



Wayne Rodger Vriesman

April 6, 1937 - March 22, 2024

Wayne Rodger Vriesman, 86, of Holland, formerly of Oak Brook, Illinois, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on Friday, March 22, 2024, at his home.

Wayne was born April 6, 1937, in Muskegon, Michigan, to John and Henrietta (Poel) Vriesman. He graduated from Western Michigan Christian High School, Hope College, and Northwestern University in Chicago with his master's degree. He met Barbara Ann Vannette walking the halls of Western Michigan Christian. They eventually married on August 24, 1957. Wayne's career was in broadcasting, and he worked at the Tribune Broadcasting Company for 35 years. Wayne and family lived and worked in Denver from 1965-1977. He and Barbara and family moved back to Chicago in 1977 to work at WGN Radio. Wayne became the general manager of WGN Radio, and he loved the Cubs. He also served as the President of the National Association of Broadcasters, he served on board of Trinity Christian College and the Back to God Hour. He was also a Hope College Distinguished Alumni Awardee. Wayne and Barbara were members of the Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church, where he served several terms as an elder. Wayne and Barbara retired to Holland, Michigan, in 2020, where they joined Harderwyk Ministries. He was preceded in death by his daughter Sherri Venhousen, and his brothers Sherman, and Clayton. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Barbara Ann Vriesman, their children: Steven and Sheryl Vriesman of Denver, Colorado, Suzanne and Daryl Poortinga of Holland; son-in-law Robert and Judy Venhousen of Westmont,

Illinois, 16 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren, in-laws: Joann Vriesman, Katherine Vriesman, Walter and Trena Vannette, and many extended family and friends.

A service to honor the faith and life of Wayne Rodger Vriesman will be held at 1:30 pm EST, Monday, March 25, 2024, at Harderwyk Ministries, 1627 W. Lakewood Blvd, Holland MI 49424. Visitation will be 12:00 noon - 1:15 PM EST, Monday, also at Harderwyk. Interment will be in Lakewood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Timothy Christian Schools, 188 W. Butterfield Rd, Elmhurst IL 60126.

Arrangements by Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home, 315 E. 16th Street, Holland MI 49423. www.langelandsterenbergh.com

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 25. 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM (ET)

Harderwyk Ministries
1627 West Lakewood Blvd.
Holland, MI 49424

Funeral Service

MAR 25. 1:30 PM - 2:15 PM (ET)

Harderwyk Ministries
1627 West Lakewood Blvd.
Holland, MI 49424

Tribute Wall

MB

“ Dear Barbara & Family: I knew Wayne through RTNDA. He was legendary in the organization as a leader and strong voice for broadcast ethics. At the time, I was a 'small market' news director. A 'no one' in the dynamics of the organization. Yet he took time to meet me, to encourage me, to offer advice and an open phone line should I ever need it. I will never forget that kindness....and tried to emulate it when I eventually rose to become the first woman to head RTNDA. My deepest sympathies to you on the loss of a wonderful man.

Marci Burdick - September 04, 2024 at 02:06 PM

TC

“ Trinity Christian College planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wayne Rodger Vriesman.

Trinity Christian College - March 28, 2024 at 12:51 PM

TC

“ Trinity Christian College purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Wayne Rodger Vriesman.



Trinity Christian College - March 28, 2024 at 12:51 PM

KI

“ Kitty, Jim, Marsha, Marijo, Doug & spouses planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wayne Rodger Vriesman.

Kitty, Jim, Marsha, Marijo, Doug & spouses - March 24, 2024 at 10:55 PM

KI

“ *Kitty, Jim, Marsha, Marijo, Doug & spouses purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Wayne Rodger Vriesman.*



Kitty, Jim, Marsha, Marijo, Doug & spouses - March 24, 2024 at 10:55 PM

SK

“ *Sherwin & Robyn Van Kooten purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Wayne Rodger Vriesman.*



Sherwin & Robyn Van Kooten - March 24, 2024 at 09:28 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Wayne Rodger Vriesman.*



March 24, 2024 at 09:01 AM

GV

“ *One of my all-time favorites is when Wayne and I went to a Chicago Cubs game. He took me up to the broadcast booth and we watched the game with Harry Carey, the radio announcer.*
Gary VanderArk

Gary VanderArk - March 23, 2024 at 10:24 PM

AR

“ We have such precious memories of our times spent with you and Wayne when we all lived in Des Plaines, Il some 40 years ago. Wayne was fairly new at WGN and we were all young couples with young kids. We cherished our friendship with you two. Prayers go out as God goes with you in days ahead.

Ardene Ritzema - March 23, 2024 at 04:38 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Wayne Rodger Vriesman.



March 23, 2024 at 02:34 PM

MD

“ Matt & Julie Davidson purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Wayne Rodger Vriesman.



Matt & Julie Davidson - March 23, 2024 at 02:30 PM

EG

“ ECRC Small Group planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wayne Rodger Vriesman.

ECRC Small Group - March 23, 2024 at 01:41 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Wayne Rodger Vriesman.



March 23, 2024 at 01:41 PM



“ Your CBS family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wayne Rodger Vriesman.

Your CBS family - March 23, 2024 at 01:40 PM



“ Your CBS family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Wayne Rodger Vriesman.



Your CBS family - March 23, 2024 at 01:40 PM