



George E. Felbaum

January 26, 1937 - April 29, 2020

George Felbaum Sr. died on April 29, 2020 at the age of 83. He is survived by his wife and soul mate Sibyl, his two ex-wives, his brother Paul, and his four children: Vicki, Sandy, George (Jill), and Grant (Jen). He also had six grandchildren (Ashley, Paige, Scott, Jillian, Savannah, Aubrey) and three great-grandchildren.

George was born January 26, 1937, the eldest son of George and Bertha Felbaum. Originally from Youngstown, PA, George's lifetime motto was "make it happen." He wasn't big on accepting excuses from himself or others. He was married at 17 and worked hard to earn his degree from the University of Pittsburgh. He drove fifty miles to attend school three evenings a week for seven years while working full time at Vanadium Alloys Steel Company as a research technician. His hard work paid off and he graduated in 1964 with a B.S. in Metallurgical Engineering.

Upon graduation, George began working for Ford Motor as a technician. In four short years, he became the Manager of Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering. He continued to hold managerial positions at Ford for the next 34 years. Throughout most of his professional life, he farmed his 320 acre farm along with additional acres he rented. Using evenings and weekends, he remodeled two houses and built two more. He capped off his personal construction career by building his log home - requiring almost four years of weekend labor.

On a personal level, George was an adrenaline junkie. He started by earning his pilot's license shortly after joining Ford. He continued with downhill skiing and enduros racing with dirt bikes. Two years after graduating he completed his first big game hunt in Wyoming. He went on to hunt the Yukon Territory, most of the Canadian provinces, and all the mountain states in the USA. In 1972, he completed his first 22 day African hunt in Botswana. On this hunt he harvested 13 trophies. Over the next 24 years, he hunted ten African safaris covering six African countries and Australia. During this time, he shot the "dangerous seven," many of them multiple times. These hunts involved do or die charges by elephants, lions, cape buffalo, and a wounded leopard. In all, he collected 83 trophies.

In order to ensure his safety while hunting dangerous game, George began participating in high-power rifle matches at Camp Perry. He competed for 20 years and won 30 medals until arthritis ended his competition career. His favorite event was competing at 1,000 yards. A heart attack in 2007 ended his dangerous game hunting and limited his competitive shooting. He continued to compete and shoot in short-range high power, silhouettes (using a 40-65 buffalo rifle), benchrest, trap and sporting clays for the rest of his life. His wife, Sibyl, supported his activities by carrying his shooting gear and scoring his targets. God bless her! Although giving up dangerous game hunting was disappointing, he continued deer hunting on their farm until his final years.

He was in the habit of saying, "In life, I got my money's worth!" He planned on driving to heaven in his 2013 red Corvette.

A prayer service will be held at 3 pm. on Thursday, May 7, 2020, at Wagley Funeral Home, with Rev. Daniel Wheeler. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the number of individuals will be monitored in the funeral home. There will be a Memorial Celebration of Life honoring George later this summer.

Online memories and condolences may be shared at www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com.

Events

MAY **Prayer Service** 03:00PM

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Wagley Funeral Home (Adrian)
1501 W. Maumee St., Adrian, MI, US, 49221

Comments



“ I'm very sorry for your loss Sibyl. I appreciated the time George spent with Jordan talking about deer hunting and shooting. I know Jordan will miss him.

May George rest in peace and in heaven.

George Biandis - May 15 at 02:09 PM



“ I worked with George for many years at Rawsonville, and we always shared many farming memories. He drove past our farm on his way home from work, and would offer to take out the "critter" if he spotted one in the field as he drove by. As Ford continued to consolidate departments, I worked directly with his department as it became part of the Supply Office. He certainly knew how to get the job done, whatever the job happened to be. Once you met George, you never forgot him! Rest in Peace, George.

Inge Roome

Inge Roome - May 12 at 07:37 PM



“ George was such a great person; intelligent, fun-loving, and generous. I had the pleasure of taking extra time with him just to laugh and joke. He would pick on me and I would pick on him. We had great time. I will miss him so much!

Louis Bojrab - May 06 at 07:58 PM



“ I was sorry to hear of his passing - however, after reading his obituary it can be said - he lived a full life and I'm hoping he and his red Corvette are enjoying heavenly places. I had the pleasure of working for George at Rawsonville for several years -- to this day I have nothing but fond memories of him as a friend and co-worker -- once you got to know George he wormed his way into your heart -- he will always be fondly remembered by me.

Kathy Wallace

Kathy Wallace - May 05 at 10:20 AM



“ My Sincere Sympathies to the Family of George Felbaum. Mr. Felbaum made such a significant contribution to my health and welfare when serving as his secretary 1995-1998 part-time after retiring. It was at the Ford Division Offices, Rawsonville Plant, Ypsilanti, MI. Living in Ohio for the past 13 years, finding him on the Internet a few months ago I was able to drop him a note to tell him so, having no idea that it might be my last opportunity. Upon having an auto accident in 1996, when a drunk driver rear-ended my car at the top of a hill as I was 'first-up' in the left turn lane, my face slammed the steering wheel. As leader of the Supplier Quality Engineering (SQE) Dept., George 'rallied the troops' to take up a collection for my airfare to Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota for nose reconstruction. He proclaimed -- "Peg, you're going to have the best!" And then, 10 days following the accident, there was a burglary in the night which extended the 5-Year Traumatic Brain Injury to 10-years. George again came to the rescue -- and set up Target Practicing Lessons at a local range for our entire dept., with him as our Instructor! Some people make lasting impressions because they change the course of our lives!
Rest in Peace, George.
Peggy Aston, Hartville, Ohio

Peggy Aston - May 05 at 09:10 AM



“ Peggy Aston, Hartville, Ohio purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of George E. Felbaum.



Peggy Aston, Hartville, Ohio - May 04 at 08:52 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of George E. Felbaum.



May 04 at 04:24 PM



“ I was very fortunate to have had a good friend like George. ~Gene Merx~

Gene Merx - May 02 at 12:00 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of George E. Felbaum.



May 02 at 09:53 AM



“ Sibyl & Grant

I can remember meeting George back in the mid 70's, when he decided that he should be farming his own land rather than renting it out. It seems like only a few years ago? He made an appointment to come in the evening to talk about buying a combine, as he had soybeans to harvest. Before he left that evening, he purchased a Gleaner model K. That was the start of many years of being a supplier to George's farming operations.

All of us at Dan's grew to enjoy George and he became a "special " customer over the years. Always a joy to deal with and we all considered him as a friend. He was always genuine, appreciative, and I considered him a personal friend.

On behalf of all of us at Dan's, we are very saddened by his passing, but know that he led a full (from our view) and amazing life. I regret that we didn't maintain more consistent contact, over the last few years. I will always smile when I think of him.

With Sincere Condolences,

Dan & Billie Hupp

Dan Hupp - May 01 at 11:12 PM



“ My deepest sympathy goes out to my dear sister and all of George's family at this difficult time.

George definitely did like to "make it happen" and as a result he DID "make a lot of things happen" throughout his full life. He will be remembered and admired for the many things he has accomplished.

Rest in peace, George.

Sister-in-law Pam.

Pam - May 01 at 04:56 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of George E. Felbaum.



May 01 at 02:33 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of George E. Felbaum.



May 01 at 11:38 AM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of George E. Felbaum.



April 30 at 04:55 PM