



Martin R. Woodhams

August 10, 1935 - August 19, 2023

Martin Raymond Woodhams passed away peacefully in the early hours of Saturday, August 19, 2023, of heart failure. Martin was born on August 10, 1935, to Raymond and Julia (Montgomery) Woodhams of Kalkaska, MI. He graduated from Kalkaska High School in 1953. Upon graduating, Martin traveled to Florida with friends to work on a survey crew and try his hand at sales. Shortly after, he returned to Kalkaska to ask for his high school sweetheart, Mary Aldridge's hand in marriage. Together they had four children and began their life together as a family. They owned a gas station, an oilfield mud company, and an ice business. Eventually, they successfully built and operated Martin's Sales & Service, selling and servicing Kawasaki, Ski-Doo, Arctic Cat, and John Deere. After 21 loving years of marriage, Mary lost her battle with cancer much too soon in life. Quick to realize life was best when shared with another, Martin married Linda Gibbons and together they sold real estate, drove school buses, operated an excavating business, and eventually realized his childhood dream of operating a dairy farm like so many others in his family had done. Sadly, their union ended after 22 years when Linda also succumbed to cancer. God was very good to Martin and helped him find love for a third time. Martin married Roberta (Hall) Hendricks and together they were able to enjoy their last 23 years of life. They spent most of their retired years as snowbirds, wintering in Lakeland, Florida, and summering in Kalkaska. They enjoyed time with their combined families, their dog Rosie, and many good and dear friends through the years. Martin and Roberta were

very committed to their faith and regularly attended churches, both in Kalkaska and Lakeland.

Martin enjoyed a love of all music, especially the old hymns and songs of the big band era. He loved to sing and whistle a tune. Some of Martin's most endearing attributes were his loyalty to friends and family, his honor, and trust in others. His glass was always more than half full and bigger than anyone else's. He was a model of tenacity and perseverance. His sense of humor and positive attitude were often seen through his smile and excitement when he greeted you. He genuinely loved to be with others and was quick to hug or handshake when saying hello or goodbye. Martin's meal prayer always asked God to help him find a way to make someone else's life a little better, and God heard Martin's request and answered with opportunity. For Martin, a stranger truly was just a friend he hadn't met yet.

A visitation for Martin will take place at Kalkaska Funeral Home on Saturday, August 26 at 2:00 pm, with a service to follow at 3:00 pm. The family asks that in lieu of flowers, you consider memorial contributions to Kalkaska County Commission on Aging, the Loren E. Hazen Memorial Scholarship Fund, or Hospice of Northern Michigan. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **26**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Kalkaska Funeral Home
152 S Cedar St
P.O. Box 1457
Kalkaska, MI 49646

Memorial Service

AUG **26**. 3:00 PM (ET)

Kalkaska Funeral Home
152 S Cedar St
P.O. Box 1457
Kalkaska, MI 49646

Tribute Wall

SH

“ *Mr. Woodhams was a ‘ great’ bus driver whom my children say was the ‘Best’. I enjoyed his kind words during the times I spent working at KPS. He always looked out for the children. My prayers are with the family. Sharon Underhill*

Sharon - August 26, 2023 at 11:36 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Martin R. Woodhams.*



August 26, 2023 at 11:21 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Martin R. Woodhams.*

August 26, 2023 at 11:21 AM

DR

“ *As a kid growing up in Kalkaska I always enjoyed seeing Martin at various family gatherings or hometown events. He always was genuinely happy to see you and wanted to know how it was going! Over the last 15 years or so I had a chance to see him on occasion at the Kalkaska Senior Center with my dad, Willard. Fond memories and he will be missed.*

Doug Ryckman

Doug Ryckman - August 26, 2023 at 11:15 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Martin R. Woodhams.

August 26, 2023 at 08:07 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Martin R. Woodhams.



August 25, 2023 at 11:12 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Martin R. Woodhams.



August 25, 2023 at 08:49 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Martin R. Woodhams.

August 25, 2023 at 08:49 AM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Martin R. Woodhams.



August 23, 2023 at 04:45 PM

LA

“ *Martin had such a special gift from the Lord. A gift of seeing the positive in everyone. We will miss him dearly and will always remember his kind & gentle heart. Our thoughts & prayers go now to his family, for peace & comfort as you honor & remember his legacy of life. Thank you for sharing your Dad. May God Bless & keep you always.*

Larry & Charlene Anderson

Larry & Charlene Anderson - August 22, 2023 at 10:04 PM

DN

“ *Deborah Pat Newell lit a candle in memory of Martin Woodhams*



Deborah & Pat Newell - August 22, 2023 at 08:23 PM

SA

“ *I am sending my sincere sympathy and love to all of Martin's family and dear friends. He was incredibly special to me and my loved ones and he will be missed beyond words. His legacy lives on through his beautiful family and my life is better because I knew him. This obituary certainly captures the essence of this kind man and his amazing impact on our world. Rest easy Martin! With sympathy, Shelley Appelbaum*



Shelley Appelbaum - August 22, 2023 at 04:21 PM