



## Francis A. Lenhart Jr.

September 3, 2011

Francis A. Lenhart, Jr. (Fruitcake) of Upper Sandusky passed away at 1:00 P. M. on September 3, 2011 at Wyandot Memorial Hospital. He was born on Nov. 14, 1923 to Francis Sr. and Hattie Tuthill Lenhart in Tiffin, OH. His family moved to New Riegel, then Upper Sandusky where he graduated from high school in 1942.

On April 24, 1954 Francis married Dorothy Sparks in St. Peter's Rectory. He was the father of three children: Christopher, Susan, and Vicki. He is survived by two grandsons, Elliott and Andrew, and a great-granddaughter, Nevaeh. He was preceded in death by his son, Chris, his parents, and his brothers, John and Lewis.

People have often asked how Francis acquired the nickname (Fruitcake.) It came about when his basketball coach dubbed him (Nuttier than a fruitcake) when he answered a question in a whimsical way. Fruitcake was then shortened to Fruity.

After graduation, Francis served in the U. S. Marine Corps during World War II as an M.P. at Navy Base 103 from 1942-1945. He was a catcher for the Marine Corps softball team. He also was a player/manager for Bud's Sport Shop fast pitch softball team. In addition, he managed a semi-pro basketball team, the Oneidas. He umpired baseball, refereed CYO basketball, and

managed the American Legion Baseball team. Francis enjoyed a long work history. During high school he worked for Neumeister's Bakery as well as Jones Clutch Daybrook Hydraulic where he worked for 24 years. He was then employed at Westinghouse/A.O. Smith for 37 years and retired at the age of 79.

His great love of sports was exemplified most in his passion for the OSU Buckeyes. He also rooted for the Upper Rams, the BGSU Falcons, the Cleveland Indians, and the Cleveland Browns. Fruitcake was an avid gardener and loved animals, especially the many pets he had throughout the years. Nothing pleased him more than sitting on his front porch.

Visitation will take place at Bringman Clark Funeral Home in Upper Sandusky on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 from 4-8 P.M. with a prayer service at 4:00 P. M. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at Transfiguration of the Lord Catholic Church (St. Peter's) in Upper Sandusky on Thursday, September 8 at 10:30 A.M. with Father J. R. Hadnagy O.F.M. Conv. officiating. A Full Military Graveside service will take place at St. Peter's Cemetery with the Upper Sandusky Veterans Color Guard. Memorials may be made to Wyandot Memorial Hospital's Renovation and Expansion Project or to the charity of the donor's choice in care of Bringman Clark Funeral Home 226 E. Wyandot Ave. Upper Sandusky, OH 43351. Visit [www.bringmanclark.com](http://www.bringmanclark.com) to view the Life Tribute DVD, send a condolence or share a memory.

<http://videos.lifetributes.com/244373>

# Tribute Wall



“ Vicki and family,

*I only had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Lenhart once. He struck me as a very kind, interesting, and genuine man. I have heard many, many stories about him from Vicki who was clearly enamored with her Dad and with good reason. He seems like he was a caring and devoted father, husband, and friend, someone who had a firm faith in God and in his life after this one.##imported-begin##Kate Carrigan##imported-end##*

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September 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Dotty and Family,

*I want to express my sincere sympathy for your loss of such a wonderful man - husband, father, grandfather! It was my pleasure to have known Fruity for he was like a grandfather to me that I did not have :-) I Loved him and will always have a very special place in my heart for both of you, Dotty!! What an inspiration Fruity has been to so many people - Kind and gently, caring and so full of knowledge!! I just loved his stories, talking with him about life and things that were simple, really. Gardening ("Plant your garden by the moon ...") :-) It has been my pleasure to be even a small part of his life! I am so sorry that I was not here for you in any way, that I did not even know about his illness. i jsut happended to stop by and pick up a newspaper Monday, while my daughter had her piano lesson. I am here for you now, please let me know if I can do anything at all to help you out in some way. Cook a meal, run a trip to the store, come over and visit with you when you feel like you could use some company :-) You are all in our prayers ALWAYS! Love, Lisa xxoox 419/294-5615 home, work 419/294-3404 x182 WMart###imported-begin##Lisa Lohr###imported-end##*

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September 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Met Fruitcake when he and Scot shared a room at Fairhaven. Whenever I came in he would give me a lil wave and a smile. Thoughts and prayers going out to the family. He was a sweet man!###imported-begin##Scot and Michelle Swinehart###imported-end##*

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September 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ My heart and prayers go out to all of you during this extremely difficult time. He was a wonderful man and a blessing to all who knew him.##imported-begin##Donna Bauman##imported-end##

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September 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Dorothy & Family, I am so very sorry to hear about Francis. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. He was such a kind hearted man who I was so blessed to have known. Him and Dorothy have blessed my life in so many ways. They are the true meaning of what true love is all about. He will be missed so very much.##imported-begin##Shelley Eastman##imported-end##

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September 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ i miss you so much pawpaw##imported-begin##andy lenhart##imported-end##

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September 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Dottie,  
  
So sorry to hear of your loss. Please know you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Tim Curtin##imported-end##

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September 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM