



Norman Woodley

October 27, 1930 - October 24, 2020

Norman Woodley was born on October 27, 1930 in Lima, Ohio to Willie & Maud Woodley. Norman was one of eleven children born to this loving union. After graduating from Lima South High School he joined the United States Air Force where he rose to the rank of Technical Sergeant over a stellar 20 year career. He relished his work in the Air Force, where he worked as a police officer in England, Turkey and several states across the U.S. On July 6, 1968, he married his true soulmate, Charlene, while stationed in Dover-Foxcroft, Maine. They settled in Detroit, Michigan in 1971, where they raised four children, Kristen Kay, John Bruce, Kelly Angela, Kacy Lynn and granddaughter Kaitlyn Moriah who he raised as his own child.

Upon retiring from the Air Force, Norman began a more than 40 year civil service career, including over 20 years as an Adjudication Officer for the Veteran's Administration and more than 10 years at the American Legion, helping advocate for our nations' veterans. Norman enjoyed helping veteran's navigate the complexities of their benefits and took great joy in helping them find the resources they needed and earned through their service to our country.

Norman was an amazing cook and truly enjoyed trying new foods from cultures all across the world. He cooked dinner most nights and so many of his dishes remain legendary. He was the "king of breakfast" and ate a full breakfast of eggs and bacon almost every day of his adult life. Norman was also quick to adopt new technology and used his iPad to further his interest in history, reading and connecting with family. Norman had many interests, but nothing compared to the joy he took in spending time with his family. He made the smallest moments special, from waking up early to make breakfast every morning to creating special "relish" trays for a family TV night. He was a devoted father who supported his children and grandchildren always. Norman was also a devoted and loving husband. Nothing made him happier than making Charlene's day, which he did often. Norman's smile always lit up the room and he was beloved by everyone who spent time with him. He was an optimist, approaching even the most difficult things with positivity and strength. Inevitably, this rubbed off on others and he just made everything better. He will be truly missed, but his impact on his family, friends, and co-workers will be his lasting legacy.

Norman was preceded in death by his father, Willie; his mother, Maud; his brothers, Jesse, Donald, Clifford, Haskell and his sister, Dorothy Smith. He is survived by his wife, Charlene; his four children, Kristen, Bruce, Kelly (John) and Kacy (Cornelius); his 12 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren; his sisters, Bernice Upthegrove, Ruth Ann Ward, Stella Clark and Barbara Jean Stewart; his brother, Willis and a host of family members and friends who will cherish his memory.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (<http://www.pancan.org>) in the memory of Norman Woodley.

Due to Covid-19 and staying in the guidelines of the CDC, Mr. Woodley's visitation and memorial service will be family only. The family thanks you for your support and understanding.

Cemetery

Great Lakes National Cemetery

4200 Belford Road

Holly, MI, 48442

Events

NOV

3

Family Hour

10:30AM - 11:30AM

O'Brien-Sullivan Funeral Home

41555 Grand River Ave, Novi, MI, US, 48375

NOV

3

Family Memorial Service

11:30AM

O'Brien-Sullivan Funeral Home

41555 Grand River Ave, Novi, MI, US, 48375

Comments



“ He made a positive impact on many people’s lives. And will be missed by many.

Brigadier General William Cemetery - August 27 at 12:17 PM



“ John Jacko lit a candle in memory of Norman Woodley



John Jacko - October 28, 2020 at 08:33 AM



“ I remember so many great conversations with Mr. Woodley during my high school days when I would visit Kelly. The most memorable moment of Mr. Woodley is in January 2010 during my father’s viewing service and He and Mrs. Woodley walked in. My heart was overjoyed that they thought enough of me to want to pay their respects to my father and our family. RIP Mr. Woodley and we will see you in the morning.

Damon K Davis - October 27, 2020 at 09:52 PM



“ He was an affable person”.

Brigadier General William Cemetery - August 27 at 12:19 PM



“ Madeline Haithcock lit a candle in memory of Norman Woodley



Madeline Haithcock - October 27, 2020 at 06:58 PM



“ We are Praying for Each and Everyone of You...We will Continue Lifting You Up in Prayer . Lucas Family

Lucas Family - October 27, 2020 at 05:56 PM



“ More than a grandfather you were my dad. I will always have your smile in my memory along with your jokes to keep me smiling. Miss is an understatement of what I feel when I think of you. Until I get another hug again... rest peacefully dad.
-Love your little mama

Kaitlyn - October 27, 2020 at 04:44 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Norman Woodley.



October 27, 2020 at 03:41 PM



“ My Uncle Norman is in Heaven right now probably chatting it up with my dad. I feel I have lost two father's. Uncle Norman means so much to me. It is true that he was a great cook. Whenever I had the chance I would ask him to make my favorite... SOS. Yummy! A simple meal but he made it somehow fun to have... an event, and it was delicious. That was my Uncle. He could make life fun! I just know Heaven is a joy because he and Dad are kickin the bobos!
Aunt Charlene, you know how I've always felt about you. I am praying for you. Family! You never leave my heart!

Tanya Haithcock Catlin - October 27, 2020 at 12:37 PM



“ Very nice : 1:

Madeline Haithcock - October 27, 2020 at 04:10 PM



“ Norman was one of the best, he will surely be missed. A beautiful personality and the kindest person I've ever known. He adored his family God has taken up with the other angels

Madeline Haithcock - October 27, 2020 at 04:13 PM



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Damon Davis - October 27, 2020 at 05:14 PM