

Tryna Chubb

**Tryna Chubb** - April 03, 2015 at 09:03 AM

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“ Ted, so proud of your Scottish Heritage! You will be missed! A privilege to know and interact with you and Betty. Such a gracious host sharing food, fellowship and your lovely garden which you attended so faithfully. Your presence will be definitely missed, but you will always remain in many hearts. My sympathy to all the family.  
Much Love, Wilma Blood

**Wilma Blood** - April 02, 2015 at 02:32 PM

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“ I am sorry to hear of the passing of Ted. Both your Mom and Dad were dear to me. Mary was my maid of honor and we enjoyed many visits with the two of them.  
Ruth Lowe

**Ruth Lowe** - April 02, 2015 at 08:53 AM

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“ Ted was such a kind and giving man who enjoyed working in his garden and sharing his love of flowers with everyone. He and Betty were always welcoming to friends and strangers alike. We were blessed that Ted made a crib for our daughter when she was pregnant with her first child. It is a treasured part of our family. His love of young people and 4-H work will be remembered by many. Our deepest sympathy to the family.  
Garry and Marlene Curtiss

**Marlene Curtiss** - April 01, 2015 at 12:57 PM



“ I am sad that I will not be able to visit with Ted again. He was a kind and thoughtful person. He was proud of his Scottish heritage as are his children and grandchildren. Ron and I attended his grandson Ryan's wedding where all the men in the wedding party wore MacTavish or McGlothlin kilts!  
Our sympathy to the family. Nancy and Ron Olson

**Nancy Olson** - April 03, 2015 at 11:49 AM