



Raymon G. Elhart

July 24, 1936 - July 24, 2017

Raymon G. Elhart, 81, of Holland, MI passed away on Monday, July 24, 2017. Born to Gilbert and Ruth Elhart, he was preceded in death by his brother, Melvin Elhart and grandson, Jonathan. He leaves behind his loving wife, Vonnie (Kraai) Elhart; his devoted daughters Rayetta (David) Perez, Stephanie (Jay Frankhouse) Elhart, and Shannon Elhart; six treasured grandchildren: Dylan, Tessa, Sammi, Sydra, Abby, and Mack; and his siblings, Jim (Judy) Elhart, Mary Lou Shafer, Joy Brasseur. His extended family includes Phyllis Elhart, Frank Kraai, Dwight and Carol Kraai, Betty Kraai, Elsie Kraai and many nieces and nephews. For his wife, daughters, sons-in-law, and grandchildren, Ray was always there with lively conversation, a hug, and an 'I love you.' If one of his grandchildren was performing in a music concert, playing on a sports team, or excelling in academics, Papa was there to cheer them on with pride and enthusiasm. Ray was a dedicated and successful businessman with a long career in the electronic sales industry. He formed and was president of Com-Tek Sales until his retirement. Ray was a natural salesperson and nurtured the relationships he made with people around the world. In his retirement, Ray enjoyed time at Boyne Mountain Resort in northern Michigan. His outgoing personality was also evident when he worked as a ranger on both the Monument and Alpine golf courses. He especially loved his daily rounds of golf overlooking Deer Lake. Ray made countless friends at Boyne, all who loved his friendly, helpful nature, and his annual delivery of blueberries – a favorite treat from growing up on a blueberry farm.

Along with golfing and family gatherings, Ray's favorite pastimes were boating, fishing on Lake Michigan, hunting, and watching wildlife. Ray was larger than life with perhaps the friendliest personality you would ever know. He never met a stranger, and acquaintances become friends in just a few minutes. He was quick-witted, had a heart for people, and was eager to share a smile and a story. Ray had a knack for making you feel special and valued, and loved to learn what made you smile. Ray had a heart of gold and his presence will be greatly missed. Throughout his last weeks of life, he was surrounded by compassion, love, and gentleness. The family wishes to express deep appreciation to the many family members, friends, and Fellowship Church members who visited, and to Hospice and the Appledorn Assisted Living Center staff who showered 'Mr. Ray' with care and attention. A memorial service is planned for 11:00 am Friday, August 11, 2017 at Fellowship Reformed Church, 2165 W. Lakewood Boulevard, Holland. Visitation will be 4-7 pm Thursday, August 10, 2017 at Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home, 315 E. 16th Street, Holland. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hospice of Holland.

Tribute Wall



“ *Raymon G. Elhart*

August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM



“ *"The Best Sales Rep ever . And , I'm counting on you to still speak to me when I'm sizing up those tough bunker shots ! Karl Bonga Winter Garden , FL"*

Karl Bonga - August 06, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *"Dear Vonnie--you have my sympathy with the loss of your dear husband. It was a real pleasure to visit Ray and get to know him over this past year. He clearly loved his family and lived a full life. Mark H (Hospice visitor)"*

Mark H - August 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *"I worked for Ray for almost 20 year and can honestly say that he was the best boss you could work for. He was honest, truthful, ethical...just a great all around person with a terrific sense of humor and we remained good friends after retirement. Vonnie and his daughters were everything to him and when the grandchildren came along it was a great big plus. I am sorry he had to suffer these past years because he deserved so much better. I will miss him and I hold warm caring thoughts and prayers for Vonnie, Rayetta, Steph and Shannon."*

Sherry Korbie - August 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM

AN

“Dearest Steph and family....our hearts are broken over the tremendous loss of your dad. We knew him through your stories and a lifetime of love. We can only imagine how difficult it's been. There are no words for moments like these....there is nothing but our prayers that we can offer on your behalf. Know that we love you. And we are so grateful for the man whom God used to shape you into the person you are today. His legacy goes on (through you....and those he loved). anne+tim”

anne - August 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM

CS

“Dear Vonnie and family. My heart aches for you. I'm happy we had nice chat in Walgreens. You will remain in our thoughts and prayers. Most sincerely. Carlton and Lynn Schweibert”

Carlton and Lynn Schweibert - August 01, 2017 at 12:00 AM

TB

“I am so sorry to hear that Ray has passed away. I used to work at Appledorn in the kitchen and I would always look forward to seeing him when ever I worked cause when ever I had a bad day and I said hi to him he would always say hi and have the biggest smile on his face. He was honestly one of my favorite residents and when my sister Bethany Vander Berg told me that he wasn't doing so well I was devastated to hear that he wasn't going to make it much longer. I know how hard it is to lose someone and we just have to remember that they are with God in Heaven will always be with us no matter what. If you ever feel like you can't do anything anymore just remember the verse Philippians 4:13 " I can't do all things through Christ who gives me strength””

Tyler Vander Berg - July 31, 2017 at 12:00 AM

RV

“Ray was a dear friend. When we met in Alabama at one of the Robert Trent Jones golf courses 22 years ago, he immediately treated both of us as long-time friends. When we were paired up for that first round, we immediately planned to do that for the rest of our trip and that soon led to many years of "Super-Five" golf at Boyne. Then the friendship led to hunting trips and many phone calls over the years. What a guy! We will always cherish our friendship with both Ray and Vonnie.”

Rose and Bill VanNieuwenhuyzen - July 31, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JL

“I have many great Memories of Ray over the last 30 years. He was always a great friend and mentor who I greatly respected. I look back on my career and his inspiration and enjoyment of the Electronics industry is the reason I am here today. He always had a way to put a positive spin on situations and was always very devoted to his wife and his three daughters. It did not matter if you were golfing, boating, hunting or just having lunch, Ray always had a good story to tell. He will be missed by many.”

Jason Lovell - July 31, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BE

“Vonnie, Shannon, Stephanie, Rayetta Our deepest sympathy and the loss of your husband and dad! We spent much time with just a great man! With some pictures, we can occasionally recall times with him. Our thoughts and prayers are with each of you! Best Personal Regards Bruce and Amy Endline”

Bruce Endline - July 29, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SR

“My sympathy to the Elhart Family on Ray's passing. Ray was always so engaging and happy. Even as he suffered from the effects from Alzheimer's Disease he would often times recognize me as a long time friend of Rayetta and David and pull up a past memory or a recent visit from Rayetta. Thank you for allowing the Appledorn Family of care givers to provide care and service to Ray these past three years. It is an honor and privilege and he will be missed by many. Vonnie's dedicated and caring daily visits to Appledorn will be missed as well. Comfort to you in the love and good memories that Ray leaves behind to all that knew him.”

Scott Reenders - July 29, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JB

“My mom and dad ~ John and Betty Groenewoud wish to express their sympathies to you in your loss. Mom's health keeps her from getting out. Jean Bakker”

Jean Bakker - July 28, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BC

“Ray was always sunshine on a cloudy day. His smile lit up the room. He loved and adored his family the most. I had the pleasure of caring for him for the past 7 months and he brought laughter, jokes, smiles, stories on the daily. I will miss his kind smile the most. To the Elhart family, may you be given comfort and love during these tough times as you grieve the loss of such a good man! You all are in my thoughts and prayers!”

Beth C - July 27, 2017 at 12:00 AM