

Ford L. Topping D.D.S.

August 14, 1927 - December 9, 2016

Ford L. Topping, D.D.S.. 89, of East Lansing, MI died peacefully on Friday, December 09, 2016, at Burcham Hills Retirement Center. Ford was born August 14, 1927 in Jackson, MI, the oldest son of Carl and Winifred Topping. He graduated from Jackson High School in June 1945, and enlisted in the Navy for 2 years or the duration of World War II, where he served aboard the USS Wisconsin. Upon his return from the service, he attended Jackson Community College, and then the University Of Michigan School Of Dentistry where he was a member of Delta Sigma Delta Fraternity. Upon graduation from U of M in 1952, he set up practice in Jackson until his retirement in 1987. In his retirement years he enjoyed playing the banjo with the Jackson Banjo Club, and later the saxophone with the New Horizons Band in East Lansing.

Ford is survived by his wife of 63 years, Laura Cudney Topping; daughter, Susan of East Lansing; son, David (Lee Anne Warner) of Seattle, WA. He is predeceased by his parents; a sister, Margaret Topping Roberts; and brother, Richard C. Topping.

Private burial will take place at Maple Hill Cemetery in Charlotte, MI. A memorial service at University United Methodist Church in East Lansing will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 15, 2016 with visitation from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m., just prior to the service. The family wishes to acknowledge the excellent, loving care that Ford received at Burcham Hills Retirement

Center. If desired, in lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions be made to University United Methodist Church, Jackson Kiwanis Club, the Lansing Concert Band, or a charity of your choice. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Ford on his tribute page at www.PrayFuneral.com. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 15. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

University United Methodist Church
1120 S. Harrison Road
East Lansing, MI 48823

Memorial Service

DEC 15. 1:00 PM (ET)

University United Methodist Church
1120 S. Harrison Road
East Lansing, MI 48823

Tribute Wall



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Ford L. Topping D.D.S.*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - December 13, 2016 at 07:21 PM

JR

Ford was a great example of how to live he made me a better person

Jerry Rhines - December 17, 2016 at 08:41 AM

PS

“ *Dear Laura,
I am so sorry to hear of Ford's passing. I remember him as a good friend starting with him playing the trombone in the Jackson High School Band and continuing our friendship through the Community College and thereafter. I respected his always maintaining a positive attitude. My sympathy in your loss. Pete Shelby*

Pete Shelby - December 21, 2016 at 12:09 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Ford L. Topping D.D.S..*



December 14, 2016 at 04:59 PM

Don
Alles

“ Hello, Topping family... and deepest sympathy from all of us on the Alles side. Thank you especially, Susan... for bringing us news and cheer from Ford and your family on Facebook over the last several years. I took this solemn opportunity to share the family tree with my daughters, who were fascinated to see Ford's place in it and marveled at the breadth and depth of our "sturdy farming stock" roots.

“Love is how you stay alive, even after you are gone.”
— Mitch Albom



Don Alles - December 14, 2016 at 12:24 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Life Tributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - December 14, 2016 at 06:59 AM

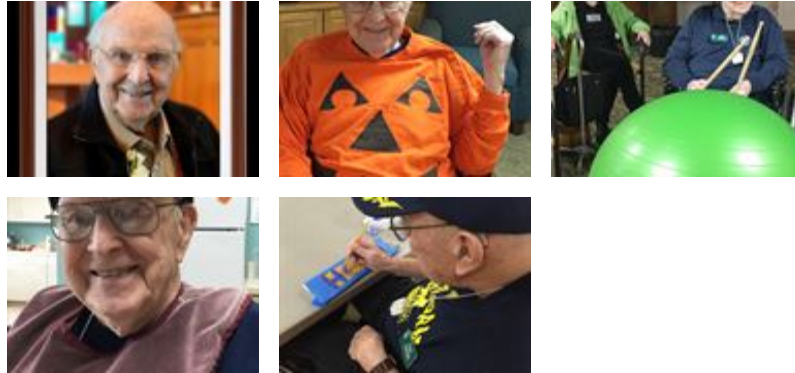
JF

“ Condolences to the Topping family. Although Ford has passed away his legacy continues in his beautiful children. His musical talents, humor, and kindness that he passed on to David are appreciated by all in Seattle. You are all in our thoughts and prayers - Jeanne and Campion Fellin

Jeanne Fellin - December 13, 2016 at 09:22 PM



“ 52 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - December 13, 2016 at 07:16 PM

JF

“ *Dear Aunt Laura, Susan, and David,*
I am so sorry to hear of Uncle Ford's passing. He actually made going to the dentist almost fun! My sister Anne and I used to love riding the 'self serve' elevator in his original office downtown. I still have not lost a single one of his fillings, and everytime I visit a new dentist they marvel at this. I just tell them my uncle was REALLY good! My thoughts will be with you during this sad time, and Susan and David, he always told us how proud he was of you both.
Love to you all,
Jane Fillmore

Jane Fillmore - December 13, 2016 at 01:52 PM

MJ

“ *So sorry to hear about your dad, Sue.*
Your sharing stories about your dad have been wonderful, and I hope in time those fond memories will sustain you.
Hugs for you,
Marty Jennings

Marty Jennings - December 12, 2016 at 10:53 AM

RD

“ Dear Laura, Susan and David,
We send you our heartfelt sympathy at Ford's passing,
remembering all of you from band days in Jackson, and also
summer band days at Interlochen. How dull they would have been
without Ford's jokes and general good humor. We also remember
his banjo playing and what a great time he had doing that here in
Jackson.

Best wishes even as you miss your dear husband and father,
Bob and Cynthia Davey

Robert & Cynthia Davey - December 12, 2016 at 07:24 AM

MD

“ So sorry to read of Ford's death in this morning's paper. I've missed
him so much in the months he's been away from New Horizons
Band. What a joy and spark he was to all of us. Always smiling.
Always cracking the cleverest jokes. And I laughed out loud at every
one! My thoughts and prayers are with you, Laura. You did such an
amazing job caring for him these ten years I've known you.

Mary Daugherty - December 11, 2016 at 09:49 AM