



## Harold Bell

December 4, 1946 - February 15, 2022

Harold Bell, age 75, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, February 15, 2022.

Harold was raised in Kentucky and was drafted into the United States Army where he served from 1968-1971. After college he became a teacher in the Grand Blanc Community school system where he taught for 30 years. Together with his wife, Judy Bell, they taught over 6000 students collectively. He and Judy retired and spent the last 20 years in the Holland area where they became great friends with their neighbors in the Pine Island community. He and Judy were married for 42 years of which they are very grateful. He was loved and will be dearly missed.

He is preceded in death by his in-laws, Walter and Ruth Herbst.

He is survived by his wife, Judy Bell.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a memorial contribution given in Harold's honor to Kids Food Basket, 652 Hastings Ave, Holland, MI 49423 or the Ian MisKelley Memorial Fund at Holland Zeeland Community Foundation, 85 E 8th St #110, Holland, MI 49423.

Condolences may be expressed at [www.langelandsterenberg.com](http://www.langelandsterenberg.com) or mailed

directly to the funeral home.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Harold Bell*

August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM



“ *Harold became my mentor and friend when I joined the Reid staff in Grand Blanc. He helped another teacher and I introduce literature books into the classroom in place of basal readers. With his help we chose books that were appropriate for beginning, middle, and end of the year second grade students, and years later when researchers leveled books for guided reading, we learned the choices he helped us make were spot on. As a reading specialist he spent time in my classroom each day, focusing on struggling readers but assisting all students. He was outspoken about what he believed was best for readers and learners, and served as a role model for me in my career. Once he and another teacher served as my "attorneys" when I fought a "ticket" for running in the hall at a mock staff trial, and he won my case! When Harold retired he gave me a small stool that I used for the rest of my teaching career-especially when I was reading to my class. He would have loved that. I still have it and remember him fondly every time I look at it. Harold had a huge impact on the teacher I became and I will always be grateful to him. My deepest sympathies to Judy, family and friends.*

*Marilyn Valeri Colton, or as Harold used to call me, Mrs. C.*

Marilyn Valeri Colton - February 18, 2022 at 12:22 PM

LM

“ I am so proud to say that Harold was one of my dearest friends. Anyone who has ever met him knows what a blessing his presence was. Overcoming life's obstacles with such grace and joy and love as he did, will forever be an inspiration. Even in our short visits together, Harold and Judy showered me with kindness, respect, laughter, appreciation, beautiful stories, and some of the best cooking I've ever had! Harold is a beautiful soul in every way, a very rich spirit.

There are countless warm memories and southern "Harold-isms" I've had the privilege of enjoying. My favorite recent memory is of our Comedy Olympics, in which we judged funny comedy clips through email. He was prepared, ending with Benny Hill. Harold won.

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**Lara Malone** - February 16, 2022 at 08:44 AM

AB

*Mr. Bell was my favorite teacher without him I wouldn't be successful today he was my everything my friend my father my strength I love you mister Bell rest in peace*

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**Anthony Brinkley** - February 16, 2022 at 10:01 AM

MG

*I am so sorry to hear about this and send my deepest condolences to Judy. I first met Harold when I was a student teacher at Reid Elementary School in Grand Blanc. Harold was a reading specialist. I had the opportunity to watch and learn from one of the best educators. We became friends and he stood up at my wedding. Although our paths had not crossed in the last several years, it does not take away the friendship and memories we had. Rest in peace, dear friend.*

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**Mark Gorton** - February 17, 2022 at 05:54 PM

ST

*I met Harold through my book club with Judy. He hosted us and showed me his amazing train collection. He was such a kind and caring man. I will never forget how he spoke of Judy...what love.*

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**stephanie** - February 17, 2022 at 07:43 PM

RA

*Judy, you and Harold gave us a beautiful image of marriage, commitment, and true love. May treasured memories fill your heart and sustain you during this time of loss and transition.*

**Rayetta** - February 18, 2022 at 09:30 AM

DS

*Judy, Nancy and I are so, so sorry to hear this sad news. We dearly enjoyed both you and Harold while we were neighbors on Pine Island. Our grandchildren still talk about the impressive working train display Harold had and how he proudly showed them how they all worked. Our hearts go out to you Judy and please know you are in our prayers.  
Doug & Nancy Spooner*

**Doug & Nancy Spooner** - February 18, 2022 at 12:43 PM

CK

*Judy, I wish you strength to bear this burden of grief and moments of peace so you can rest.  
Harold was a very special person/educator. He changed/influenced many lives. He was thoughtful, kind, sincere, and always had time for others. He was an inspiration.  
I had the pleasure of working with Harold at Reid Elementary until he retired. He was my go-to resource when I needed his expertise. He always made time and I was a better teacher because of him. I will forever treasure the memories of our time spent together. He will be missed.  
May the constant love of family/ friend soften your grief and your memories bring you moments of comfort ...  
Much love and prayers,  
Connie Koviack*

**connie koviack** - February 20, 2022 at 09:52 PM