



Eugene D. Oldford

July 28, 1932 - February 25, 2019

Eugene D. Oldford passed away peacefully on Monday, February 25, 2019 at Blue Water Hospice Home after suffering a stroke.

He was born to parents Stephen and Clara (Hallett) Oldford on July 28, 1932 in Detroit. He graduated from Croswell-Lexington High School in 1950 and attended St. Clair County Jr. College and the University of Michigan. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean war, stationed in Panama.

Gene, along with his brother Bill, acquired Huron Tool and Manufacturing, now Huron Inc., in Lexington, from their father Stephen in 1958. The company was sold to US Industries in 1968. He founded Oldford and Associates, an automotive manufacturer's representative sales firm, in 1973 where he continued to work until his unexpected death. Gene was also co-founder of Black River Manufacturing, Port Huron, along with partners Jarold Hawks and Isaac Lang Jr.

Always active in his community, Gene served in various leadership roles on the Worth Township Board, Boy Scouts of America, Jaycees, Croswell-Lexington Little League, Masonic Lodge and Trinity Episcopal Church. He loved horses and was very active in harness horse racing. He was a member of the United States Trotting Association and the Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association where he was honored into its Hall of Fame. He served as president of Harness Horsemen International in 2008 receiving the HHI Person of the Year Award.

Over the years, Gene gave generously to his community establishing the

Stephen and Clara Oldford Scholarship fund to assist students attending St. Clair County Community College.

Gene is survived by his three children, Stephen (Gale) Oldford of Lexington, Susan Zappa of Clyde and Laurie Oldford of Port Huron. He was blessed with five loving grandchildren; Michelle (Manny) Chavez, Troy (Kelly) Oldford, Kara Oldford, Joey Zappa and Vincent Oldford, and three great-grandchildren; Alex and Bensen Chavez, and Brooklyn Oldford. He is also survived by special friend, Nancy Edmonson, brother, William Oldford, sister-in-law Jill Meyers, niece Kathy (Gwen) Johansen, and nephews Will (Ann Marie) Oldford and Douglas (Amy) Gough. Gene was preceded in death by Sandra S. Oldford, Barbara L. Edwards and Joseph R. Zappa.

Gene was a loving and generous man who made friends wherever he went. He deeply loved his family and friends and lived a very active and full life. Please join the family to celebrate Gene's life. A visitation will take place on Friday, March 1, 2019 at the Pomeroy Funeral Home in Lexington from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.

On Saturday, March 2, 2019, a funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. in Trinity Episcopal Church, Lexington, with visitation in the church beginning at 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service.

Memorials appreciated in Gene's name may be offered to Trinity Episcopal Church, Blue Water Hospice or New Vocations Race Horse Adoption Program.

Cemetery Details

Lexington Cemetery

Dennison St.
Lexington, MI 48450

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 1. 2:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Pomeroy Funeral Home - Lexington
5635 Main St.
Lexington, MI 48450
(810) 359-7700
pomeroyfuneralhomes@gmail.com
<https://pomeroyfuneralhomes.com/>

Tribute Wall

AN

“ I am so sorry to hear of the loss of Gene.

I just found out about it,

Gene, Mike and I used to work out at Double Tree in the mornings.

He will truly be missed by me.

My thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Andy Norton



Andrew Norton - April 30, 2019 at 09:42 AM

MC

“ Gene had many friends at GM. Each of us are saddened to hear of Gene's passing. Who could ever forget the Opening Day Tiger games at Tiger Stadium over so many years. Gene made friends and plenty of memories. RIP my friend. To Steve and the entire Oldford Family, may you find peace knowing that Gene's many GM friends, are praying for your comfort. Our thoughts and prayers are with Steve and the entire Oldford family. Mike Brenda Culverhouse Lake Orion, Michigan

Mike Culverhouse - March 01, 2019 at 05:23 PM

TB

“ To Steve and the entire Oldford Family, my condolences. Gene was a tireless worker on behalf of harness racing and Michigan horsemen. I will miss our conversations on how to keep racing moving forward and generate support in Lansing. Gene was never too busy to provide advise or make a phone call on our behalf. He will be missed. RIP

Tom Barrett
MHHA President

Tom Barrett - March 01, 2019 at 04:10 PM

JS

“ Even though Gene's voice is now quite we're sure his spirit echoes still. We are deeply saddened by your loss and share in your sorrow. Please accept our most sincere sympathy. As part time residents in The Villages Florida we always looked forward to getting together with Gene when he was in town, we'll surely miss those good times. John and Deb Sommerville, East China, Mi.

john sommerville - March 01, 2019 at 09:43 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Eugene D. Oldford.



March 01, 2019 at 07:41 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Eugene D. Oldford.*



February 28, 2019 at 05:09 PM



“ *Our thoughts are with the entire Oldford Family. Many gatherings and conversations here in Florida that will be remembered. Gene was a committed Horseman who will be missed greatly.*

Dave and Judy Somerville, Summerfield, Florida

Dave Somerville - February 28, 2019 at 04:50 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Eugene D. Oldford.*



February 28, 2019 at 04:13 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Laurie L Oldford - February 28, 2019 at 01:20 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Eugene D. Oldford.*



February 28, 2019 at 08:48 AM



“ *Condolence to the family. R.I.P. Gene.*



Jim Weller - February 28, 2019 at 08:44 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Eugene D. Oldford.*



February 28, 2019 at 02:06 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eugene D. Oldford.*



February 27, 2019 at 10:12 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Eugene D. Oldford.



February 27, 2019 at 09:37 PM



“ Simply Chic Mixed Plant Basket was purchased for the family of Eugene D. Oldford.



February 27, 2019 at 09:05 PM



“ My Sincere sympathy to all of Eugene’s family . He will be sadly missed!

Christine Noetzel - February 27, 2019 at 06:24 PM



“ I met Gene through Harness Horsemen's International and it was always nice chatting with him. I called him 11/21/18 to wish him a Happy Thanksgiving and he said that he was in good spirits. I will miss my calls to Gene. He was a great guy. God Bless Gene and the Oldford family.

Bill Ellis - February 27, 2019 at 06:02 PM

TF

“ *The Team at Mid West Fabricating purchased the Heavenly Grace Spray for the family of Eugene D. Oldford.*



The Team at Mid West Fabricating - February 27, 2019 at 03:27 PM

RM

“ *Blessings to the Oldford family. My Mother. Georgia Monzo worked for Gene for many years at Huron & Tool. He was kind and good to his employees. God Bless*

Roy Monzo - February 27, 2019 at 01:40 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Eugene D. Oldford.*



February 27, 2019 at 01:32 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Eugene D. Oldford.*



February 27, 2019 at 12:20 PM

RO

“ Renee, the Staff and Board of OHHA purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Eugene D. Oldford.



Renee, the Staff and Board of OHHA - February 27, 2019 at 11:04 AM