



Frank Dick

March 8, 1926 - September 5, 2022

ADRIAN – Frank Dick, devoted husband and father, proud veteran, and generous philanthropist died Monday morning, September 5, 2022, at Charlotte Stephenson Manor at the age of 96.

Frank was born March 8, 1926, on the family farm in Cygnet, Ohio, the son of the late Earl and Edith (Bartz) Dick. Frank met his future bride, Shirley Garns, in the first grade. They graduated from Cygnet High School in 1944, and were married on June 18, 1946, in Indiana. Frank and Shirley celebrated over 63 years of marriage prior to her death in 2010.

During World War II, Frank served in the United States Army Infantry and was awarded the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, and 80th Blue Ridge Combat Infantry Badge as a result of his involvement in the Battle of the Bulge.

After service, Frank continued his education at Bowling Green State University where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree and a Master of Science Degree. Honorary degrees bestowed upon Frank include a Doctor of Education from the University of Findlay; Doctor of Public Service from Bowling Green State University; and Doctor of Community Service from Adrian College.

When he was 21, he was elected as the youngest mayor of Jerry City, Ohio.

At the age of 23, Frank held his first Superintendent position at Portage Township Schools (1950 -1953). In the following 28 years, he also served as Superintendent of other schools in Ohio including Pandora-Gilboa (1953-1957), Sylvania City (1957-1965) and Toledo City (1965-1978).

In 1978, Frank's tenure with Gleaner Life Insurance Society began. One year later, he was elected President of the Society and currently holds the title of Chairman Emeritus, Board of Directors. Much of the success of the Society can be attributed to Frank's leadership. This leadership carried over into the community service to which he and Shirley passionately devoted their lives. Frank served as Past President of Greater Toledo Educational Television Foundation, Lenawee United Way and Channel 30. He was Past Director of Sylvania Savings Bank, Junior Achievement of Northwestern Ohio, Young Men's Christian Association and Adrian State Bank. He also served on several boards including Adrian College Board of Trustees, American Association of School Administrators Foundation, Bowling Green State University Foundation, Jackson Community College, Lenawee Health Alliance, Lenawee Economic Development Corporation, Lenawee County Chamber Foundation, Michigan Association of School Boards Foundation for Educational Leadership, Pro Medica Hospital System Investment Committee, Pro Medica North Region Board of Directors, Toledo Public Schools Foundation, and numerous others.

Frank was a faithful member of the First United Methodist Church of Adrian. He was also a member of 40 & 8 Veterans, Lenawee Chamber of Commerce, Adrian Rotary Club, American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Am Vets, and 80th Blue Ridge Combat Infantry Division. Frank was privileged to attend the 75th reunion of the Battle of the Bulge in 2019 overseas.

Frank and Shirley have shared their conviction for learning with many

students through college scholarships they have sponsored. Their philanthropic legacy is also evident in the many charities they have endowed throughout the years.

Frank is survived by his daughter, Reide Garnett (Joanne Schmidt) of Bakersfield, CA, and many extended family members. He leaves behind hundreds of friends who were like family to him.

In addition to his wife, Frank was preceded in death by his siblings, Leroy, Gerald, Jack and Betty.

Funeral Services for Frank will take place on Saturday, September 17, 2022, at 1 p.m., at the Adrian First United Methodist Church with Rev. Eric Stone officiating with military honors conducted by VFW Annis Flint Post #1584 and American Legion Post #97. Visitation will be held at Wagley Funeral Home, Adrian, Friday, September 16, 2022, from 2 to 8 p.m. and at the church on Saturday from noon until the service.

His daughter, Reide, would like to thank the staff at Charlotte Stephenson Manor and Hospice of Lenawee for the excellent care they gave Frank.

In lieu of flowers, an appropriate tribute to honor Frank would be a donation to the First United Methodist Church, the Lenawee County Education Foundation, or Gleaner Life Insurance Society Scholarship Foundation. Online memories and condolences may be shared at www.wagleyfuneralhomes.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **16.** 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home (Adrian)
1501 W. Maumee St.
Adrian, MI 49221
(517) 263-1400
info@wagleyfuneralhome.com
<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

Visitation

SEP **17.** 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church
1245 West Maple Avenue
Adrian, MI

Funeral Service

SEP **17.** 1:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church
1245 West Maple Avenue
Adrian, MI

Tribute Wall



“ *Wagley Funeral Home and Cremation Service created a Webcast in memory of Frank Dick*



Wagley Funeral Home - September 07, 2022 at 05:02 PM



“ *Frank Dick*

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM

DW

“ I was at the funeral on Saturday. What a beautiful service. I didn't have a chance to share my story with Frank's daughter so I would like to share it now. About 20 years ago I had some business at Gleaners. I walked into their beautiful lobby with all their fancy furniture. I spoke to someone at a window about the business I had to attend to. The woman I spoke to said to have a seat and she would get someone to help me. I turned around and there was this man sitting in a chair and he struck up a conversation with me. We spoke for about 15 or 20 minutes. By the time we finished our conversation I felt like I had a new best friend. Little did I know at the time that this was Frank. Some time after that I received something in the mail from Gleaners that had Frank's picture in it and said that he was the president of Gleaners. I thought to myself wow I can't hardly believe that I had such a wonderful conversation with a president of this large and wealthy organisation. I also remembered at that time how humble a man he was. This brief time with Frank left such an impression on me that every time I got a chance to read something about Frank I would. When I heard that he passed I thought how sad we have lost another great man. There just is not many like him. My heart goes out to his family and friends.

dan wright - September 18, 2022 at 06:48 PM

NF

“ Dear Uncle Frank,
Honorary adopted Uncle, friend and cohort of my father in education and pranks. You and Aunt Shirley and Reide gave us so much fun and laughter. Always laughter. Even after our parents were gone you continued to be our family. Thank you always for being that and asking nothing in return.
Reide and Joanne, cuzs, we love you. The Fox Girls

Nancy Fox - September 17, 2022 at 01:12 PM



“ [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Frank Dick.

September 16, 2022 at 04:00 PM



“ Frank and Shirley will always be remembered...very special people!

Garry R Clift - September 15, 2022 at 03:21 PM



We send all of Frank's family our heartfelt condolences! For many years and amazing trips with Frank and Shirley, we were blessed with wonderful memories! RIP
Roger and Judi Gertz

Roger Gertz - September 16, 2022 at 08:32 PM



“ Frank was a well respected Supt. for Toledo Public Schools. He was a true innovator! I was fortunate to work for him there.

Dennis.Thayer - September 14, 2022 at 07:32 PM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Frank Dick.



September 13, 2022 at 02:25 PM

BB

“ Reide & Joanne, we're sending you and your family prayers of comfort with the loss of your dad. Your love and memories will keep him close to your heart until you are reunited. Thinking of you, The family of Donna Buck & Angie Dick.



Barb Omlor - daughter of Donna Buck - September 11, 2022 at 02:45 PM

DW

“ It was indeed a pleasure to get to know Frank as I collaborated on his and Shirley's life story. Frank welcomed me into his home many Saturdays to share memories for what was to become "Do All the Good You Can." He was always gracious and kind and it was my privilege to share this project. He will be missed. --Deb Wuethrich, Portville NY

Deb Wuethrich - September 11, 2022 at 12:58 PM

LM

“ My condolences on Frank's passing. He was the kindest, friendliest and benevolent people I ever met. Frank hired me to teach at Burnham Junior High School in 1962 and we have been lifelong friends and shared a love for the Ohio State Buckeyes. We just chatted about the Notre Dame game last Friday. I enjoyed playing in the Frank Dick Golf outing for 38 years with Frank in McComb. He will be missed by all who knew him. RIP Frank!

38

Larry Morrison - September 09, 2022 at 12:46 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Frank Dick.



September 08, 2022 at 06:05 PM

KH

“ Dear Dick family,

We want to express our sincere sympathy at Frank's passing. It was a joy to know him through the AASA past presidents' group. He always brought joy, wonderful stories, and kindness with him to our gatherings. We wish Frank eternal rest.

Karl & Carol Hertz

Karl Hertz - September 07, 2022 at 10:13 PM

GE

“ Frank Dick interviewd me in 1963 soe a teaching job in the Sylvania Schools. He asked what do you want to be doing in 10 years. I said I want to be a Superintendent like you. A year later he moved me from the high to the elementary to get more experience. Then he took the Superintendents job in Toledoand I thought my dream was over. In 1966 I applied and become Director of Special and Federal services. 25 years later I was invited to a class reunion. Frank was there and I said to him I was told you helped get me my 1st administration job. He admitted that he called Superintendent Clyde Plant and told him I promised to help this young man with his dream. In my 45 year career in education I served as a Superintendent for 15 years in Ohio and Michigan and was awarded by the Buckeye Association of Adminitrators as one of the top Superintendents in the State in 1987. Thank you Mr. Dick for all you did the start my career.

George Erickson - September 07, 2022 at 06:13 PM

GE

“ George Erickson

George Erickson - September 07, 2022 at 05:50 PM

“ Frank Dick may be the best human I have ever known. Frank would be as close of a thing as a "hero" to me.

He loved that I brought him a buckeye all the way from Luzern, Switzerland which was a place that he and Shirley had also traveled to and adored. I explained how I was sitting in a park overlooking Lake Luzern (Lucern/Lucerne) and listening to the orchestra play in the nearby bandshell and watching so many families enjoying spirited games of bocce ball. As I sat on a bench under a string of black buckeye trees, I watched a pod drop from the tree and crack open on the sidewalk. It was a twin pod and two steaming buckeyes were exposed. I immediately knew that I would bring them back to the U.S. with me and gift him one and keep the other. Frank was an avid Ohio State Buckeye fan and used to carry buckeyes with him and tell people about the "useless nut". I still have my buckeye in my bureau drawer.

Working for a rural electric cooperative, Frank shared stories with me about how his Dad was a founder of Hancock County Rural Electric Coop and at 50 years of age, his Dad learned to climb a utility pole before there were bucket trucks and became a working lineman for the Hancock County REA in Ohio.

Not having a telephone, the neighbor down the hill would put towels or sheets on their clothesline when Frank's Dad got a message about an outage. When they would see the towel/sheet on the line, Frank's Dad would say, "Frankie...ride your bike down the hill and fetch that message.". Frank also worked some furloughs for the REA when they needed meter readings because farmers were not turning in their meter readings on a regular basis. When Frank asked the question about not having an REA uniform, the REA manager asked, "What's wrong with the one you're wearing?" And so Frank would go around to area farms and read meters in his US military uniform.

He told me about how FDR (Franklin Delano Roosevelt) "brought us the lights" and the economic boom it provided to his small town as people shopped second hand stores to buy lights and radios and electric appliances for their homes. The Rural Electrification Act gave farmers low-cost loans to put up their own electric lines 50

years after big cities had electricity. Big stuff!

Frank guided, provided and encouraged. He walked it and talked and said "Oh Yeah" a lot. A lot. He and Shirley are behind hundreds of scholarships, private and not-so-private donations to many charitable organizations like Hospice of Lenawee, Adrian Rotary, Lenawee Community Foundation and something known as a brand new YMCA which bears their name.

Frank grew his wealth and lived the mantra of waking up a little better off each day. But he gave away so much more. He gave his talent, his treasure and his friendship.

He always placed the highest esteem for his late wife Shirley. He rarely forgot to mention her in conversation and always positioned her in the most respectful light. He loved his daughter, his family, his friends and his community. I believe he is largely responsible for the kind of community we live in and he serves as mentor to many in that regard. I believe the best legacy we can take away from losing him will be to lead like Frank did.

I didn't intend for this to be a long post but a remarkable man like Frank Dick deserves the honor of knowing the impact that he had on me and so many.

Thank you Frank. Say hi to Shirley and Woody. Oh yeah.



Patricia J Clark - September 07, 2022 at 03:38 PM

GH

“ Frank and I met on our 75th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge. As past president and CEO of the Battle of the Bulge Association having Frank along made our journey very special. A man who served, fought and was wounded during this famous battle gave us each extra joy with his presence. Being present at the Royal Palace as he presented the King a token and the many Belgian and Luxembourg people who truly loved the few BOBA veterans able to speak with them. Offering his autograph, photos with him and others. Something I will never forget. Yes Frank certainly gave a lot and his memory will live with us forever. His Combat Infantry Badge, the badge of honor. RIP Frank Dick. God Bless America. Gary Higgins President-CEO Battle of the Bulge Association.

Gary Higgins - September 07, 2022 at 11:41 AM

MS

“ There are so many memories I could share about Frank, but the best thing was that he and Shirley thought of us as part of their family. The phone would ring and I would say, hello. Hi Marty, this is your Uncle Frank. I will always remember his voice, and never an unkind word to anyone.
The earth is a little bit off its axis now that Frank is gone. I can't wait to hear his laugh and see the twinkle in his eye when we meet again. ❤️🌹😔💔

Marty Snyder - September 07, 2022 at 11:21 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Frank Dick.



September 07, 2022 at 09:49 AM

BR

“ Frank Dick was my mentor and leader. I worked with Frank Dick, Superintendent of Toledo Public Schools, for several years in varying capacities. Frank was a true educator. Frank’s mantra was the Toledo Public Schools are always open. Frank as you join the love of your life, Shirley. God Bless you. Bob Roman

Bob Roman - September 06, 2022 at 10:05 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Frank Dick.



September 06, 2022 at 07:52 PM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Frank Dick.



September 06, 2022 at 06:27 PM

CS

“ I met Frank through Rotary and he has inspired me and so many others to "do good" and seek out ways to help others and our communities. His legacy will thrive in the actions of those inspired by him. In a light hearted note this Michigan fan was a bit shocked when he pulled a buckeye out of his pocket to give me when we first met! I also want to recognize Frank for his help in the creation of The Adrian District Library. When Frank supports a project everyone knew it was a good one. Rest in peace and enjoy your time with Shirley.

Carol Souchock - September 06, 2022 at 06:10 PM

BH

Frank Dick was a legend, truly as good as his generation comes. He was the lifelong friend of my father-in-law Vic Wood. We spent time with Shirley & Frank with the Wood family and always admired this man who lives a life in service to others — to his country during WWII, as an educator, as the leader of the Gleaner Society, and devoted husband to his deeply beloved partner Shirley & father to a remarkable daughter whom he loved deeply. RIP Frank - God broke the mold when he created you. You leave an enduring legacy of a life well lived. Peace ~ Bernadette Hyland-Wood

Bernadette Hyland-Wood - September 07, 2022 at 10:01 AM

JS

I met frank from chuck eberline. frank was such a elite person to talk to I was glad to drive him when needed to go somewhere. he sure liked to talk about the Ohio St football team he sure will be missed I'm James smith

james smith - September 07, 2022 at 12:06 PM

JR

What a wonderful legacy this amazing man leaves for his family, friends & community. My parents were friends of Frank and his wife. I am so glad. I will be thinking of his family and friends the next few days. Rest well.

Jude Rose - September 07, 2022 at 03:34 PM

BL

Frank had a brilliant business mind and an engaging personality. When he came to California every year to visit his daughter we knew we would be treated to some great dinners and evenings with the family. He always kindly explained his creative vision for success. He always considered competing interests and would be fair to all parties. I would quote him often in my career. College football was a favorite time for us and we would call after every Buckeye or WI Badger game. He would bet just one dollar on his team. Words are hard and inadequate for the loss we are feeling and sadness for Reide and Joanne. Bonnie and Lynne

Bonnie and Lynne - September 08, 2022 at 10:27 AM

JS

*I was so sad to read that Mr. Dick had died. We were neighbors and friends in Sylvania and his daughter was one of my dear friends. (I would love to hear from you!). When my dad lost his job suddenly Frank suggested that since he had a teaching degree he should come and work as a substitute for Sylvania Schools! My dad, Glenn Morgan, moved on to a full-time position which was perfect since my sister was in college and I was ready to go. Our family was always thankful that Frank provided this for my family. Such a wonderful man! I last saw him and talked with him when Chip Davis was honored in Sylvania for his music. My deepest sympathy to his daughter.
Jane Morgan Steiger jms@steigeree.com*

Jane Morgan Steiger - September 11, 2022 at 10:19 AM