



Garland C. Draper

August 25, 1932 - April 13, 2022

Garland Charles Draper was a wonderful Christian man, beloved daddy, cherished grandpa, and loving husband. He passed away peacefully at his home in Williamsburg, Michigan on April 13, 2022. Garland was born on August 25, 1932, in Taymouth, Michigan. Garland Draper started working for Buick Motor Division, Flint, MI UAW Local 599 as a machine set up man, and was paid on multiple suggestions before retiring in January of 1981. When he began working, he was drafted into the army, serving there for two years before returning and finishing his 30-year career at Buick. He married his wife Rita Decker Draper on November 17, 1956. Around 1972, during the time he was working in Buick, Garland Draper worked weekends and evenings after work with his family, building a home in two years, complete with four bedrooms and a full basement. Garland attended the Bristol Rd. School of Biblical Studies for three years, graduating in 1984. He became an Elder of the Center Road Church of Christ in Saginaw, Michigan for several years, as well as the Caro Church of Christ in Caro, Michigan, while also being a part-time minister. Garland was a volunteer delivering Meals on Wheels to people in need and was honored as Volunteer of the Year by the State of Michigan. In his later years, he found joy in creating wooden toys and displaying them at craft shows with Rita and his daughter Cherie Lepeak for many years. During the 1980s, Garland owned and operated his business, Rita's Woodworks, making furniture for three years. He was always a kind man; he never met a stranger.

He was a great storyteller, and loved to joke around with everyone. This was the kind of man Garland Draper was; a family-oriented man who strived to honor and love his family, all the way up until his final moments. Garland Draper was preceded in death by his mother and father William and Mildred Draper, along with his siblings Betty Ewing, Kathleen Gean, Josephine Rummel, Darrel Draper and great grandson Liam Charles Kelly. His surviving family members are his brother Bill Draper from New Braunfels, Texas, and his wife Rita Decker Draper, along with his three daughters and their families; Cherie and Steve Lepeak in Port Austin, Michigan, Gwen and Dan Schnell from Owasso, Oklahoma, and Kellie and Anthony Makinson, from Williamsburg, Michigan. Garland Draper had eight grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren, all of whom he loved to the depths of his heart. The funeral service will take place Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 2:00 PM at Kalkaska Funeral Home. Burial will take place at 1:00 PM at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan on Wednesday, April 20, 2022. The family will receive friends beginning at noon until the time of service. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home.

To view the live service please click on this link. The link will be active beginning at 1:30PM.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MJ_0-Gi9hJc

Cemetery Details

Great Lakes National Cemetery

4200 Belford Rd
Holly, MI 48442

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **19**. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Kalkaska Funeral Home
152 S. Cedar
Kalkaska, MI 49646
(231) 258-3346

Funeral Service

APR **19**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Kalkaska Funeral Home
152 S. Cedar
Kalkaska, MI 49646
(231) 258-3346

Burial

APR **20**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Great Lakes National Cemetery
4200 Belford Rd
Holly, MI 48442

Tribute Wall

KM

“ *There are not enough words to say about my Daddy. I miss him more than words can say. I have fond memories of him as I grew up. The last three months living with us were fun, funny and very sweet. I will cherish them always. Thank you for your service Daddy, in the many many ways you served others.*

Kellie Makinson - May 20, 2023 at 09:18 AM

GS

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Gwendolyn Schnell - March 07, 2023 at 12:43 PM

GS

“ *13 files added to the album Memories of the Garland Draper family*



Gwendolyn Schnell - March 07, 2023 at 12:34 PM

GS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Gwendolyn Schnell - March 07, 2023 at 12:06 PM

GS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Gwendolyn Schnell - March 07, 2023 at 12:05 PM

GS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Gwendolyn Schnell - March 07, 2023 at 12:04 PM

GS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Gwendolyn Schnell - March 07, 2023 at 12:03 PM

GS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Gwendolyn Schnell - March 07, 2023 at 12:02 PM

GS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Gwendolyn Schnell - March 07, 2023 at 12:01 PM

GS

“ 1 file added to the album Memories of the Garland Draper family



Gwendolyn Schnell - March 07, 2023 at 11:49 AM

GS

This was so long ago! In about 3 years from this shot, our younger sister Kelie came along.

Gwendolyn Schnell - March 07, 2023 at 04:53 PM

WD

“ William Draper purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Garland C. Draper.



William Draper - April 19, 2022 at 09:18 PM

MG

“ Garland was a Great example of a faithful servant for the Lord. We always loved going to Cracker Barrel with Garland and Rita and the crew! I remember other times when we were eating out after church, Garland would walk to the other tables and share the gospel of Jesus! Their is so much to say about Garland but not enough room! Praying for Rita and the family. We Love You. Mike and Pam



Mike and Pam Guest - April 19, 2022 at 01:18 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Garland C. Draper.



April 19, 2022 at 10:36 AM



“ Love the Caro Church of Christ purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Garland C. Draper.



Love the Caro Church of Christ - April 18, 2022 at 04:11 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Garland C. Draper.



April 18, 2022 at 03:23 PM



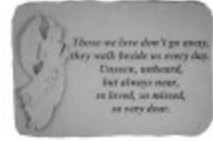
“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Garland C. Draper.



April 17, 2022 at 03:13 PM



“ *Garden Accent - "Those we love don't go away..." was purchased for the family of Garland C. Draper.*



April 17, 2022 at 12:54 AM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Garland C. Draper.*



April 16, 2022 at 10:14 PM



“ *Your Loving Family purchased the Distinguished Service Casket Spray for the family of Garland C. Draper.*



Your Loving Family - April 16, 2022 at 09:53 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Garland C. Draper.*



April 16, 2022 at 06:55 PM

TP

“ I didn't see Garland often but always enjoyed his company. He always had a smile and an encouraging word. He loved God. He was honest. I know because I did his taxes a number of years (for free). I pray comfort for Rita and the rest of the family. Garland is now with his Lord. Terry Pace

Terry Pace - April 16, 2022 at 01:09 PM

TW

“ I will miss Garland's smile and his stories. I remember one story that Cherie told how Garland planted cucumbers and would come home from work and take care of them and pick them so the girls could take them to the pickle plant to sell and get their spending money.

Terry Waitt - April 16, 2022 at 12:46 PM

GK

“ I remember so many things about Garland. The wonderful Christian that he was stands out the most but he was many other things too. He loved his family with all his heart. I will never forget the day in Flushing that he and Rita got a new car, I don't remember what make it was but it was beautiful and had A/C. I'd never seen a car with that so I asked him, " How do you know when it's cold enough?" And Garland in his sweet funny humor said, "When it starts to snow!!!!" I don't know anyone that didn't love Rita and Garland!!!

Ginny Kretschmar - April 15, 2022 at 12:21 PM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Garland C. Draper.*



April 14, 2022 at 10:26 PM



“ *Aunt Rita, Cherie, Gwen & Kellie., We are so sorry for your loss. So many memories of Uncle Garland. We were blessed to see him these last few months. May God comfort your heart's. He will be safely missed by all. ❤️ Love you all!*
Craig & Brenda Lahti

Brenda Lahti - April 14, 2022 at 08:08 PM



Thank you. Yes we miss him and his joyful presence daily in his new home with us! Such a blessing in these last three months!

Kellie Makinson - April 17, 2022 at 12:53 AM



Thank you so much for the prayers, thoughts, and flowers on this occasion of remembering Daddy/Garland. He was loved and respected by so many. Thank you for sharing with us!

Gwendolyn Schnell - March 07, 2023 at 11:08 AM