



Herbert J. Maatman

March 26, 1926 - July 10, 2021

Herbert J Maatman, age 95, walked into the presence of his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, late Friday evening July 9, following a short illness. Watch the graveside service here: <https://www.facebook.com/162113063827221/videos/1952151784939687> Herb served in the US Army Air Corps during WWII. He graduated from Hope College and received his Masters in Education from Western Michigan University. He taught Physical Education and Business at West Ottawa schools for 31 years, was their first Athletic Director and ultimately was inducted into the West Ottawa Athletic Hall of Fame. Herb was the golf coach at West Ottawa and continued teaching his grandchildren over the years, finding success numerous times in grandfather/granddaughter/grandson championships at Winding Creek Golf course. In his retirement, Herb worked for many years fund-raising for Mission India and took several trips to India with area pastors. He attended Central Wesleyan Church. Herb will be fondly remembered for his love for the Lord and for people. His smile and his great memory always greeted everyone, from those he recently met, as well as students from 60 years ago, by name. His family appreciated his love, concern and encouragement for everyone. He was always supportive and wanted to keep track of all the latest happenings. He will be especially remembered by his children and grandchildren for:

- his love and concern showed to his wife, especially the last three years when they were apart.
- his voicemail messages singing "Happy Birthday" and his Facetime calls.

-his love for music, playing the organ and dancing the polka.
-his desire to treat us with Orange Julius' at Christmas gatherings.
-his desire to teach us Spanish during breakfasts in Mexico.
-his love for hunting and fishing with his son, grandchildren and friends.
-his love for West Ottawa schools and the thousands of students he impacted and encouraged.
-his love for Hope College and their sporting events.
-his amazing memory and love of playing Jeopardy.
-his love for this country, Memorial Day parades and the American flag.
-his love for the Detroit Tigers and the letters he would send to encourage improvement.
-his absolute delight when he was taken to Washington DC on a Freedom Honor Flight for WWII veterans, letters from family and his homecoming in Kalamazoo.
-his love for cars. RE Barber will miss him! He was loved by many and will be missed always! He is survived by his: Wife of 71 years, Lorraine Children Barb (Ron) Wayner of Sutton, AK
Bill (Lu) Maatman of Holland, MI
Brenda (Kevin) McKenna of Byron Center, MI 7 grandchildren
17 great-grandchildren
2 great-great-grandsons. The family wants to thank all the people at Resthaven and Hospice of Holland that showed so much love and took such amazing care of Herb over the past three months. You totally blessed us. A private family service with military honors is planned. Pastor Mary Dewitt will officiate. Burial will be at Restlawn memorial Gardens. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Holland, Mission India and the Resthaven Care Center. Arrangements are by Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home and condolences may be left online at www.langelandsterebergh.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Herbert J. Maatman*

August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM



“ *"Our deepest sympathy to your entire family. You are in our thoughts and prayers."*

Wendy and Ed Arens - July 19, 2021 at 12:00 AM



“ *"When I was hired to teach at West Ottawa in 1959, I was warmly greeted by Herb. I did some coaching and Herb was an excellent Athletic Director. Carole and I have maintained a long time friendship with Herb and Lorraine. We have also followed closely the missionary adventures of Ron and Barb. Herb had a quick wit and ready smile. He will be missed!"*

Norm and Carole Boeve - July 19, 2021 at 12:00 AM



“ *"Mr. Maatman was a young teacher when we were in WO. The school had just been established. Young and full of hope and ideas for all of the students. As the years went by, he continued to remember the different classes. He came to several of the class of 65's reunions. He always had that wonderful smile and laugh when we would talk about our HS years. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family."*

Lynn and Judy Bakker - July 18, 2021 at 12:00 AM

LV

“Mr Maatman was our basketball and softball coach at Montello park grade school. Was a great coach but awesome person. Always glad to see you with his great smile. A real blessing to have had him in my life.”

Larry Vliem - July 17, 2021 at 12:00 AM

KW

“Mr. Maatman was my gym teacher back when I first entered high school. Always had a whistle around his neck. Fond memories and a Great Guy!!!”

Ken Wright - July 16, 2021 at 12:00 AM

RS

“Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. We have been privileged to call Herb our friend these years we have been a CWC. Such a dear man who left such a great legacy, had so much love for people and most importantly such a great love for his Lord and Savior.”

Roger and Joan Syswerda - July 16, 2021 at 12:00 AM

EP

“Brenda and Bill, we offer our sympathies to you and your families during this difficult time. May God comfort you and give you peace. Tom and Elaine Praamsma”

Elaine Praamsma - July 16, 2021 at 12:00 AM

EW

“*Sorry to hear about Herb. He was an amazing person. Always upbeat! I taught Physical Education with him and always admired his relationship with his students. After retiring, a group of guys would go to Apache Junction, AZ each February for a golf outing. He was always a lot of fun and gave me a lot of tips. Will miss my good friend!*”

Ed Wirth - July 15, 2021 at 12:00 AM

CN

“*I am so grateful to have known Herb when he lived at Royal Park and Royal Atrium - I can still see him demonstrating for all of us how the soldiers marched in front of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. He was a teacher through and through and I learned many things observing how he lived and how he treated his loved ones. Pre-COVID, when I visited with him while he visited Lorraine at Resthaven, he would say "Alexa, be quiet" if music was playing when I entered the room. He made the most of technology to stay connected with his family! My deepest sympathies to all of Herb's family and loved ones. Sincerely, Cindy Nyhoff, Chaplain*”

Cindy Nyhoff - July 15, 2021 at 12:00 AM

AV

“*SO Sorry for your loss, I enjoyed having the opportunity to play golf with Mr. Maatman and to have been greatly influenced by him while attending WO. Our prayers are with his family Sincerely, AJ And Mary K Visser*”

AJ VISSER - July 15, 2021 at 12:00 AM

RO

“Brenda & family,
We were saddened to read of your Dads' passing. Your parents played such a large role in your life we know. Please receive comfort knowing what a wonderful & full life he lived & he now peacefully rests in the arms of our Lord.”

Ron - July 14, 2021 at 12:00 AM

MP

“Praising Jesus for the years and memories you've been blessed with. May the Lord wrap you in His loving care and comfort. Herb's last breath on earth, was his first breath in heaven. Hugs to all of you.”

Mariella Paul - July 14, 2021 at 12:00 AM

BN

“My sincere sympathy to Herb's family! He was also a friend as well as a coworker. Many wonderful memories working with Herb and remembering him when I was a student at WO! He has left a legacy to be admired by all who knew him! Blessings to the family as you grieve his loss”

Barb Nyland - July 13, 2021 at 12:00 AM

DB

“My sympathy for your loss - I remember Mr. Maatman fondly from my high school years at West Ottawa. Learned a lot from him and his love of teaching.”

Debra J Barrow - July 13, 2021 at 12:00 AM

JS

“Bill and family, So sorry to hear this news. Herb was a great teacher, great hombra and a great friend. Prayers and sympathy to all of you. Little Joe”

Joe Silva - July 13, 2021 at 12:00 AM

DL

“Sincerest sympathies and extended to the entire Maatman family. For first 15-18 years of my life I remember my parents enjoying the company of Herb and Lorraine...as did I...at the (what seemed to be monthly) charcoal steak frys. Herb always exhibited an eye for "the kids". Little did I know that I would become reacquainted with Herb & Lorraine some 50 years later when we began attending CWC.

PS: Thank You Herb for your service...and Thank You Lorraine for "lending" him during that time!!!

May y'all cherish the memories created by such a Great Man... in so many ways!"

Darryl Lokers - July 13, 2021 at 12:00 AM

GS

“To Lorraine, Barb, Bill, Brenda & spouses. My sincere sympathy to all of you. Herb was a great man & Christian. Love. Geri Schreur & my children. Jane, Mary, Tim & spouses”

Geri Schreur - July 13, 2021 at 12:00 AM

BB

“For the Maatman family please accept our condolences. I was fortunate enough to be one of those many impacted by Herb at WOHS. Heaven has gained a true Hall-of-Famer.”

Bob Beckman - July 13, 2021 at 12:00 AM

DD

“I remember your dad from school and he was a great guy. I talked to him often when he visited his wife at Rest Haven when I visited my mom there. so sorry for your loss. Deb Dykema class of 1969”

deb dykema - July 13, 2021 at 12:00 AM

RO

“He sure did impacted and encouraged me and I will miss him until I see him in heaven. Prayers are with the family. GOD bless.”

Ronnie Holstine Class of - July 13, 2021 at 12:00 AM

DP

“Bill, Lu, Our prayers and thoughts have been with you guys. What a great legacy Herbert has left. Trusting the Lord will carry you, Bill's mom, and your whole family through this time. All the best, Dave and Barb Vander Ploeg”

David Vander Ploeg - July 12, 2021 at 12:00 AM

MV

“Condolences to all the family, Herb will be missed, I loved speaking spanish with him, and seeing how loving he was to Lorraine, he was a good man, God rest his soul”

Mary Vargas - July 12, 2021 at 12:00 AM

RA

“So sorry to hear of Herb's passing. Praying your family will be comforted by many wonderful memories and the assurance that although Herb is absent from the body he is present with the Lord because of his faith and trust in Jesus Christ, which is "better by far".”

Ray - July 12, 2021 at 12:00 AM

VB

“Brenda, Sorry to hear about your Dad. In the days ahead may you smile as you think about all the memories you have. Cherish them!”

Vicki Borgman - July 12, 2021 at 12:00 AM

BC

“One of the kindest men I've ever met. Sincere condolences.”

Beth Cumberland - July 12, 2021 at 12:00 AM

CS

“Prayers for all of you during this time. I have more memories than I can begin to write about - lots of good times as me and Brenda were growing up! Praise God- he got to meet Jesus yesterday- what a glorious day for him!”

Cindy Smith - July 11, 2021 at 12:00 AM

MM

“Our sympathy to your family. Faith is the first word that comes to mind when I think of Herb, followed by a genuine spirit of joy and friendship (to my Dad and our family). God's grace and peace to you in this time.”

Mike Miedema - July 11, 2021 at 12:00 AM

LV

“So sorry for your loss. Your Dad was a Great man well liked.I had him for a teacher at West Ottawa. God Bless all of the Family during this sad time. Love Larry&Ruth VanNuil”

Larry VanNuil - July 11, 2021 at 12:00 AM

MH

“Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to your family as you process this loss of your Dad and Grandpa. May your faith in our loving God give you strength and comfort during this time. Love, Rog & Mary Hoezeesnd the Bos family❤️”

Mary Hoezee - July 10, 2021 at 12:00 AM