



Orieon D. Clayton

September 2, 1949 - January 15, 2025

TECUMSEH- Orieon Donald Clayton, age 75, died peacefully at home Wednesday evening, January 15, 2025, surrounded by his family and under the care of Hospice of Lenawee.

Orieon was born on September 2, 1949, in Fort Wayne, IN, the oldest son of Orieon W. and Margaret A. (Doan) Clayton. Orieon graduated from Woodlan High School in Woodburn, IN, with the Class of 1967; and went on to serve in the United States Army during the Vietnam War.

After returning to the states, Orieon went on to attend Ivy Tech where he earned his associate's degree in business. For 28 years he worked for DAVCO Technology in Saline, MI as a Commercial Director where he was a mentor to many and a friend to more.

On July 16, 1971, Orieon married the only woman he ever loved, Gloria Jean Gerig, in Woodburn, IN. During their 53 years together, they have raised a family of 3 boys and created many lasting memories. Orieon was always interested in muscle cars and treasured his Nassau Blue 1964 Chevelle Malibu SS. Multiple days a week you could find him at one of the many car shows sitting in front of his award-winning Chevelle. When it was time to relax, you could find him out on the golf course. He was never able to be a 5 handicap but would find 5 shots that kept him coming back. Usually the first

person on the course in the morning he found “peace” chasing that little ball.

His family meant the world to him, and you couldn't ask for a better husband, father or grandfather. The title he cherished most was “Poppy”. He camped, fished, golfed, supported them in all their many endeavors, debated philosophy, and was always there when his family needed anything.

In addition to his wife, Gloria, Oriean is survived by their sons, Jeffrey (Tiffany) Clayton, Marc Clayton and Michael (Danielle) Clayton; grandchildren, Jacqueline Grace, Katharine Jean and Sydney Mae; and brother, Alan (Debi) Clayton. He was preceded in death by his parents.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 25, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. at Wagley Funeral Home, Adrian, with Dan Bennett officiating. Visitation will be from 1:00 p.m. until the start of the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital or Trinity Health Cancer Center Brighton, MI.

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

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

JAN 25. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

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

Memorial Service

JAN 25. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Orlean D. Clayton.

January 23, 2025 at 08:17 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Orlean D. Clayton.



January 23, 2025 at 08:17 AM



“ Brad Downs planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Orlean D. Clayton.

Brad Downs - January 22, 2025 at 06:23 PM



“ Brad Downs purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Orlean D. Clayton.



Brad Downs - January 22, 2025 at 06:23 PM

CU

“ *Cliff Underwood purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Orieon D. Clayton.*



Cliff Underwood - January 21, 2025 at 06:19 PM

DG

“ *Uncle O! You truly were a special guy. Always fun to be around and always great to talk with. It meant a lot that you and Aunt Gloria took the time to come to Sid and Sela's volleyball games. You will be missed Uncle O!!*

Doug Gerig - January 20, 2025 at 07:01 PM

H6

“ *Sorry about your loss to your family. I remember Orieon spending hours working on a old motorcycle . He was a good friend during our school days. He will be missed.*

Hank Koithahn class of 66 - January 20, 2025 at 11:55 AM

SF

“ *Shane Bradtmueller & Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Orieon D. Clayton.*



Shane Bradtmueller & Family - January 20, 2025 at 06:00 AM

SD

“ As a DAVCO Co-Founder, I was the guy that brought Orieon to Michigan (sorry Gloria). He was a great coworker and an even better friend. To say that Orieon was an instrumental part of DAVCO's success would be an understatement. I will miss our post retirement lunches and mutual support on our very similar views about things. I am thankful he had a good number of retirement years to do things with Gloria (oh the trips you two took that he enjoyed so much) and especially to be "Poppy", he cherished his granddaughters. Orieon impacted so very many people positively and will be greatly missed.

Steve Davis - January 19, 2025 at 09:13 PM

SE

“ Gloria and family,

So deeply sorry for your loss of a beloved husband, father, grandfather and brother. We were devastated to learn of a dear classmate and friend's passing. Besides sharing great memories from the class of '67, Jeff and Troy were also classmates and teammates playing football together at Woodlan. Those years, plus Orieon's stint at working with Neil at Zollners cemented their friendship. Neil, personally, will forever cherish sharing a ride with him in his treasured Chevelle after the men's breakfast when he drove down last year. They reminisced about days gone by, and made more special memories.

May your memories of a lifetime together be a blessing to you and your family. Praying for comfort and peace in your hearts and minds, as you mourn his passing.

*Sincere condolences,
Sharon & Neil Ehle*

Sharon Ehle - January 18, 2025 at 05:24 PM

JS

“ Joe SCHAFFER sent a virtual gift in memory of Oriean Clayton



Joe SCHAFFER - January 18, 2025 at 05:21 PM

JS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Joe SCHAFFER - January 18, 2025 at 02:21 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Oriean D. Clayton.



January 18, 2025 at 12:50 PM

JH

“ Oriean and I played Little League baseball many years ago. He was a good kid and friend. Back then he told me he was going to marry Gloria. And he did!
John Holle

John Holle - January 18, 2025 at 09:32 AM

RS

“ A dear friend who will be truly missed. I had the honor of serving with Oriean in Vietnam where he was crew chief on our Huey helicopters. Many memories both good and some not so good! We stayed in touch in recent years and what a great man he was. He was extremely proud of his family and talked often about them. Rest in peace my friend!

Robert Sitze - January 18, 2025 at 05:05 AM



I met "O" at our weekly Saturday morning Cars and Coffee in Tecumseh and loved talking cars and motorcycles with him. His Malibu SS was gorgeous. I'm sorry he's gone and didn't get to know him as well as I would have liked.

Rick Griffith, Somerset Center, MI

Rick Griffith - January 21, 2025 at 04:19 PM