

Melford L Swihart

June 23, 1938 - January 15, 2017

Melford L. "Mel" Swihart, of Upper Sandusky, passed away early Sunday morning, January 15, at Marion General Hospital. He was 78.

Born June 23, 1938, in Wyandot County, he was a son of the late Elton E. and Susan C. (Lawrence) Swihart. He married Susan C. Kline at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Upper Sandusky, on October 10, 1959 and she survives in Upper Sandusky.

Mr. Swihart is survived by four sons, Eric and Barry Swihart both of Upper Sandusky; Brett Swihart, Westerville; Brian (Karlea) Swihart, Springboro; six grandchildren, Graham Swihart, Temecula, CA; Lauren and Rachelle Swihart, Westerville; Jordan and Jared Swihart, Upper Sandusky; Courtney (Joshua) Kurth, Canfield; three great-grandchildren, Emma, Ella and Joshua II Kurth, Canfield; A step granddaughter, Lindsey Brown; one sister, Mary Ekleberry, Upper Sandusky; one brother, Larry (Roxie) Swihart, Upper Sandusky; three sister-in-laws, Jeanne and Emily Swihart, Upper Sandusky and Marcia Kline, Cape Coral, FL.; One brother-in-law, Dennis Kline, Massillon. 6 nieces and 3 nephews and family friend Chelsea Cosgrove.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Marvin and Eugene Swihart; two brother-in-laws, Fred Ekleberry and Gary Kline.

Mr. Swihart was a graduate of Upper Sandusky High School in 1956. He served in the U. S. Navy from 1956 to 1959 where he was a Machinist's Mate 2nd Class on the submarine tender the "USS Howard W. Gilmore" (AS-16), Key West, FL. In 1958 Mr. Swihart was honored to go on maneuvers on the

nuclear submarine the "USS Seawolf" (SSN 575) after it returned from a maneuver for weeks under the arctic ice cap before finally pushing through near the North Pole. The "USS Seawolf" was the second nuclear powered submarine with the Nautilus being the first.

He retired from Columbia Gas of Ohio in 1994 after 35 years of employment. He was also a past Crane Township Clerk. In 2003 Mr. Swihart was inducted into the Upper Sandusky Hall of Fame with the 1955 undefeated football team and also in 2016 into the Wyandot Sports Hall of Fame with the 1955 undefeated football team. In his earlier years he was the coach for Neumeister's Bakery and Grundtisch Ford Little League Baseball teams and also umpired many games. Mr Swihart was president of the Little League Baseball Commission in 1972. He also served as President of the Midget League Football Commission and was assistant coach of the Packers Midget League Football team. He volunteered his time in scouting as a cubmaster and a scout leader for the Webelow's as well.

Mr. Swihart was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church where he had served as a deacon. He was also a member of Jaycees, Wy. Co. Rod and Gun Club, National Rifle Assoc., life member of Amvets #777, Moose Lodge #1093, life member of Elks Lodge BPOE #83, American Legion Post #225 and Stone Crossing Golf Club.

For hobbies: He had enjoyed golfing in several leagues accomplishing 3 holes in one. Mr. Swihart also enjoyed playing softball, bowling, fishing, riding his motorcycle/scooter and last but not least working in his yard.

The funeral will be held at 10:30AM Wed. Jan. 18, 2017 in Bringman-Clark Funeral Home, Upper Sandusky, with the Rev. Joe Trester officiating. Burial will follow in Old Mission Cemetery, Upper Sandusky, with military graveside honors conducted by Upper Sandusky Veterans Color Guards. Visitation will be held from 4-7PM Tue. Jan. 17, 2017 at Bringman Clark Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Paul Lutheran Church, American Legion Post #225 , or charity of donor's choice in care of Bringman-Clark

Funeral Home, 226 E. Wyandot Ave., Upper Sandusky, OH 43351.

Cemetery Details

Old Mission Cemetery*

on East Church St., about 500 feet east of SR
53 and 67, on north side of town
Upper Sandusky, OH 43351

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 17. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Bringman-Clark Funeral Home
226 E. Wyandot Avenue
Upper Sandusky, OH 43351
(419) 294-2328
bringmanclarkshields@gmail.com
<https://www.bringmanclark.com/>

Service

JAN 18. 10:30 AM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Bringman - Clark & Co Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Melford L Swihart*



Bringman Clark & Shields Funeral Homes - January 16, 2017 at 12:13 PM

MT

Thinking of your family at this time. Although time takes us all down different paths, it is sad to lose members of the family. My father, Paul Swartz, always enjoyed having Mel as one of his first cousins. God Bless. Sincerely, Marsha (Swartz) Thomas

Marsha (Swartz) Thomas - January 16, 2017 at 02:47 PM

RB

Swihart Boys..... Awesome Video.... Great Memories !!!! Randy and Jenn Best

Randy Best - January 17, 2017 at 06:29 AM

SM

My prayers and condolences to Mel's friends and family. It seems like I've known Mel all my life. He was always a presence around town with his Columbia Gas shirt and big smile. He umpired many of our little league games and always got a kick out of calling me "Wheezer". I always enjoyed golfing with him at Stone Crossings and sitting on the patio afterwards. Class act. Mel will be missed and remembered by his many, many friends.

Steve McKee - January 17, 2017 at 10:23 AM

JE

“ JeffWentz lit a candle in memory of Melford L Swihart



JeffWentz - January 18, 2017 at 03:32 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Melford L Swihart.



January 17, 2017 at 12:38 PM

DM

“ To Susie and Family. Bill and I wish to express our Deepest Sympathy on Mel's passing. Remember all the great memories created by family and friends. He will be missed.

Bill and Donna Markey

Donna Markey - January 17, 2017 at 09:00 AM

LB

“ Lori, Michael & Family, and Breanna purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Melford L Swihart.



Lori, Michael & Family, and Breanna - January 17, 2017 at 07:25 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Melford L Swihart.*



January 16, 2017 at 03:58 PM



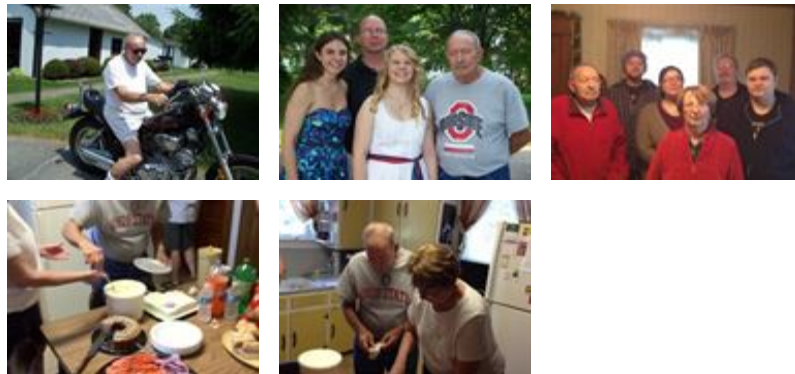
“ *John Steward & Nancy O'Hanlon purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Melford L Swihart.*



John Steward & Nancy O'Hanlon - January 16, 2017 at 12:49 PM



“ *23 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Bringman Clark & Shields Funeral Homes - January 16, 2017 at 12:04 PM

KE

“ 5 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Keith - January 16, 2017 at 11:34 AM

KE

“ *Sorry to hear about Mel. Great memories of "back in the day" with the Packer's football and Grundtisch/Neumeisters baseball. He will certainly be missed. Thanks for your service Mel!*

*With heartfelt sympathy,
Keith & Dawn Newell*

Keith - January 16, 2017 at 11:29 AM

JW

“ *Sorry to read about Mel. He was my first Little League coach for Nuemeisters. I also delivered his paper for years. He was always very kind to me as a little kid. I appreciate all he did for the youth of Upper Sandusky.*

John Williams

John Williams - January 16, 2017 at 10:27 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Melford L Swihart.*



January 16, 2017 at 10:12 AM



“ *We would like to express our deepest sympathy to Susie and the boys. We had some great golfing times together. Prayers for you to have peace and comfort during this difficult loss.*



Cliff & Mindy Johns

Mindy Johns - January 16, 2017 at 07:09 AM



“ *I remember Mel and Swankhouse taking us to the horseshoe for track meets, he was always involved! I will miss him*

Tim Lopez - January 16, 2017 at 05:49 AM



So Sorry to Hear about Mel! We used to live in Upper Sandusky. we moved to Ky years ago. A few years ago Mel came to Kentucky to visit! Wish we had known.Would have tried to come Up. So Sorry The Willis Family

Martha (Willis) Fraley - January 01, 2019 at 06:56 PM

BE

“ I remember the first visit to Atlanta GA-- I still have the 'almost' empty bottle of Jack Daniels- first time ever- Jack and Coke fun on our porch- I drank beer- Mel had Jack an Coke -- we had a great night with LOTS of laughs!! First (and last) ever!!

Bev - January 15, 2017 at 10:30 PM