



Torfe Alphonse Gedraitis

April 29, 1936 - August 16, 2019

Torfe Alphonse Gedraitis aged 83, lifelong resident of Scottville, died peacefully at his home Friday evening, August 16, 2019. Torfe was born on April 29, 1936 at Paulina Stearns Hospital in Ludington, the only child of Stanley and Mihkalina (Lesauskas) Gedraitis. As a child of Lithuanian immigrants, the language barrier at school was often difficult, but Torfe worked hard to learn the English language and not fall behind his classmates. He graduated from Scottville High School with the class of 1954 and later earned his Bachelor's of Science Degree from Central Michigan University in 1962. Following graduation, Torfe chose to return to Scottville and care for his aging parents rather than entering into a career in politics.

Torfe met the woman who would change his life forever while attending a Lithuanian event in Niles. Molly Pearce, a tall red-head caught Torfe's attention and never lost it. They married on March 25, 1972 in Niles and celebrated nearly 40 years together before Molly preceded him in death in 2011. Torfe was also preceded in death by his parents, and his beloved Aunt & Uncle Victoria and John Gedraitis.

Molly truly changed Torfe's life in many ways. She was his biggest cheerleader in his many activities, the mother of his three daughters, and the one who led him to a life with Christ. After accepting Christ as his savior in 1976, Torfe was an active member of Calvary Baptist Church in Ludington,

and a faithful member of the Gideon's International, always having a Bible in his pocket to hand out and lead others to Christ.

Torfe and Molly operated Laundryland Laundromat in Scottville for 29 years, and Torfe also operated a Security business for 25 years. He was an active member of the Scottville Clown Band for over 36 years, starting as a teenager playing the trumpet at the urging of his high school band teacher. Torfe continued to support the Clown Band after his playing days were over and was considered a Life Member. Torfe loved the Scottville community and was a great advocate and ambassador for the city wherever he went.

Torfe will be greatly missed by his daughters Katie Gedraitis of Scottville, Holly Gedraitis, and Sara Tucker and her husband Brad all of Grand Rapids, and his beloved granddaughter Mollie.

Funeral services will be held for Torfe at 11:00 am on Tuesday, August 27 at Calvary Baptist Church in Ludington with his pastors Rev. Tim Tucker and Rev. Greg East, and his friend Rev. Tim Yankee officiating. Burial will take place next to Molly at Brookside Cemetery in Scottville. Friends may greet his daughters during a time of visitation on Monday evening from 6:00 - 8:00 pm at Wyman Funeral & Cremation Services in Scottville, and from 10:00 - 11:00 am on Tuesday morning at Calvary Baptist Church. Those who wish to remember Torfe with a memorial donation are asked to consider either Gideon's International, or the Scottville Clown Band Raymond Schulte Memorial Scholarship Fund, PO Box 21, Scottville, MI 49454

Torfe's family would like to especially thank Village Manor Services and Hospice of Michigan for the excellent care given to their father.

Cemetery Details

Brookside Cemetery

950 W. State Street
Scottville, MI 49454

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **26**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wyman Funeral & Cremation Services
305 East State Street
Scottville, MI 49454

Visitation

AUG **27**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Calvary Baptist Church
220 North Jebavy Drive
Ludington, MI 49431

Funeral Service

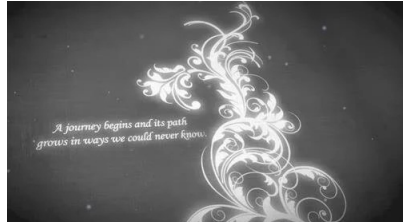
AUG **27**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Calvary Baptist Church
220 North Jebavy Drive
Ludington, MI 49431

Tribute Wall



“ Wyman Funeral & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Torfe Alphonse Gedraitis



Wyman Funeral & Cremation Services - August 26, 2019 at 05:09 PM

RJ

“ I first met Torfe in 1962. I was a high school kid and landed a job working for C.W. Smith at the Western Tire & Auto store. Torfe was fresh out of college and hired in as a manager. My job title was "knucklehead". We've been friends ever since.

Then there were the Clown Band years. For a time I was drafted to conduct and rehearse the band. One of the most treasured compliments I ever received was when Torf told me that "you made me feel like a real musician". Here's my favorite Torfe-ism: whensomething was not right Torfe would say that it was "not so pretty good".

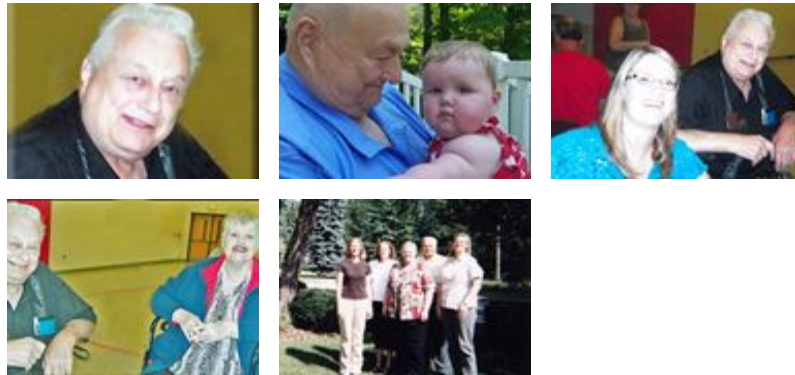
Goodbye old friend

Ron Johnson

RONALD K. JOHNSON - August 27, 2019 at 01:08 PM



“ 28 files added to the album Life Tributes



Wyman Funeral & Cremation Services - August 26, 2019 at 05:06 PM



“ Remember Torfe from school. Always so kind such a gentleman as a teenager who was 1 year behind me in school. Sounds like he was that and more his whole life. My condolences to all his loved ones.

Rosemarie Eppard - August 26, 2019 at 01:41 PM



“ Torf is with Molly now. He was a great and friendly person. He will be missed by us all that knew him. I know the girls will grieve but knowing that he and Molly are together will make it easier. My prayers are that his memories will always be with us. Glad I got to know them both.

*A friend and neighbor in Scottville
May God Bless the family
Diana LeLugas Engfer*

diana Lelugas Engfer - August 22, 2019 at 06:31 PM

BC

“ Bruce Claveau lit a candle in memory of Torfe
Alphonse Gedraitis



Bruce Claveau - August 21, 2019 at 05:02 PM

LR

“ Torfe was one great individual! I have known Torfe from as far back as I can remember, purchasing my first bicycle from him in the early years when he worked for Carl Smith's Western Auto. In later years after we were all retired, it was always a joy when he would come into the cafe' for coffee. Many good discussions, and many good debates.

We will all miss you Torfe. RIP

*Lyle Reene
CUster*

Lyle Reene - August 20, 2019 at 10:55 PM

TY

“ This is hard for us to see...what a special man and we are thankful we were given to privilege to get to know him. Our loss is Heaven's gain but we are thankful we will say, "Hello" again someday! Enjoy walking those streets of gold Torfe. Our love and prayers to you Katie, Holly and Sara, Love, Pastor Tim & Lori and family

Tim & Lori Yankee - August 20, 2019 at 12:07 PM



“ My mother Sally Jenks Kibbey LaFrance was a friend of Torfe. They graduated from SHS together. I know they would meet for a lunch group in the last few years. My mom passed in Sept 2018. I bet she was there to meet Torfe at the gate <3

Nanette Kibbey-Scribner - August 19, 2019 at 10:13 PM

“ Katie, Holly, Sara and family,
I was so sorry to hear about the passing of your dad. He was definitely a one of a kind. So many memories with both him and your mom through fellowship at the church and with Gideons. One of my fondest memories of your dad was when our house was remodeled and became handicapped accessible. On a Saturday morning right after it was finished all the Gideons came to breakfast at our house. I can still hear your dad's laugh, as they shared fellowship. He was a great friend to Dave and we both appreciated his support as Dave battled his cancer.

So your dad has joined your beautiful mother and all those believers that have been waiting for him. I'm sure Dave Morton was there to welcome his friend home.

Your all in my prayers,
Jessie

jessie morton - August 19, 2019 at 07:05 PM