



## Willis H. Rickard

May 6, 1938 - May 17, 2024

ADRIAN – Willis H. Rickard, age 86, of Adrian, died Friday, May 17, 2024, at Lynwood Manor. He was born May 6, 1938, in Detroit, Michigan, the son of Guy and Myra (Erb) Rickard and graduated from Deerfield High School.

On December 28, 1975, Willis married Ruth (Funk) Long and they have been blessed with almost 49 years together.

Willis worked at Ford Motor Company in Saline, retiring with 30 years of service. Upon his retirement, he made it his “job” to go to the Adrian Senior Center five days a week. There he made many friends playing pool and enjoying other activities. Willis was a great Tiger Baseball fan, attending several games each season. When wintering in Florida, he just happened to live close by so he could watch the spring training games too. Willis was a faithful member of the Adrian First Church of the Nazarene.

In addition to his wife, Ruth, he is survived by his children, Guy Rickard, Gloria Russell and Arvilla Ashenfelter, 5 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren and 5 great great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son, Gregory Rickard, stepdaughter, Deborah Long, and sister, Barbara Watters.

Funeral services will take place at 1 p.m., Wednesday, May 22, 2024, at Adrian First Church of the Nazarene with Rev. Larry Betz officiating. Visitation

will be at the church on Wednesday from 11 a.m. until the service begins.  
Burial will follow at Oakwood Cemetery.

Contributions in memory of Willis are suggested to Nazarene Missions or Hospice of Lenawee. Arrangements have been entrusted to Wagley Funeral Home where online condolences and memories may be shared at [www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com](http://www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Oakwood Cemetery

East Siena Heights Drive  
Adrian, MI 49221

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 22. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Adrian First Church of the Nazarene  
50 Industrial Drive  
Adrian, MI

## Funeral Service

MAY 22. 1:00 PM (ET)

Adrian First Church of the Nazarene  
50 Industrial Drive  
Adrian, MI

## Burial

MAY 22 (ET)

Oakwood Cemetery  
East Siena Heights Drive  
Adrian, MI 49221



# Tribute Wall

GD

“ My heart and my prayers are with the family. He sounds like a man who leaves quite a legacy. This earth has many sorrows to endure, yet there is rejoicing in heaven when a believer comes home for eternity.

Gail aka Tinker Davis - May 27, 2024 at 03:48 PM

RM

“ Thanks for all the solid advice. You were always a bright smiling face in my days as a pizza bucket employee. I swear we used to talk about everything while we would eat some food, you would always finish whatever I had if I was gonna throw it away 😊. I would always say Willie is the most animated old man I know. He genuinely cared about people and had a good way of showing it. You will definitely live in in my memories. Rest in peace.

Ryan Music - May 24, 2024 at 07:59 AM

AR

Thanks Ryan he did talk alot about you guys he always loved hanging out with the guys

Arvilla - June 26, 2024 at 11:47 AM



“ I am betting there is one whale of a handball game going on in heaven now. Rex Willnow, Don Harpst, Joe Fortunato, and Mr Rickard. Lots of YMCA memories. Condolences to his family.

Matt Harpst - May 22, 2024 at 11:30 PM

LM

“ I’m so sorry I did not get to see you one last time. Thank you for the good times we did have when I would stop and talk with you when I made it to Adrian. I will forever remember you and how tender an uncle I had through the years. I have fond memories as a child visiting and playing with my cousins. You were always so happy to see my brother and I, and I will see you again in heaven, brother, when we can once again extend to each other, the right hand of fellowship in the kingdom of God. Love your nephew Les and Lora Mitchell  
Lake Seneca, Ohio

Leslie Mitchell - May 21, 2024 at 08:38 PM

AR

Ty Less

Arvilla - June 26, 2024 at 11:38 AM

LF

“ Love, Martha & Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Willis H. Rickard.

Love, Martha & Family - May 21, 2024 at 12:29 PM

LF

“ Love, Martha & Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Willis H. Rickard.



Love, Martha & Family - May 21, 2024 at 12:29 PM

JS

“ My condolences to Willis's family, we went way back to united brethren times. Many Good memories. Jill Shaffer

Jill shaffer - May 20, 2024 at 03:38 PM

LN

“ Love Glennyce Rambo - Nelson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Willis H. Rickard.

Love Glennyce Rambo - Nelson - May 20, 2024 at 07:02 AM

LN

“ Love Glennyce Rambo - Nelson purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Willis H. Rickard.



Love Glennyce Rambo - Nelson - May 20, 2024 at 07:02 AM

LF

“ 1 file added to the album Tribute



Larry Facey - May 19, 2024 at 06:40 PM

AR

Thank you so much, Larry. I love the pictures

Arvilla - June 26, 2024 at 11:37 AM

LF

“ 1 file added to the album Rickard Cousins



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**Larry Facey** - May 19, 2024 at 06:38 PM