



## Joseph Lafayette Wagley Jr.

October 4, 1932 - August 4, 2018

ADRIAN – Joseph L. Wagley, Jr. of Adrian, passed away, and officially retired, August 4, 2018, at his home.

He was born October 4, 1932, in Pontiac, Michigan, the oldest child of Joseph and Helen (Goodrich) Wagley, Sr. Joe graduated from Bloomfield Hills High School and attended Hillsdale College and Wayne State University where he studied Mortuary Science. He moved to Adrian in 1955 and joined Everiss Funeral Home as a director, maintaining his license for over 64 years. In 1968 Joe and his wife, Phyllis, purchased the business and he continued working in various capacities until recent weeks.

Joe and Phyllis (Moats) were married on June 22, 1957. They spent 55 happy years together in Adrian where they raised their family.

Joe was actively involved in Adrian community affairs. He was a longtime Rotarian and a multiple Paul Harris Fellow recipient. Joe was a faithful member of the First United Methodist Church of Adrian and held a number of leadership positions within the church. He also attended First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Adrian, and Community Methodist Church in St. Croix, Virgin Islands. Joe spent many hours dedicated to the United Way, and as a Jaycee helped establish the Community Mental Health Board in Adrian. He was honored with the Maurice Stubnitz Humanitarian Award in 1986. Joe

was active in the Boy Scouts of America and served on the Wolverine Council. Although he loved and appreciated his many friends and acquaintances, Joe cherished time spent with family the most.

Joe is survived by his children, Pamela (Timothy) Henry of Jackson, MI, Janice (Dr. Douglas) Stamps of Newburgh, IN, Joseph III (Rebecca) Wagley of Adrian, and David (Barbara) Wagley of Adrian; sister, Joan James of Austin, TX; grandchildren, Matthew (Felicia) Henry, Dr. Phillip Henry, William (Adrienne) Henry, Dr. Ian (Dr. Melissa) Stamps, Nathan Stamps, Jessica Wagley, Jennifer Wagley, Adrienne (Patrick) Kaplan, Andrew (Elizabeth) Wagley, Austin (Dr. Danielle) Wagley; great grandchildren, Nora, Michael and Lillian Kaplan; Lauren and Elena Wagley; Julius and Isla Wagley; and Leo and Elaina Stamps; and nephew and niece, Peter James and Sarah James, both of Austin, TX. He is also survived by his dear friend and companion, Patricia Dunlap of Adrian.

A memorial celebration of life for Joe will take place at 1 p.m., Friday, August 10, 2018, at Adrian First United Methodist Church with Reverends Drew Hart, Linda Farley and Christopher Brundage officiating. The family will receive friends on Thursday, from 4 to 8 p.m. at Wagley Funeral Home.

Memorial contributions are suggested to Hospice of Lenawee, First United Methodist Church or the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Online condolences and memories are welcome at [www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com](http://www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG **9**. 4:00 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>

## Celebration of Life

AUG **10**. 1:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church  
1245 West Maple Avenue  
Adrian, MI

# Tribute Wall



“ *Joseph Lafayette Wagley Jr.*

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *"Crap", rest in peace. Going to miss you terribly. Jennifer Griffith*

**Jennifer Griffith** - August 10, 2018 at 09:10 PM



“ *The Community Methodist Congregation, St. Croix purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Joseph Lafayette Wagley Jr..*



**The Community Methodist Congregation, St. Croix** - August 10, 2018 at 01:40 PM



“ *Mary Anne Heath lit a candle in memory of Joseph Lafayette Wagley Jr.*



**Mary Anne Heath** - August 10, 2018 at 12:11 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joseph Lafayette Wagley Jr..*



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August 09, 2018 at 03:55 PM



“ *Kathleen And Michele Goodrich lit a candle in memory of Joseph Lafayette Wagley Jr.*

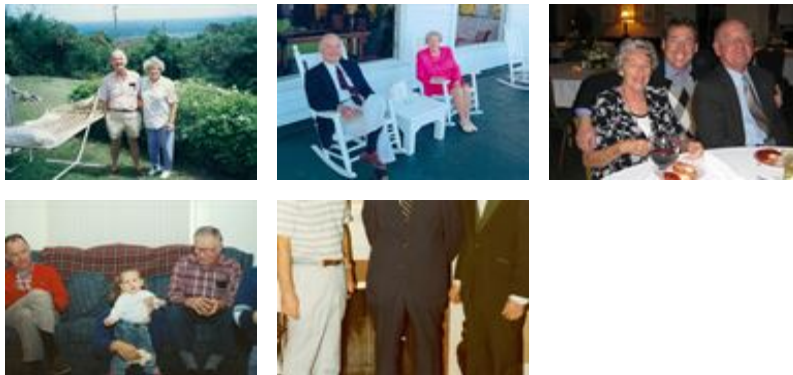


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**Kathleen and Michele Goodrich** - August 09, 2018 at 02:45 PM



“ *227 files added to the album LifeTributes*



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**Wagley Funeral Home** - August 09, 2018 at 01:30 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joseph Lafayette Wagley Jr..*



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August 09, 2018 at 12:09 PM



“ *Uncle Joe was a kind and generous man with a contagious smile and ready laugh. And let's not not forget the ever present cigar! He always welcomed the 'southern clan' with open arms making us feel loved. He will be greatly missed. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Love to all, Debbie*

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**Debbie Walks** - August 08, 2018 at 09:17 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joseph Lafayette Wagley Jr..*



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August 08, 2018 at 07:04 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Joseph Lafayette Wagley Jr..*



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August 07, 2018 at 05:03 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Joseph Lafayette Wagley Jr..



August 07, 2018 at 01:46 PM



“ We so loved and appreciated Joe and his warm demeanor given to thousands of folks through the years. His memory and heritage will certainly bless your family and this community for generations yet to come. We pray for God's peace, grace and many blessings to be yours in abundance. -Pastor Dave & First Church of the Nazarene

**Pastor Dave** - August 07, 2018 at 11:44 AM



“ With Distinction was purchased for the family of Joseph Lafayette Wagley Jr..



August 07, 2018 at 11:11 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with your family. May God's gentle arms surround you. Through the years, your family has led us beyond the pain of loss. I can only add my condolences.



**Kathryn Perez** - August 07, 2018 at 05:02 AM

RH

“ Papa Joe so many of your devoted friends join the family in naming you with affection and gratitude for WHO YOU WERE to us. Helen (Hokenson) and I (RevRod) thank you for the collegiality and friendship we shared over all these years since we moved here in 1972 from Hancock MI. Our kids and yours felt at home with one another. You and your wonderful wife, Phylis, were always welcoming to them.

*Pam, Joe, Jan and David, and your families, may God wrap His all-encompassing arms around you. Now you are the "older generation," and are most likely experiencing the same appreciation for who you have become following the fine example of Papa Joe and Mom Phylis, We look forward to seeing you in these next days. We hope you will receive the same support and love that Dad and the rest of you gave professionally and personally to all of us in the community of Lenawee County and beyond.*

*Love from all the Hokensons.*

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**Rod Hokenson** - August 06, 2018 at 01:37 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joseph Lafayette Wagley Jr..*



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August 06, 2018 at 12:08 PM

GC

“ *Ginger And David Collier lit a candle in memory of Joseph Lafayette Wagley Jr.*



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**Ginger and David Collier** - August 06, 2018 at 09:24 AM

BH

“ *RIP Papa Joe It was my honor to know you.*

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**Brian Holtz** - August 06, 2018 at 09:03 AM

AF

“ *Welcomed into neighborhood 16 years ago by Phyllis and Joe. Always looked forward to our visits and my coupon and tomato deliveries on Sunday. His patriotism and respect to the flag outshines many. One of a kind man. Go Blue!*

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**Aldrich family** - August 05, 2018 at 06:25 PM

SH

“ *My love to all of you; I am very sorry to hear of Father Joe's passing, and I'm sorry to hear that he suffered. May he rest in sweet peace. I will never forget he and Phyllis completely surprising me at my wedding in Sweden so many years ago. That honor kept my spirits up many years thereafter, and I will be forever grateful. Thanks to all of you for sharing your Dad with us. He was and will always remain a treasure. God bless him. Hugs to all of you; my heart is with you. - Stina Hokenson, Castro Valley, CA*

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**Stina Hokenson** - August 05, 2018 at 05:32 PM



“ *Geary and I were so sorry to hear of Mr. Wagley's death. He was such a nice, kind man. Please accept our deepest condolences. We are keeping the whole family in our hearts, thoughts and prayers. Love to all. Geary and Margaret Koglin*

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**Margaret Koglin** - August 05, 2018 at 12:42 PM

DB

“ *To the family  
So sorry to hear of the loss of a wonderful person, husband and father. May God give you all the peace and faith needed along with prayers at this difficult time.  
God Bless All*

*Diane Bowen*

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**Diane Bowen** - August 05, 2018 at 09:33 AM



KF

“ *Kathleen, Michele, Jason and Goodrich family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Joseph Lafayette Wagley Jr..*



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**Kathleen, Michele, Jason and Goodrich family** - August 05, 2018 at 09:20 AM

PT

“*Dave and Barbara,  
I only knew your father for a short time and loved his sense of humor. Now he and Parker can tell their stories to each other in paradise.  
Only God knows when it was his time to come home. Love to you all.  
Pat Tagsold*

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**Pat Tagsold** - August 05, 2018 at 07:49 AM

RW

“*My heartfelt condolences to the entire Wagley family. My memories of Pappa Joe go all the way back to when Joe III, Janis and I were in church sunday school and choir together. May the family be at peace and be fill with all joy, know Pappa is at home with our Father.*

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**Richard Warrick** - August 05, 2018 at 07:34 AM

 Erika  
Lewis

“*My deepest condolences :( was a great honor meeting you, sir! Until we meet again R.I.P.*



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**Erika Lewis** - August 04, 2018 at 11:34 PM

CW

“*My condolences to the entire family. Papa Joe was truly a pillar of the community. Love for what he did and his family was never in question. His love reflected through his smile and genuine friendship. Peace, prayers and hugs! ❤️*

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**Cecelia Warrick** - August 04, 2018 at 08:11 PM

SM

“ I am so sorry Dave and Barbara to read of the death of your dad. Please know you are in my prayers and although it's so hard to give them up,nits wonderful to know we will see them again someday.

sharon Meltzer - August 04, 2018 at 05:54 PM

KG

“ Loved this man, the father of our dearest friend David. We first met the Patriarch of the Wagley clan, Papa Joe, but always Mr. Wagley to us, in Dallas Texas in 1981! His dry sense of humor always had us laughing. Loved to listen to his storytelling. When he said he was a Goodrich, we always joked, we were related. And after much ancestry research, it turned out we really are distant cousins! Thank you for embracing us into your family, for which we will always be grateful. We will miss you. Our deepest love and sympathy to David, Joe, Jan, Pam, and their families. Love always,Kathleen and Michele, your Goodrich relatives in Pennsylvania.

kathleen goodrich - August 04, 2018 at 03:17 PM

LH

“ Leonard & Darlene Hooker lit a candle in memory of Joseph Lafayette Wagley Jr.



Leonard & Darlene Hooker - August 04, 2018 at 02:50 PM

KS

“ I cannot imagine sitting in church without seeing Papa Joe there. There was always a hug to be shared, a compliment to be given. Through all my treatments, he would search me out and tell me how beautiful I looked and how cute my hair was ( so kind and uplifting even when I thought it was a stretch!). His smile was the best when his grandchildren were here to join him in the pew. What a model and gift he was to all of us.

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**Kay Swartzlander** - August 04, 2018 at 02:14 PM