



## Robert 'Ike' Emmons Westfall

November 14, 1942 - November 17, 2015

ADRIAN—Robert 'Ike' Emmons Westfall, 73, of Adrian, passed away Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at Bixby Hospital, Adrian.

Ike had just celebrated his 73rd birthday on November 14, 2015. Born in Ann Arbor, MI, Ike's parents were the late Robert Barton and RuthMary (Smith) Westfall. He graduated from Adrian High School in 1961 and went on to receive his Bachelor's and MBA from U of M in 1966. In his continual strive for excellence, he then received an additional Master's and Specialist degree from Eastern Michigan University.

On November 28, 2008, Ike married Marilyn Marr in Adrian, MI, she survives. Ike was an entrepreneur who started several businesses including Ike Westfall Sealing and Striping, BAM Ltd. and Southeastern Security. In 1974, he was named chairman of Siena Heights College business and economics program, where he was affiliated with Siena's Cooperative Education Program, serving as a liaison to local businessmen interested in employing students in conjunction with this program. He also worked at Adrian College as an accounting instructor and before that worked with the Ann Arbor Bank as marketing director and Eastern Michigan University as a guest lecturer and instructor. He had also been associated with Eastern Michigan University, the University of Michigan and Wayne State University continuing education programs and involved in sales, personnel or comptroller training with the Adrian Steel Co. and Chrysler Corp.

As a 4th generation graduate of U of M, he was very proud that his daughter,

Dionne, continued the legacy. Having a passion for euchre, Ike insisted on his family playing on what seemed like a nightly basis. Ike, dedicated to daily exercise including paddleball, hand ball, tennis and later in life, walking at the Adrian Mall. He was the YMCA State Paddleball Champion twice. His favorite stories included his old football memories. This spilled into weekly wagers with his buddy. Al please pay up.

Ike's pride and joy was his grandchildren. He cherished and enjoyed every moment he spent with them, regardless if it was at a sporting event or just a visit at home. They brought him so much joy and put a smile on his face. They loved grandpa (Boppy) and he loved all his grandchildren. His grandchildren include Anthony and Samuel Emmons Merkel, Travis and Isaac Jeffrey, Mariana Bernardo, Trevor and Tristan Hayes, Giavonna and Giselle Shipperbottom, Ella Newman and new baby on the way. He will be greatly missed, not only by his grandchildren, but by all who knew him.

In addition to his wife, Marilyn, Ike is survived by his children, Kathy (Miguel Flores) Westfall of Adrian, Betsy (Joel) Jeffrey of Adrian, step daughter, Christina Hayes of Adrian, Tarrah (Kevin) Shipperbottom of Adrian, Dionne (Rowan) Newman of Boca Raton, FL, and his favorite son, Rhett Westfall of Adrian; his siblings, Marnie (Hugh) Dilworth and Harley (Teke) Westfall. He was preceded in death by his parents.

The family requests that you wear your favorite U of M shirt or hat to honor Ike when attending his services and don't be afraid to capture his complete favorite attire with shorts. Ike was known for his many pranks and jokes. Please come prepared to share your favorite story, prank or memory that you have about Ike.

Funeral services for Ike will be 2 p.m., Sunday, November 22, 2015 at Wagley Funeral Home. Visitation will be on Saturday, November 21st, from 3 to 7 p.m. In lieu of flowers, Ike would like you to not vote for Hillary. Online condolences are welcomed at [www.WagleyFuneralHome.com](http://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com).

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

NOV **22**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home (Adrian)

1501 W. Maumee St.

Adrian, MI 49221

(517) 263-1400

[info@wagleyfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@wagleyfuneralhome.com)

<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Robert 'Ike' Emmons Westfall*

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January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *My family's condolences and prayers are with your family. We will not be voting for Hillary.*

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**Dale Smith** - November 24, 2015 at 06:12 PM



“ *Due to illness I will be unable to attend today's service. I had the pleasure of sharing Ike's last paddleball tournament victory as his paddleball partner. Ike had been recently found out he was a diabetic so playing a tournament was challenging but he gutted it out. He punked me once by hiding my dress shoes which resulted in my return to court wearing my gym shoes. He also got me by loading the hair dryer with powder knowing I would use it resulting in a really bad gray look. I do think Ike enjoyed the retaliations as much as the pranks. One of the best was when his lock was plastered like a cast. I will never forget Ike pounding on the plaster with 5pound weights as we all hollowed. When Ike stopped coming to the Y it was never the same. Best to all the family. My son Christopher wanted Rhett to know he was thinking of him Bill Benz*

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**bill benz** - November 22, 2015 at 09:54 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Robert 'Ike' Emmons Westfall.



November 21, 2015 at 08:24 AM



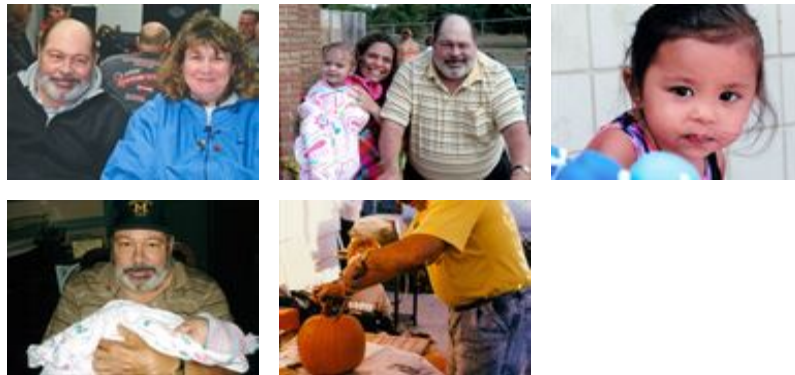
“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert 'Ike' Emmons Westfall.



November 20, 2015 at 10:13 PM



“ 45 files added to the album Life Tributes



Wagley Funeral Home - November 20, 2015 at 01:03 PM



“ Where the hell are my shoes Ike. I will miss my old friend.  
Rick Stevens

Rick Stevens - November 20, 2015 at 10:20 AM



“Wow... Where to start. I knew him from the YMCA playing paddleball with Jeff and I remember swimming at his house with the kids. Kathy babysat a couple times. He was one of the first family friends I met upon moving from Toledo to Adrian with my mom when her and Jeffery got married. Many good memories. The cadillacs the U of M clothes the days and nights at the YMCA watching him and Jeff and Bill Barss and Dan Dermeyer play paddle ball. RIP Mr Westfall. Many fond memories!

Cathy Baumgartner - November 20, 2015 at 08:20 AM

DC

“Dave Hammack & William Vaughan Company purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Robert 'Ike' Emmons Westfall.



Dave Hammack & William Vaughan Company - November 20, 2015 at 08:08 AM

DG

“Many of us have great memories in the paddleball courts at the Y with Ike-I am one of those. Thanks for all the great laughs and "lessons" in the court Ike.

Dawn Goetz - November 20, 2015 at 06:47 AM

SR

“Ike's aunt Anita Rosenthal lived directly behind my house and I was over at Anita's a lot. Whenever he was visiting we had a lot of fun playing together. He was a good friend. I will miss him, as will so many. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Sandra Buskirk Renner - November 19, 2015 at 08:31 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Robert 'Ike' Emmons Westfall.*



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November 19, 2015 at 11:21 AM



“ *My thoughts and prayers go out to the family. May you find peace in these tragic times through fond and happy memories*



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**Jon Santos** - November 19, 2015 at 10:57 AM



“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



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**Gordon Bauschka** - November 19, 2015 at 12:45 AM

BR

“ I have known Ike most of my life. We both attended Maynard school together ( a one room school on Hamilton Hwy.) he also lived close to me when the family lived on Wolf Creek. Later on we ended up at Adrian High School and graduated together in 1961. I last talked to him at our 50th reunion. He will be missed by many.

*Becky Brittain Rubel*

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**Becky Brittain Rubel** - November 18, 2015 at 03:27 PM

BB

“ I first met Ike on the paddleball courts at EMU in the late sixties. We both migrated to Adrian at about the same time and continued our rivalry on the courts and friendship off them. He was instrumental in helping me when my wife passed away in 1979 in dealing with the grief and supporting me. I will miss the tennis and the walks at the mall. My sincere condolences to the entire family. Save some court time for me up there old friend!

*Bill Barss*

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**Bill Barss** - November 18, 2015 at 03:18 PM