



Lavern Edewaard

August 24, 1934 - September 9, 2025

Lavern D. Edewaard, age 91, passed away on Tuesday, September 9, 2025. Vern Edewaard, born August 24, 1934, lived a full life of adventure and leadership. He was born and raised in Holland MI, graduated from Holland Christian and Calvin College. He had an entrepreneurial spirit and had a variety of careers including teaching High School Biology, Pharmaceutical sales, Dry Cleaners ownership, and various Real Estate developments all over Michigan. Vern also had a variety of interests and was a Charter Member of Bethany Christian Reformed Church with many positions served. Hunting was always a big part of his life which brought him to be in leadership in the Holland Fish and Game Club, Ducks Unlimited, Wildlife Unlimited (eventually becoming the Outdoor Discovery Network), and Safari Club International.

Although he traveled the world many times over, saw and did more than most people will ever think of seeing, he was most proud of his family and mellowed beautifully to enjoy watching their Great Grands running around their home, even if they were tugging at some taxidermy. He loved learning, he loved God's creation, and it was very common to hear him pray that faith in God would be passed on to the next generations by his kids and Grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his parents, Julia and Menno Edewaard; parents in law, Marie and Henry Gort; his brother and sister in laws, Sandra & Carl Edewaard, Morris Gort, Lucille & Arnold Blaukamp; and a great-grandson, Theodore Groenink.

Serving alongside him and surviving is his dedicated and loving wife Carol (Gort), with whom they recently celebrated 68 years of marriage. Together they raised their four sons, Steve and Wendy, Jeff and Rosetta, Randy and Jodie, and Jim and Stacy. They in turn were blessed to have ten Grandchildren and seventeen Great Grandchildren with two more on the way. He is also survived by in-law, Glenda Gort, and Kristi & Tim Rigterink. He will be missed by his family and friends locally and internationally. Carol and the rest of the family will forever be grateful for his love, leadership, and Faith.

Visitation with the family is scheduled for 6:00-8:00pm Friday, September 12, at Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home, 315 E 16th St., Holland. Funeral services are planned for 11:00am Saturday, September 13, at Maranatha Christian Reformed Church, 918 Central Ave. Holland, MI 49423 with Rev. Matthew Stob officiating. Burial will be at East Saugatuck Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be made to:

Zeeland Christian at www.zcs.org or by mail to 334 W Central Ave. Zeeland, MI 49464,

Holland Christian Schools at <http://hollandchristian.org> or by mail to 956 Ottawa Ave. Holland, MI 49423,

Hospice of Holland at www.hollandhospice.org or by mail to 270 Hoover Blvd, Holland, MI 49423,

or the ODC Network at www.outdoordiscovery.org or by mail to 4214 56th St. Holland, MI 49423.

Condolences may be left online at www.langelandsterenbergh.com

Cemetery Details

East Saugatuck Cemetery

4155 58th Ave.
Holland, MI 49423

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **12**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home
315 East 16th Street
Holland, MI 49423

Funeral Service

SEP **13**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Maranatha Christian Reformed Church
918 Central Avenue
Holland, MI 49423

Tribute Wall



“ *Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Lavern Edewaard*



Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes - September 12, 2025 at 11:41 AM

TH

“ *Jim, Stacy and the entire Edewaard family: Your father was such a good man, and I have many happy memories from our teenage years of his sense of humor and love of life. I truly respect the life he lived and the family he and your mother raised. Please accept our deepest sympathies. Tom & Carol Hulst*

Tom Hulst - September 15, 2025 at 04:53 PM

DR

“ *Carol, Steve and Wendy, Jeff and Rosetta, Randy and Jodie, Jim and Stacy, our thoughts and prayers are with you all and your family. The service for Vern was beautiful and showed how wonderful he was. His words echoed throughout the service of his love for God, creation and his very special family. Daryl and Cyndy Rotman*

Daryl Rotman - September 14, 2025 at 08:07 PM

DD

“ You were a real Gentleman. I remember sitting with you in your office on Central Ave talking about Diamonds with your Friend from South Africa. It was a real treat. May you find peace my friend you deserve it. 🇺🇸🕶️.
Dave Dirkse

DAVE Dirkse - September 12, 2025 at 08:29 AM

GK

“ Glenda and the Gort Kids purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Lavern Edewaard.



Glenda and the Gort Kids - September 11, 2025 at 01:21 PM



“ Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Lavern Edewaard.



September 11, 2025 at 12:28 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Lavern Edewaard.

September 11, 2025 at 11:48 AM



“ *Full Heart was purchased for the family of Lavern Edewaard.*



September 11, 2025 at 11:48 AM



“ *Vern was more than a mentor—he was a guiding light in my life. From the time I was 12 years old pumping gas for him, Vern took an interest in me and helped shape the path I would follow. He sparked my passion for Michigan SCI and SCI International, opening doors to opportunities that became the foundation of my hunting career. His wisdom, encouragement, and insight were gifts that guided me toward achieving my goals. I will always carry deep gratitude for the impact Vern had on my life and the legacy of leadership and generosity he leaves behind. - Jerry Brenner*

Jerry Brenner - September 10, 2025 at 06:29 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Lavern Edewaard.*



September 10, 2025 at 04:46 PM

MW

“ Jim, Stacey and family. Our deepest sympathy to you and your family. You are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. My Dad is also knocking on heavens door at this very time. Heaven will gain two great men who showed us what loving the Lord was all about.

Michael Van Wyk - September 10, 2025 at 03:20 PM

PH

“ Pat Hoeksema lit a candle in memory of Lavern Edewaard



Pat Hoeksema - September 09, 2025 at 09:57 PM

DC

“ The memory I have of Mr. Edward's is I had him for my biology teacher and then had the pleasure of meeting him again at one of his grandchildren's reserel dinners, I always like him as a teacher and I will never forget him, 🥹🙏

Diane Cartwright - September 09, 2025 at 04:46 PM