



## Ralph "Bud" Parker

March 19, 1931 - March 19, 2018

Ralph "Bud" Parker, 87 of Holland died peacefully at Freedom Village on Monday, March 19, 2018 with his wife Dorothy by his side. Ralph was born on May 2, 1930, in Lansing, Michigan to Ralph and Hermione (Warner) Parker. He married his college sweetheart, Dorothy "Dot" (Newhart) in 1953. Together they shared and raised three children: Randy Parker (Battle Creek), Pam Sault (Crystal Lake, IL), Scott Parker (Battle Creek). Ralph is survived by his wife, children, six grandchildren; Kelly & Ryan Slagh, Jeffrey & Jennifer Parker, Aaron Sault, Adam & Stacy Sault, Kayti Sault; six great-granddaughters; brother David & Carol Parker (Shelby Twp, MI); sister in law, Mildred Pinney (Libertyville, IL) sister-in-law, Marlene & Dave Poulton (Sturgeon Bay, WI); many nieces, nephews, and extended family. Bud graduated from Flint Central High School and Albion College. At Albion Bud played Varsity baseball as pitcher and was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity. Upon graduation, he began his business career with Michigan Bell Telephone in Flint and Saginaw. Shortly thereafter he followed his passion for investing and joined Merrill Lynch in Saginaw where he enjoyed a successful 37-year career as broker and Vice President before retiring in 1993. Ralph was active in the Saginaw community as volunteer and leader in numerous organizations that he was passionate about including the arts and church. Bud's outgoing personality and energy contributed greatly to the strong relationships he built and the important contributions he made. Following retirement, Bud and Dot retired to Hilton Head Island for 16 years where he

continued to build strong friendships and contribute his energy. During the summer months, they lived at the family cottage on Lake Charlevoix in northern Michigan. The cottage and beautiful lake were the magnet that drew the family together for many of the most memorable family moments and experiences with Bud, or Papa as the grandchildren re-named him. Bud and Dot were literally world travelers, enjoying trips to England, Israel, Turkey, Thailand, Russia, Mexico, many Caribbean Islands as well as exploring the beauty of the U.S on many family trips. Bud's leisure time pleasures included fishing, golf and art. His paintings, drawings and photographs adorn his and other family members' homes and the cottage. When Bud and Dot moved to Holland in 2011, they brought their enthusiasm for life, their warm friendly personalities, humor, and their passion for contributing to Freedom Village. Bud, always the joiner, contributed to many committees and activities as well as taking advantage of the numerous educational and cultural activities the college town has to offer. Bud is described as one of the good guys, he touched the lives of countless people over the course of his long life, and our loss will be felt deeply by all. A Celebration's of Bud's Life will be 10:00 am, Saturday, March 31, 2018 at Freedom Village Auditorium, 145 Columbia Ave., Holland, MI 49423. Memorial contributions may be made in Bud's honor to Freedom Village Resident Scholarship Fund c/o Holland Zeeland Community Foundation.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Ralph "Bud" Parker*



-----  
**Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes** - March 19, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *Ralph "Bud" Parker*

-----  
August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM



“ *"Omg ! Where do I start or finish on how great this man was as a father,grandfather,husband and mentor of family and friends. He was a true example of kindness,strength and mostly Love..Rest in peace Papa ..I will alway remember you and what you did for me and my family.. God bless your journey... may it be filled with adventure that you constantly sought ."*

-----  
**Brian Sault** - March 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *"Randy, I am sorry to hear of the loss of your father. I want to extend my deepest sympathy to you and your family."*

-----  
**Richard Howe** - March 26, 2018 at 12:00 AM

AK

“ *"I'm so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you all"*

Ann Klink - March 25, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ *"Dear Dot, Randy, Pam, and Scott,I'm so sorry for your loss, Ralph was such a wonderful man, I just adored him. He was the fun dad, growing up, he included me in many ski trips, he took me to my first drive in movie with the family, and I'll never forget him playing games with us outside. My love and prayers are with you all at this difficult time. Feel blessed that he was part of your lives.With Love, Chris (Dennis) Papp"*

Christine Papp - March 25, 2018 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ *"Sending hugs to the Parker family from the Rob Morley family. Thinking of you and wishing you all well. We had many good times together. Remembering your family in our prayers Sue Morley and family."*

Sue Morley - March 24, 2018 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ *Ralph "Bud" Parker*

A friend - March 23, 2018 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ *"Dear Dot & Family,Ralph and I worked together many years. More important...he was a great friend and a joy to be around. Always upbeat and engaging. Marilyn and I will miss him but the memories are great.With warmest regards,Dick and Marilyn Hanson"*

Dick Hanson - March 23, 2018 at 12:00 AM

AF

“*Dear Dot There are no words for my sorrow at Ralph's passing He was one of my Merrill Lynch boys" and deeply loved Jean Paolini"*

---

**A friend** - March 23, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CB

“*Dear Mrs. Parker, Pam, Randy and Scott, I was so sorry to hear of Ralphs passing. Please accept my deepest sympathy. I always enjoyed spending time with all of you when we lived in Saginaw. He always made me laugh. Your husband and father was a wonderful man I will never forget. Love, Christie Ivey Blue"*

---

**Christie Blue** - March 22, 2018 at 12:00 AM