



Eric E. Childs

March 26, 1920 - August 3, 2010

Eric Elwood Childs, March 26, 1920-August 3, 2010 Died in his home in Plymouth MI at the age of 90, surrounded by family. Eric was born in Jacksonburg KY. One of 5 children, Eric made sure to take care of his family, from new teeth to a new furnace, Eric always placed family first. Eric, along with being an excelling Corsair pilot for the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II, took his place among the well-known names of the flying world by having met Orville Wright, flown with Charles Lindbergh and gone to school with John Glenn. During his years at Hamilton High in Ohio, Eric took the field as an award winning tight end and on the court as an outstanding guard in basketball, accomplishments which led to his induction into the Hamilton High School Hall of Fame in 2006. Eric was a lifelong employee of the Ford Motor Company, where he was instrumental in designing, test driving, and overseeing the manufacturing of numerous vehicles. Eric would say his proudest accomplishment was the courtship of his wife, which upon meeting Mary, Eric stated to his brother Claire, "I'm going to marry that Mary Brennan". Eric and Mary led an amazing life together, filled with trips to Africa, India, France, and many other breathtaking places. Eric was preceded into his death by his wife, Mary Childs in 1996 and is survived by all three of his sons: Mike (Mary Beth), Jon (Corinne) and Peter (the late Andrea), and his grandchildren Clarke, Audrey, Robert, Bradley, Eric and Lauren. The viewing will be held 6-9 PM Friday at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 West Ann Arbor Road (between Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. The funeral service will be held 11 AM

Saturday at First United Methodist Church, 45201 North Territorial (west of Sheldon) Plymouth. In State at Church 10 - 11 AM. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Rd, Livonia MI 48154. To share memories please use the condolences link on this page. Eric would want his life to be summed up in three simple words, "He Loved Mary".

Tribute Wall



“ *Eric E. Childs*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *Eric and my father were first cousins, although a generation apart. They shared the same grandparents. I only had the opportunity to meet and talk with Eric once, but it was a memorable experience. He shared stories of growing up and visiting my grandfather, his "Uncle Charley" on the family farm in Kentucky that I will forever be grateful for. My condolences to the entire family. Eric was truly a very special person.*

Jeffrey Scott - December 12, 2014 at 10:16 AM



“ *Terri and I were most saddened to hear of Eric's passing. He was a very fine man in all respects and I know he will be missed. Both he and Mary were good friends and very much appreciated by all. Bill Graham former Mayor*

William Graham - December 12, 2014 at 10:16 AM



“ *Dear Pete, I just read of your father's passing and wanted to send my condolences. It has been years since we have talked, but I wanted you to know I was thinking of you and your family. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Lauren (Turnbow) Falcusan*

Lauren (Turnbow) Falcusan - December 12, 2014 at 10:16 AM

FT

“ Dear family of Eric and Mary, When I moved to Plymouth in 1989 to work for the Plymouth Chamber your mother would come in to see us often. She was always such a positive and encouraging person. As quiet as Eric was the three words you used to describe him fit exactly. He sure loved Mary. Sending sincere sympathy at this sad time

Fran Toney - December 12, 2014 at 10:16 AM

RH

“ When I was a young Product Planning analyst, Eric was one of the influential "trainers" I knew. A real gentleman, a wealth of knowledge, and always a straight shooter. He will be missed by many!

Robert Harris - December 12, 2014 at 10:16 AM

DS

“ To Eric's family, I worked for Eric when i was ayoung engineer some 25 years ago. he was mentor and father figure to me. One of the best bosses I ever worked for. I know he was a super father too. He will be missed and I will remeber him in my prayers.

Dan Schneble - December 12, 2014 at 10:16 AM

GF

“ Our prayers are with you three boys and your familes following the loss of your Dad. Your folks were among our first neighborhood friends when we moved to Arbor Croft. (There's a name from the past!) What great people they both were. I still think of your Mom everyday when I hang the flag out in front of our garage. May God bless you all. Marge and Gene Fisher.

Gene and Marge Fisher - December 12, 2014 at 10:16 AM

JG

“ Eric and I worked together for many years at Ford. Although things were chaotic at times, Eric was always the voice of calm and reasonableness. He was valued for his integrity. And, despite the pressures of the job, Eric was always had a smile and an encouraging word for everyone. He, his family and many friends are in my thoughts and prayers today. Joe Gilmore

Joe Gilmore - December 12, 2014 at 10:16 AM

BH

“ It was a pleasure and an honor to have known Eric at Ford, and I know he will be missed by his family and many friends. He was a true hero, and may he rest in peace.

Brian Hellis - December 12, 2014 at 10:16 AM

JK

“ I did not know Mr. Childs well, but he was always a first class gentleman - which was all too often rare around Ford. I'd also like to express my thanks for his service to our country. May he rest in peace. John Keilly

John Keilly - December 12, 2014 at 10:16 AM

AL

“ I knew and worked with Eric at Ford...a great guy!!!

Art Lewry - December 12, 2014 at 10:16 AM

BS

“ Eric was a very caring & influential person in our lives. We were honored to be Mary & Eric's neighbor for 21 years. He had the most wonderful smile, which made you smile too. We can not explain in words how much we loved and respected him. He was a giant and gentle man. We never will forget how he was always there to help Mary with her many activities. He would always stay in the background, doing whatever she needed, as if no one could see him! His generosity, teasing, and advice was his greatest gift to our family. Mary and Eric were our very best friends. We were blessed to have known the Child's family.

Bob & Carlene Stoner - December 12, 2014 at 10:16 AM

BM

“ Our condolences to Eric's family. A great guy, who I regarded as a close friend. I always regarded Eric as indestructible! One of my fondest memories is taking Eric to an airshow at the 'Shuttleworth Trust' in England during 1977. A large British 1945 fighter (a Sea Fury) flew over and Eric jumped up yelling "Thats my sort of areoplane!" We feel very sad.

Bob and Marjorie Marshall. - December 12, 2014 at 10:16 AM

RS

“ Mr.Childs (both Mr.and Mrs.Childs) were wonderful neighbors to have growing up. Mr.Childs could shoot a "swish" from 50 feet going in the air another 50 first. He showed me how to hold and swing a golfclub for the first time. Before leaving on one of their many trips, he tossed me the keys to his yellow mustang convertible and told me to have fun. He was very generous. Mom and he would always have a "biggest" and "first" tomato of the season contest. Many times our families shared a meal in the backyard during the summer. He will be greatly missed.

Ronda Stoner - December 12, 2014 at 10:16 AM