



## Russell Howard Weiler

May 22, 1940 - August 10, 2019

Russell Howard Weiler, a man known by all for his story telling, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family and friends on Saturday, August 10, 2019. Russ, 79, of Vermontville, was born May 22, 1940, the son of Howard and Esther (Flanders) Weiler. Russ grew up and spent most of his life in Vermontville, MI. He graduated from Vermontville High School class of '58. He later went on to work at Diamond Reo for 18 years and then at General Motors for 25 years before he retired in 2002. Russ was an active member of UAW Local 652 holding various union appointed positions, he also was an active member of the Eaton County Democratic Party. In 2012 Russ found out that his heart had been severely damaged by silent heart attacks and in order to save his life he received a left ventricular assist device (LVAD). This device allowed for 7 more amazing years to spend with his family and friends. Russ enjoyed putting in the garage and working on any and everything with a motor. He loved country life where he could chop his own wood, work on or ride around on a tractor, hunt in the fall, and have lunch with his Vermontville classmates. He loved traveling, especially to visit his children, grandchildren and watching as many of their games, competitions, plays and other school events as he could. He also enjoyed driving to Cadillac where he could cheer on his favorite wrestler, Kris P. Bacon. Russ was very proud of all of his kids and grandkids who lovingly called him Pa. Lastly, Russ was a fan of the Lansing Lugnuts, he attended numerous games with his wife and special friend, Dottie Feighner.

Russ is survived by his wife of 37 years, Victoria (Hatt); children, Russell (Eleanor) Weiler Jr., Steven (Carol) Weiler, James Weiler, Dawn Weiler, Karris (Robert) Hutchison, Andy (Ann) True; 10 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; sisters, Kathy Neal, Linda (Pat) Golnek; many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins; special friends, Ann Samann, Barry Kent, and Pamela and Wayne Stine; and finally his dog, Anajai. He was predeceased by his parents; brother, Ralph; and infant daughter, Loretta.

Friends are encouraged to support Russ's family at visitation and memorial services. Memorial services are Saturday, August 17, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. at the Wacousta Community United Methodist Church. There will be visitation for two hours prior to the memorial. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to The American Heart Association, or a charity of your choice. Friends and family who are not able to attend the service may view the service for Russ on his Tribute Page at [www.PrayFuneral.com](http://www.PrayFuneral.com). The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 17. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Wacousta United Methodist Church  
9180 Herbison Road  
Eagle, MI 48822

## Memorial Service

AUG 17. 2:00 PM (ET)

Wacousta United Methodist Church  
9180 Herbison Road  
Eagle, MI 48822

# Tribute Wall



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Webcast in memory of Russell Howard Weiler*



---

**Pray Funeral Home, Inc.** - August 17, 2019 at 01:54 PM



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Russell Howard Weiler*

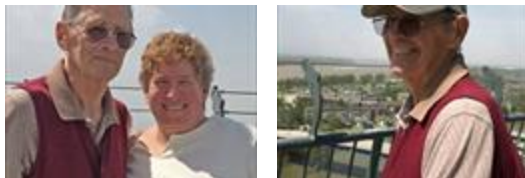


---

**Pray Funeral Home, Inc.** - August 15, 2019 at 10:00 PM



“ *You will be missed! These were taken a few years ago in Memphis, TN. Our prayers are with you all during this difficult time! All of our love, Dottie Haley and Brittney*



---

**Dottie Carr** - August 17, 2019 at 02:05 PM



“ 39 files added to the album LifeTributes



---

**Pray Funeral Home, Inc.** - August 15, 2019 at 09:59 PM

JM

“ So thinking of you, Vicki. You and I were lucky to have two good ones. Will not be able to come Saturday because my grandson and granddaughter are celebrating their birthdays that day, but want you to know I will be having you in my thoughts and prayers. I know you will cherish all the memories that you and Russ made together. They are so valued. Hugs, Vicki.

---

**Judy Markovich** - August 15, 2019 at 05:04 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Russell Howard Weiler.



---

August 14, 2019 at 08:42 PM

KG

“ Russ has impacted so many lives that if there was a star in the sky for each there would not be enough room. Cherish those happy memories and let them bring you comfort and strength. He is physically gone but will forever remain in your heart Vicki and in so many others too. Hugs and Love to the whole family from, Karen Galuszka

---

**Karen Galuszka** - August 14, 2019 at 11:03 AM

AS

*Russ was a classmate of mine at Vermontville High School, one of only 30 of us. We lost contact in the years we were both rearing kids but reunited several years ago with help of his wife Vicki. Both have been attending our '58 luncheon get togethers. Oh the stories he can tell about those school years. He remembers it all, good, bad and fun. We love hearing about those old times and are going to miss him at our luncheons. I recently was invited to a Lugnuts game with Russ, Vicki & Dottie and a poor little bird was by his feet not moving much. Russ picked him up & unwrapped the birds feet from a long hair he was tangled in. That's the kind of guy Russ has always been, always looking to see what he can do for others. Russ, I'm going to miss your kind smile and especially your stories of past times. RIP*

---

**Ann Samann** - August 14, 2019 at 01:46 PM

AS

*Ann*

---

**Ann Samann** - August 14, 2019 at 01:47 PM

BK

“ Russ was a very special part of my life. He shared his family, home, and friendship with me as long as I can remember. Always there to help out and be supportive, I will miss him as a big part of my extended family. My favorite memory of Russ was his sense of humor. If he wasn't making fun of me, I have big shoulders, he was cracking me up with a fun story or silly joke about anything and everything. If you needed something fixed, tuned up, or taped together, Russ could do it. His love of anything that had a gas engine or wheels kept him busy all the time. I will miss him as a friend, brother and someone who I respected and loved without question. Good Bye dear friend, Barry Kent

---

**Barry Kent** - August 13, 2019 at 12:07 PM