



## Ray Gustaf Maxe

August 24, 1932 - May 21, 2024

TRENTON- Ray Gustaf Maxe, age 91, formerly of Adrian, MI, passed away on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at Hampton Manor of Trenton Assisted Living.

Ray was born on August 24, 1932, in Brainerd, Minnesota, the youngest of three sons. Ray graduated from Brainerd High School and went on to earn degrees from the University of Minnesota Duluth and Eastern Michigan University.

On July 25, 1954, Ray married the lovely Mary Ellen Stevens. Shortly after their wedding, Ray was deployed to Germany. For the next 69 years Ray and Mary shared a bond of love and commitment while raising their family, creating a home and being involved in their community. Mary died on April 17, 2024 and now they are together again.

Ray worked for the City of Adrian as the Parks and Recreation Director. His creative and innovative contributions can be seen at Trestle Park, Heritage Park, Bohn Pool, River Walk and other areas in Adrian. Ray was strong in his faith and attended Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church and First United Methodist Church in Adrian. He was active in the Adrian Rotary Club, served on the Crosswell Opera House board for over 20 years and volunteered with the Adrian Community Preschool. Ray loved time spent outside- working the garden, watching the birds and relaxing on the patio with Mary and his dogs.

He is survived by their children, Krista (Kurt) Beenen and Mark (Beth) Maxe; 4 grandchildren; 2 great- grandsons.

There will be a gathering celebrating the lives of Ray and Mary on Monday, June 3 at 11:00 AM at Wagley Funeral Home. Family will greet friends an hour before the service.

# Previous Events

## Gathering of Family and Friends

JUN 3. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (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

JUN 3. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

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# Tribute Wall

JM

“ Ray was a blessing to have as a resident in our community at Gaslight Village Assisted Living. He always told me that Brandi my blue heeler was his dog, I just took care of her for him. She adored him just as much. Rest in peace Ray, I know your happy to be reunited with your wife again. You will forever have a place in my heart. ❤️



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**Julie Morse** - June 03, 2024 at 10:03 AM

  
Karmen  
Wilharms

“ My dad, Dick Holmes, worked under Ray, for the City of Adrian Recreation Department. I remember Ray and Mary well, and their loving home, big smiles, and ability to always make us Holmes kids feel special. I always thought they had the most beautiful home and gardens.  
I remember popping in to the Rec Dept quite often, on my way home from school when I attended Drager, and as a high schooler, as I worked as a lifeguard at Bohn Pool. The Dept was always a welcoming place and I was never made to feel like I was interrupting or in the way. Soooo many happy memories from the Maxes.

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**Karmen Wilharms** - May 29, 2024 at 02:17 PM

PM

“ Mitch and I spent a wonderful evening at a P.E.O. gathering out with Ray and Mary back around 2007 when we first came back to Adrian. Although our time together was much too short, they both were always welcoming with smiles and hospitality. It was through Ray and Mary that I was welcomed lovingly into Chapter DK in Adrian. Mary never forgot that evening and always reminded me every time I saw her. Thank you, Mary and Ray, may you rest in peace. Mary, you will always be a sweet memory and a true inspiration of kindness, acceptance and love. May we all be inspired to continue your legacy through our actions.



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**Pamela Myers** - May 29, 2024 at 10:08 AM

TF

“ God bless the Maxe Family. Mr. Maxe was a true leader in our community. His dedication and brilliance can be seen today in Adrian's park system. Mrs Maxe was a shining star for me at Adrian High School. I graduated in 1975 and she worked in the counselor's office then. I wasn't the most studious of students, and found myself at Counselor Betty Schwin's office repeatedly. Mrs Maxe was always there with that big welcoming smile of hers. I will never forget how much she helped me in eleventh grade when I really needed an after school job. She made some suggestions, helped me fill out an application, and prepped me for an interview. I still remember how happy she was when I went back and told her, I got the job. She even helped me schedule it out so I could ride the school bus to that side of town after I got out of school every day. What a fabulous educator Mrs. Maxe was! A very, very important person in my life. Again, God bless the Maxe Family. May the love of Christ, and the memories God gives us, fill any sadness you may be feeling in your hearts. With God's grace we will all meet again in Heaven. †❤️†

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**Tony Flipppo** - May 28, 2024 at 02:59 PM

KP

“ I can't believe it. We just saw each other (Mary was still alive}. Your invaluable assistance to my parents (Gracie and Charlie) is so appreciated. Now, all of you are together



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**Kathryn Perez** - May 28, 2024 at 10:15 AM

SK

“ My first “real” job was in high school “co-op” in 1969-70 and I have the great memory of working with Ray Maxy, Marlin Caris, DickHolmes, Dorothy and Rose :). I am now 72 and remember the entire staff which says so much about how great of an experience it turned out to be. My thoughts with their family and friends.

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**Susan Kirsch** - May 26, 2024 at 06:49 PM



Susan, you brought back some names from WAY back! I'm Dick Holmes' oldest. I have very fond memories of all of them, too.

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**Karmen Wilharm** - May 29, 2024 at 02:12 PM

JC

“ I will always remember Ray & Mary from Riverside Ave and freezing over a field for all kids to come and enjoy ice skating or other activities. They were always so friendly and welcoming. Glad they are together again.

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**June (Zubke) Cessna** - May 25, 2024 at 11:43 AM

JB

“ A life well lived. Ray and Mary were the best neighbors and the best of friends. We will always remember so many wonderful times shared with them on their patio in Clubview Drive. Their home was always open, they considered everyone a friend, and anytime was a great time for a cocktail party. They will both be greatly missed but I also find comfort in knowing that they are together again, raising a glass and watching over all who were lucky enough to know them.

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**Jennifer Borton-Rupert** - May 24, 2024 at 09:10 AM

LM

*Thank you, Jennifer. .  
Ray will probably be enjoying his martini while Mary sips a glass of white wine*

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**Lengnick Marcia** - May 25, 2024 at 09:44 AM

SL

*Your father and I shared many laughs over our roles in Adrians sesquitenial . May you find comfort in the knowledge that he and Mary brought joy to me just by seeing their smiling faces . May they rest in peace and enjoy seeing the face of God Sam Lieto June 13 2:45 pm*

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**Sam Lieto** - June 13, 2024 at 02:46 PM

KW

*Krista -  
I just realized you lost both parents this year. Please accept our sincere condolences to your family and your family. Your parents were great for the Adrian Community! May they both rest in peace...*

*Kevin Wagner. AHS 1976*

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**Kevin Wagner** - December 09, 2024 at 01:45 PM