



## Richard E. Cooper

April 7, 1927 - September 8, 2017

Richard “Dick” Cooper of Charlotte, MI, passed away peacefully at the age of 90 on Friday, September 8, 2017, surrounded by family. Dick was born April 7, 1927, in the little town of Chester, MI. He was the son of Hugh and Almary (Root) Cooper.

Dick, the oldest of 5 siblings, learned the value of hard work growing up on the family farm. He proudly served in the U.S. Navy during the end of World War II. He married the love of his life, Lila, on April 11, 1950. They had two children, Susan and Scott. Dick purchased Smith’s Mens Wear in 1968, a staple business in the Charlotte community, where he had worked since 1948. He enjoyed working there until he retired in 1988. After retirement, Dick and Lila moved to Morrison Lake to enjoy their mutual passion for golf and lake living. They enjoyed many great times with family there including boating and card games. They enjoyed traveling with family and friends. Dick’s favorite trip was with family to Hawaii. He enjoyed golf and had a talent for making people laugh. His sense of humor and smile were contagious, and he could make anyone feel like they were family.

Many will remember and honor Dick’s generosity to his family, friends and his community. His impressive list of involvement includes Masonic Worshipful Master, Order of Easter Star Patron, Demolay Dad Advisor, Job’s Daughters-Associate Guardian, Grand Marshall of Frontier Days, Chamber of Commerce

Board, Jaycees, Rotary President, Yacht Club, V.F. W. Life Member, American Legion for over 60 years, Charlotte Centennial Board, City Of Charlotte Board, Member of the Charlotte Country Club, and Downtown Improvement Board.

Dick is survived by his children Susan (Galen) Christenson, and Scott (Penny) Cooper; 4 grandchildren including Kristin (Jason) Bowzer, Courtney (Roderick) Jones, Carley Gilding, and Heidi DeMuth; 8 great-grandchildren including Dreux, Austin, Brayden, Nevaeh, Kennedy, Tyler, Tyce, and Taylor; brother William (Martha) Cooper; sister Linda (Bill) Groleau; brother-in-law, Roger McDonald and several nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his wife, Lila (Mayer) Cooper; brother Robert (Bev) Cooper; sister Nancy (Cooper) McDonald; grandson Kurt DeMuth; and nephews Tim Cooper and Scott Stair

Memorial Services will be held Friday, September 15, 2017 at 11:00 AM, at the First Congregational Church of Charlotte, with Pastor Phil Hobson officiating. The family will receive visitors Thursday September 14th, 2017 from 2:00 to 4:00 PM and 6:00 to 8:00 PM at Pray Funeral Home.

If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to Eaton Community Palliative Care, or First Congregational Church of Charlotte. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Dick on his Tribute Page at [www.PrayFuneral.com](http://www.PrayFuneral.com). The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

# Cemetery Details

## Maple Hill Cemetery

801 Tully Brown Rd.  
Charlotte, MI 48813

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 14. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home  
401 W. Seminary St.  
Charlotte, MI 48813

## Visitation

SEP 14. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home  
401 W. Seminary St.  
Charlotte, MI 48813

## Funeral Ceremony

SEP 15. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Congregational Church of Charlotte  
106 S. Bostwick  
Charlotte, MI 48813



# Tribute Wall



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Richard E. Cooper




Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - September 13, 2017 at 05:41 PM

MB

*What a great video! Sob, sob! Brings back lots of memories of the Cooper's living next door to us.*

Mary Jean Baker - September 13, 2017 at 07:18 PM

 Kristy Kenyon

*What an awesome video. I will always remember your Dad saying to my dad (Ken Sherman) when it rained on the golf course, Hey Kenny, atleast your the last one to feel the rain drops.*

Kristy Kenyon - September 13, 2017 at 11:46 PM

JS

*Many wonderful memories growing up in Charlotte and knowing Dick and family. I will miss his bear hug greeting. God bless to the Cooper family.*

Julie Bruce Shaver - September 14, 2017 at 12:21 AM

LM

*Beautiful memories, Uncle Dick will be sorely missed and yes he could give the best hugs ever. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Love you Uncle Dick RIP.*

Linda McDonald - September 14, 2017 at 12:42 AM

KS

*Dick was the essence of love, kindness and humor. He was a great friend to my father and to our family. We loved him dearly* ❤️😭🙏

Kirk Sherman - September 14, 2017 at 08:22 AM

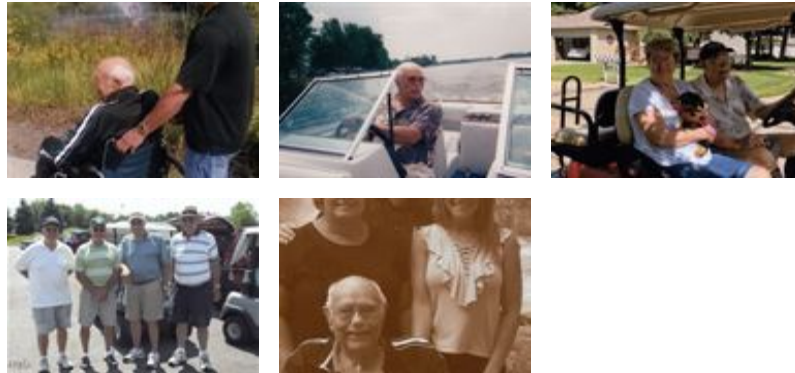
JJ

*“ WILL MISS HIS SMILE AND HUGS.... PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS TO THE FAMILY JAMIE JOHNSON {HGB}*

JAMIE JOHNSON - September 15, 2017 at 07:20 AM



*“ 9 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - September 14, 2017 at 10:28 AM



*“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Richard E. Cooper.*



September 13, 2017 at 08:11 PM

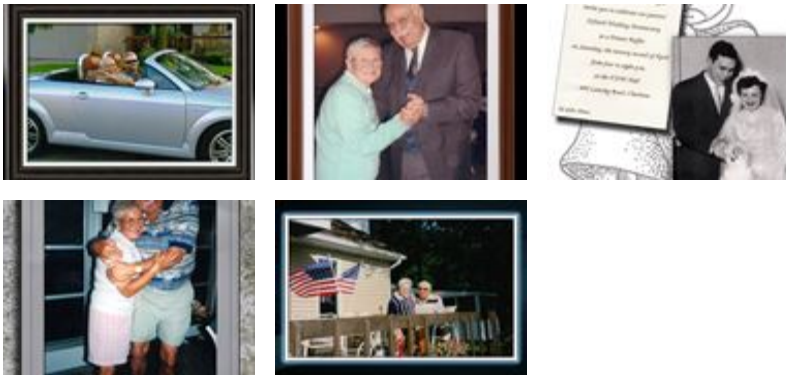
NL

“ I spent many of my childhood hours playing at their house and thought Dick was the BEST. Always kind and funny. I remember him as always the life of the party at my parent's parties. He will be greatly missed by whoever's life was touched by him.

Nancy Backofen Lynam - September 13, 2017 at 08:00 PM



“ 36 files added to the album Life Tributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - September 13, 2017 at 04:08 PM

SJ

“ Scott & Penny and Sue & Galen and families, so sorry to hear about your Dad. He was one of my most favorite people in Charlotte. He was always such a gentleman and had such a great smile and kind heart. It was a pleasure and honor to get to know him during my years at the Chamber of Commerce. I will always treasure my many fond memories of Dick, especially dancing with him as Grand Marshall the year I was Frontier Days Queen in 1984. His legacy lives on in the wonderful family he leaves behind. Rest in peace, Dick, and know we will miss you but we look forward to seeing you again.

Susan & Andy Joostberns

Susan Joostberns - September 12, 2017 at 01:23 PM

FH

“ I am very sorry to hear of the loss of Dick Cooper, I fondly remember shopping at his store as a young boy for my Boy Scout supplies and when I got older for dress wear. I continue to shop there after I moved away from charlotte. I also have good memories from the Masonic Lodge and enjoying the great fellowship with him. My thoughts and prayers for comfort go out to the family

Frank R. Herrick - September 12, 2017 at 08:02 AM

BF

“ Scott and Sue, our sympathies and prayers for you and family during this difficult time. Your dad was such a great friend to my dad and one one of the nicest men I knew. Rod and Betsy Fuller.

Betsy Fuller - September 10, 2017 at 05:04 PM

GC

“ What an fun loving man! We were honored to share his 90th birthday party with him and his family and friends. Much love to the entire family. Ginny Chase and Kim Kaminski.



Ginny Chase - September 10, 2017 at 10:49 AM

LC

“ LOYD CORDS lit a candle in memory of Richard E. Cooper



LOYD CORDS - September 10, 2017 at 10:44 AM

GC

“ Dick was an active and involved good citizen of our community. He always had a smile and was in good cheer. It was plain to see Dick was always happy to see people, which made others happy also.

Gene and Ruth Conley - September 09, 2017 at 09:02 PM

AS

Scott, You and your family are held in our thoughts and prayers through this time. To me, your Dad was always the most cheerful, genuinely happy man I ever met. The pleasure of knowing him, and being around him was shared by everyone. Truly a man we all should strive to emulate.. His friendship will be celebrated in the hearts of many for years to come.  
In our Prayers,  
Arvid Salisbury

Arvid Salisbury - September 10, 2017 at 10:52 AM

TB

We always enjoyed Dick's sense of humor and living next door to the Cooper's for years on Third Street. We remember one day when he decided to jump off the roof of the pool house into the pool. We were worried he would miss the pool. What a great family the Cooper's are and we cherish all the memories. Daryl and Mary Jean Baker

The Bakers - September 10, 2017 at 11:01 AM

CR

Sue and Scott, I'm so sorry to hear about your dad. You will both be in my thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

Cindy Robinette - September 10, 2017 at 12:27 PM

MB

What a shock to read on Facebook today, so sorry to hear this sad news. We enjoyed Dick at the RACE Reunion just two weeks ago. He was always a favorite cousin and his sense of humor was just precious. Our love to Sue and Scott, Bill and Linda.

Marilyn & Carroll Briggs - September 10, 2017 at 01:40 PM

JA

*Knew Dick in the 50's!! Bought all my Boy Scout things in Smith's Dick was a joy to be around always pleasant an helpful!! Had not seen him in years have g moved away from Charlotte RIP Dick*

**JackW4004** - September 10, 2017 at 03:04 PM

BP

*Scott&Penny and family you are in our thoughts and prayers*

**Bill&Bonnie Partridge** - September 10, 2017 at 08:17 PM

CS

*Dear Linda and Bill,our thoughts are with you and the family at this time of loss. Love and Prayers, Chris and Sue Scott*

**Chris and Sue Scott** - September 11, 2017 at 11:42 AM

GE

*His laughter and good spirits always filled the room! And, Dick always made you feel like you were the only person in the room when he engaged you in conversation. He will truly be missed by those who knew him. May God be with the Cooper family during this time of healing. Gary & Rosie Ells, Rockford*

**Gary Ells** - September 11, 2017 at 03:07 PM

BW

*Having purchased their house in 1986, we enjoyed the fruits of Lila and Dick's labor for these last 31 years. At first the pool care scared me, so I would go down to Smith's Men's ware and ask him all the questions about the proper care. He was most patient with me and I Made a new friend. We will miss his humor and smiling face. God speed Dick Cooper!*

*the Wilson's (Gloria and Bob)*

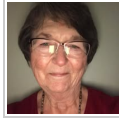
**Bob Wilson** - September 11, 2017 at 03:27 PM

JN

*What an amazing man and he certainly left a legacy. He could always get me to smile and laugh before leaving the bank.*

*Jon Novetske*

**Jon Novetske** - September 12, 2017 at 03:43 PM



*I find it hard to put into words. Dick was always smiling, always a booster on a bad day, gave the best hugs ever. I am ever so grateful for the day I hired in at Smith's. Dick had the biggest file of salesman jokes I had ever seen. I cherish those hugs I got when he would come to the Senior Center he would always seek me out to give me my hug, Well here's a virtual hug right back attcha mister, and a few tears to go with it.*

*Diane Hudson*

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**Diane Hudson** - September 14, 2017 at 09:21 AM