



## Cedric William Root

July 1, 1924 - August 2, 2015

Cedric William Root, 91, of Hastings, formerly of Vermontville, died peacefully on Sunday, August 2, 2015. Cedric was born July 1, 1924, in Chester Twp., the son of William Miriam and Iva Blanche (Boyer) Root. He graduated from Vermontville High School Class of 1941 before enlisting in the U.S. Marines and serving the duration of World War II in the Pacific Theater. Upon his return from the war, he married Kathleen Cranson and the two settled in Vermontville to raise their family.

Cedric worked several jobs in farming and roofing before going to seminary and becoming the minister at Wheaton Road Church of Christ for over 40 years. He was a member of the Charlotte VFW Post 2406 and was briefly the chairman of the Eaton County Democratic Party. Cedric was also a free and accepted Mason, first in Vermontville and later at the Kalamo Lodge. Above all, Cedric loved his family.

He is survived by his daughter, Cynthia (Dennis) Walker of Hastings; sons, Michael (Vicki) Root of Vermontville, William (Vickie) Root of Deland, FL, and James (Evelyn) Root of Deland, FL; 14 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; brother, Millard (Phyllis) Root of Mulliken; and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his wife, Kathleen Root in 2000; second wife, Helen Root in 2005; granddaughter, Tiffany Root; 5 brothers; and 5 sisters.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, August 7, 2015 at Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte with Rev. John Bailey officiating. Visitation will be from 2:00-4:00 and 6:00-8:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 6, 2015 at the funeral home. Interment will take place in Gresham Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Greater Michigan Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association or the Maple Valley Scholarship Fund. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Cedric on his tribute page at [www.prayfuneral.com](http://www.prayfuneral.com). The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home.

# Cemetery Details

## **Gresham Cemetery**

4100 Mulliken Rd  
Charlotte, MI 48813

# Tribute Wall

CW

“ I was sorry to hear of Cedric's passing. Most of my memories of Cedric come from Miller Reunions. He is a man I remember as different then most. As I grew I learned it was his relationship with Jesus that made him stand out. I know he is at peace in heaven with Jesus. And one day we will be there with him if we have excepted Jesus as our Savior. Please take comfort in the knowledge of eternal life. Cindy (Boyer) Williams

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**Cynthia Williams** - August 11, 2015 at 06:44 PM

TW

“ How can we say THANK YOU to this wonderful friend we had in Jesus. Cedric was our dearly loved mentor and friend all our lives. WE have so many memories together, Halloween parties, corn roast picnics at their house, sitting around the fireplace eating popcorn and having bible studies...his lessons at Wheaton Road church. He and Millard both officiated at our wedding. He was dear to us then, and will continue to be!!! We spent many, many hours with Kathleen and Cedric. We were family. We are in Florida visiting relatives...we are heartsick not to be able to be there with the Root family today to share in celebrating Cedric with them. Love you all. Love You Cedric. Jeff & Charlotte Whitson

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**The Whitson's** - August 07, 2015 at 09:01 AM

MC

“ One of favorite stories I recall Uncle Cedric telling was at my folk's cottage at Pine Lake. Everyone was just sitting around and someone asked Uncle Cedric about his time in service. He shared that when he was in Marine training one of his superiors heard him say he would hunt on the farm. The superior said, "You know how shoot a rifle"? "Sure I said"....so they made me a "sharp shooter". Some time goes by and I was talking about driving a tractor on the farm. Again a superior heard me and said, "You know how to drive a tractor". "Sure I said"....so they made me a tank driver. After that I shut up!!

*I recall Uncle Cedric and Aunt Kathleen's wonderful relationship. Aunt Kathleen had such a joyful laugh. My condolences to you Cindy, Mike, Bill and Jim and to your children and grandchildren.*

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**Marilyn Root Coffield** - August 07, 2015 at 08:52 AM

AC

“ There are so many memories of Grandpa's house and farm. I remember pulling my wagon full of dolls down the road to their house, opening the screen door to find Grandpa rehearsing his radio Bible Class at the table, or finding him in the barn with his antiques, or carving one of his wood creations. One of my earliest memories was walking around their property at a corn roast. There seemed to be people everywhere. I remember the smell of roasting corn and crocks full of corn ready to add to the roasters.

I will never forget family get togethers. The littlest kids sat at the counter area. As you got older you were allowed to eat at the long, long, antique table which seemed to go on for miles in my little eyes. Grandpa always prayed and thanked God for good food and family.

Grandpa and Grandma went to as many home sporting events as they could. I remember them parking on the hill at the football field, eating peanuts and popcorn, and watching the game (and numerous grandkids) play ball from the truck. Grandpa always wore bib overalls and filled the front pocket full of peanuts. Our oldest son, EJ remembers going to their farm and picking walnuts from their tree in the front yard to eat with Grandpa.

Grandpa and Grandma always made a point to write and visit our family when we moved up north. They would make a color tour in the fall and always stop to visit for an afternoon before driving on home.

Grandpa's hearts desire was to seek and to save the lost. There were so many Christ-centered talks around their living room over my growing years. I took for granted the love of God and joy family can have in Christ. Thank you Grandma and Grandpa for modeling what it looks like to live for Christ, walk like Jesus, talk like Jesus, and be all you can be for His glory.

Sincerely,

*Amy Walker-Campbell*  
*Granddaughter*

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**Amy Campbell** - August 06, 2015 at 06:53 PM

DN

“ *My heart feels heavy today. and the memories flood my soul. This wonderful man taught my family so much, I have yet to meet another that has delivered the truth and lived it. I know the Lord has a very special place for him. Blessings and comfort to his wonderful family....Thank you for sharing your Father and Mother...love them dearly*

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**Dianna Nichols** - August 06, 2015 at 05:32 PM

EC

“ *Ed And Carolyn Cranson lit a candle in memory of Cedric William Root*



**Ed and Carolyn Cranson** - August 04, 2015 at 10:00 AM

EC

“ *Carolyn and I send our deepest sympathies to your family at the loss of Uncle Cedric, he was a great example as I grew up. I have many memories on the farm when we were all kids growing up, he will be missed, may he rest in peace. Ed and Carolyn Cranson*

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**Ed and Carolyn Cranson** - August 04, 2015 at 09:58 AM

JR

“ Lots to remember - I'm sure I'll miss something.

*The biggest thing that I remember was how special it was to go to Grandma and Grandpa's house. For us, most of the time, that meant getting to spend time with three different families. It was fun to be able to visit Grandparents, but also be able to spend time with Aunts, Uncles, and play with cousins that were just across the yard or down the street.*

*I remember having meals together, celebrating Christmas (I think I got to dress up as "Santa" a few times when I was younger), how big a deal it was to finally eat at the "grown up" table, wandering through the workshop, and playing outside on the tire swing.*

*I remember how cool it was that Grandpa would make fun carvings out of wood. I still have a few things that he made at our house now. I remember how he and Grandma would always come to as many of our events as they could, even when Grandma's health was failing and it was harder to get around.*

*Most of all, I remember the influence that he (and Grandma) had on my faith. I am very fortunate to be a part of a family that is grounded in our faith. I always saw Grandpa as the center of our families' beliefs. I was proud that he was a preacher, and I always thought that it was cool when he'd come and be a guest speaker at whatever church we were attending at the time. It was fun to go visit the Wheaton Road church and see so many family members and friends there. I'll never forget the time that my family came up to visit from Texas - we arrived about halfway through the church service on a Wednesday night, tried to sneak in the back door to not interrupt, and Grandpa (who was in the middle of his lesson) stopped the service so that everyone (probably mostly Grandma) could give us hugs.*

*Although I'm very sad as his passing, I am confident that he is in a much better place with Grandma, watching over all of us.*

**Jeremy Root** - August 04, 2015 at 09:45 AM

SW

“ *My deepest sympathy! Sorry to hear of your dad's passing...prayers for all!*

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**Shana Ouelette/fellow driver at WDW** - August 03, 2015 at 08:08 PM

CR

“ *My fondest memories of Cedric were around the kitchen table. Coffee breaks with children using regular mugs & grandchildren with small amber cups. While we all did this we watched Kathleen make her amazing bread (6 loaves; twice a week). I also remember observing cutting up deer meat then helping to make summer sausage. Breakfasts were also an important meal of the day! Cedric was a wonderful father-in-law and amazing Christian.*



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**Connie Root** - August 03, 2015 at 07:51 PM