



## Merle Eugene Butrick

May 29, 1928 - March 18, 2015

Merle Eugene Butrick, 86, of Charlotte, MI died peacefully on March 18, 2015 in Charlotte. Merle was born May 29, 1928 in Fort Dodge, Iowa, the son of Darryl Edwin and Dorothy Clara Louise (Bannow) Butrick. He graduated from Edwardsburg High School before serving in the U.S. Navy from 1950-54 during the Korean Conflict. He worked as a heavy equipment operator for Spartan Asphalt and Capital Excavating in Lansing. Merle loved working outside, especially fishing, and spending time with his family and was an active member of Chester Gospel Church.

Merle is survived by his wife, Virginia Butrick; children, Debra (Jim) Myers of Hillsdale, Dawn (Ernie) Ray of Ada, MI, Dianna (David) Laverdiere of Charlotte, Darla (Mike) Hibbard of Howell and Dorothy (Kevin) Wenger of Mt. Pleasant, IA; 12 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; brothers, Duane Butrick of Jones, MI, Gerald (Carolyn) Butrick of Jerusalem, AR, Larry (Alice) Butrick of Cheyenne, WY and Robert (Phyllis) Butrick of Edwardsburg, MI; and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents; brothers, Durell Butrick and Rayburn Butrick; sisters, Darlene and Evelyn Butrick, and Orabelle Craig; and granddaughter, Kristin Hundt.

Funeral services will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 21, 2015 at Chester Gospel Church with Pastor Marc Livingston officiating. Visitation will be from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. on Friday, March 20, 2015 at the

funeral home. Interment will be in Gresham Cemetery. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to Eaton Community Palliative Care or Jason and Nisae Williamsons of New Tribes Missions. Friends and family may share memories of Merle on his page at <http://www.prayfuneral.com>. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

# Cemetery Details

## Gresham Cemetery

4100 Mulliken Rd  
Charlotte, MI 48813

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 20. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home, Inc.  
401 W Seminary St  
Charlotte, MI 48813  
(517) 543-2950  
<https://www.prayfuneral.com/>

## Visitation

MAR 20. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home, Inc.  
401 W Seminary St  
Charlotte, MI 48813  
(517) 543-2950  
<https://www.prayfuneral.com/>

## Service

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MAR **21**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Chester Gospel Church  
3744 W. Vermontville Hwy  
Charlotte, MI

# Tribute Wall

DW

“ My Dad was not perfect, but he tried his best to be the best husband and father to his family. He was a hard worker and instilled that into us kids on a daily basis. Dad was a jolly man who loved to crack jokes and then get a big grin on his face. One thing he always did on a no-fail basis was jump out from behind the pantry cupboard to scare my family after our long journey from Iowa to MI. He loved doing things like that. The last time he did that was in Dec 2014. He was 86 when he last did that. One fond memory of Dad was staying up until midnight in Dec 2015 swapping church jokes with my kids. My kids thought the world of dad. He would take my son fishing with his other fishing buddy. He would love to visit and spend time with my girls just talking to them. Dad constantly was telling me I should not come home so often. That I had a family of my own. Dad and I both had a love for Iowa and the farm. His last wish 2 years ago was to take one last trip to Iowa, but his health was failing and it was not in his best interest for him to travel that far. I have been told many times I am a lot like my dad. I think that is partly true. I don't back down on what I think is right. I can be bossy, but then again the apple doesn't fall far from the tree. 😊 Dad loved westerns and he totally instilled that into my family. My kids love the old westerns that dad loved to watch. Dad was never afraid to die. He was ready because he loved The Lord, letting go of dad is the missing him, but really what could be better than sitting at the feet of Jesus?

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**Dorothy Wenger** - April 01, 2015 at 09:24 AM

CF

“ Sending prayers and hugs to you all. I was blessed to know Merle, he was a strong and gentle soul. I am with you in thoughts at this difficult time.

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**Carleen French** - April 01, 2015 at 09:24 AM

BC

“ Dear Virginia my thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. Barbara Culp

Barbara Culp - April 01, 2015 at 09:23 AM

MP

“ Sorry about your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Michelle Pollack - April 01, 2015 at 09:23 AM

RP

“ dear Butrick family, I am so sorry for your loss Merle was a great man and will be missed . Rick Pennington

rick pennington - April 01, 2015 at 09:23 AM

TC

“ Dawn, I am so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my thoughts.

Tiffany Chilvere - April 01, 2015 at 09:23 AM

BW

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family during this difficult time. Take care

Betsy Weber - April 01, 2015 at 09:23 AM

CL

“ I am so sorry for your loss! My prayers & love are with you all!

Carol LaCross - April 01, 2015 at 09:22 AM