



Frank Spitters

September 27, 1923 - November 5, 2025

Frank was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, on September 27, 1923, and was welcomed into the presence of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on November 5, 2025.

Following his service in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from 1941 to 1945 during World War II, Frank married Elaine Hybels. In 1955, he introduced offset lithography to West Michigan by founding Kalamazoo Litho Plate. Over the next 25 years, he guided the company as president of KalaCraft, expanding operations with branches in Evanston, Atlanta, and San Mateo.

Frank and Elaine were among the founding members of Haven Reformed Church in Kalamazoo. He served his church faithfully—as co-general contractor for the Haven Church construction on Sprinkle Road, and in leadership roles within his congregation, the West Michigan Classis, and the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America. He also served as board president for Words of Hope, a global Christian radio ministry.

In retirement, Frank and Elaine dedicated many years to service through the Mobile Missionary Assistance Program, traveling throughout Michigan and the southwestern United States to support churches and ministries in need.

Frank spent the final seven years of his life at Freedom Village in Holland,

Michigan, where he formed many cherished friendships and rarely missed a Hope College basketball game. His legacy of faith, service, and love for people will continue to inspire all who knew him.

Frank was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Elaine; daughter-in-law, Cecile Spitters; and great-granddaughter, Kinsley Markle. He is survived by his children Diane Wichman of Battle Creek, Alan Spitters of Zeeland, and Gerald (Deborah) Spitters of Richland; four grandchildren Scott (Joanne) Spitters, Steve (Lisa) Spitters, Kristi (Dale) Kling, and Brandi Markle; and great-grandchildren Jaden Spitters, Ellie (RJ) Blackburn, Anna (Jake) Topp, Kenzie (Andrew) Meiste, Kaden Spitters, Greyson Kling, Elsie Kling, and Jace Markle.

A full military honors ceremony will be held at Fort Custer National Cemetery at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be given to Words of Hope (<https://www.woh.org/donate/>) or Youth for Christ (<https://yfc.net/give>). Arrangements are by Yntema Funeral Home, 251 South State Street, Zeeland, MI 49464. To leave condolences online, please visit www.yntemafh.com.

Cemetery Details

Fort Custer National Cemetery

Tribute Wall

NV

“ We celebrate with you Frank's entry into the presence of his glorious Savior! Truly a life well lived that touched many others. Our sympathies and prayers are with you. Freedom Inn friends: Nathan, Bev, Carol and Nancy

Nancy Voorhorst - November 14, 2025 at 11:08 AM

JH

“ I always admired and looked up to Frank. One time, after he and Elaine i'd come back from a trip to California, he showed me his scorecard from Pebble Beach Golf Course. The fact that he'd even gotten to play there was amazing. I looked at it and he shot a round of 80, he was a decent golfer, but a round of 80 was amazing. I asked him a few more questions about playing there, and he finally admitted that he hadn't played there, he just got a scorecard and filled one out. Fooled me once again, and we both laughed out loud about it. Haven church wouldn't be where they are today without Frank and his family putting in all the hours of work and leadership. He was a great, godly man.

John Hutchinson - November 13, 2025 at 12:38 PM

DV

“ Dear Frank, he was one special man!!! So many childhood memories, so many family memories were shared with Frank & Elaine! We send LOVE and HUGS to Diane, Al, Jerry and all the Spitters...we know he will be SO missed by each one of you!

Donna & Ray Vanldeking - November 09, 2025 at 12:50 AM

CN

“*Frank Spitters was such a dear sweet man. He loved the Lord and was always so kind to our family. He loved my parents and was so generous and giving. I remember he once let us use his Cadillac to take our vacation to Iowa in! We had never seen such a fancy car! He and his beautiful wife, Elaine, were so gracious, often inviting our family to their home on Gull Lake to swim, sail and sit in the sun. I have so many fond childhood and family memories that include Frank and Elaine. I am so thankful that they were a part of my life.*

Cyndi Martens Nykamp - November 08, 2025 at 09:08 PM