



## Joseph N. Cleveland

February 14, 1933 - July 2, 2018

Joseph Norman Cleveland 85, of Plymouth died from complications of a heart attack on July 2, 2018. Joseph was born in 1933 to Henry Grover Cleveland and Clara Fawkes Cleveland. He grew up as the youngest of three children in Shelbyville, Kentucky, where he helped in the family grocery store. At the University of Louisville he earned a Bachelor of Education and Masters of Psychology; he also graduated Magna Cum Laude and was a member of the Kappa Delta Pi Society. While in Louisville he met and married Norma Jean Christ. They moved to Michigan in 1962, where Joe accepted a Statistical Analyst position at Ford Motor Company. For more than thirty-five years Joe worked at Ford and held numerous positions including Economic Analyst, Industrial Relations Analyst, and Editor/Writer for Technical Service Bulletins.

Joe and Norma raised four children and enjoyed thirty-five years of marriage. Unfortunately, Norma passed away from cancer in 1990. He was also predeceased by his brother Henry Cleveland and sister Helen Cleveland. Later he married Wilma Wagner and spent his final twenty-three years with her in Plymouth, Michigan. They enjoyed traveling to Europe, gardening, and taking walks together.

As a loving father and cherished husband, Joe's amazing wit and storytelling ability will be forever missed. Joe was proud to be a Louisville Cardinal, avid gardener, and bird watcher. He also had a strong interest in World War II

history. Joe also earned the rank of life long Boy Scout and worked as YMCA camp counselor.

He leaves behind his wife, Wilma, along with his children: Norvin (Julie), Mary (Andrew), David, Robert (Margot); and two stepchildren: Holly (Jere) and Andrew. His love will be missed by his grandchildren: Oliver, Nicholas, Clara, Andrew, Olivia, and Robert. He is also survived by his sister-in-law Katherine Cleveland and nephews John and Jim Cleveland.

Joe's family will receive guests at the Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 Ann Arbor Rd. W., in Plymouth, MI on Thursday, July 5 from 3 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The funeral will take place on Friday, July 6 at 10:00 a.m. at the Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home with Reverend Melanie Carey officiating, followed by interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield, MI. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation ([www.cff.org](http://www.cff.org)) and the Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum (<https://giving.thehenryford.org/>).

Kindly keep the Cleveland family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

To share a memory, please use the Share A Memory tab on the web page.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 5. 3:00 PM - 7:30 PM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Plymouth  
46401 Ann Arbor Road West  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
(734) 459-2250  
plymouth@vermeulenh.com

## Funeral Service

JUL 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Plymouth  
46401 Ann Arbor Road West  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
(734) 459-2250  
plymouth@vermeulenh.com

# Tribute Wall



“ *Joseph N. Cleveland*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joseph N. Cleveland.*



July 05, 2018 at 04:41 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joseph N. Cleveland.*



July 05, 2018 at 10:57 AM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Joseph N. Cleveland.*



July 05, 2018 at 08:19 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joseph N. Cleveland.*



---

July 05, 2018 at 08:15 AM



“ *Jamie, Rod and Bill O'Brien and families purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Joseph N. Cleveland.*



---

**Jamie, Rod and Bill O'Brien and families** - July 05, 2018 at 06:50 AM



“ *So sorry for your family's loss. You are all in our thoughts and prayers. Jamie and Amy OBrien*

---

**Jamie OBrien** - July 04, 2018 at 04:52 PM



“ *Love, Mary and Chris Gaffield, Kim and Tim Klaes purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Joseph N. Cleveland.*



---

**Love, Mary and Chris Gaffield, Kim and Tim Klaes** - July 04, 2018 at 11:41 AM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Joseph N. Cleveland.*



---

July 03, 2018 at 09:28 PM



“ *Your Friends, John & Kay Kemerer and family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Joseph N. Cleveland.*



---

**Your Friends, John & Kay Kemerer and family** - July 03, 2018  
at 07:54 PM



“ *Melissa Z. purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Joseph N. Cleveland.*



---

**Melissa Z.** - July 03, 2018 at 05:18 PM