



## Wendell Rooks

May 9, 1927 - February 15, 2023

Wendell Jay Rooks, age 95, passed away on February 15, 2023 in Zeeland, MI.

Wendell was born in Holland, MI to William and Anna Barensen Rooks. After graduation from Holland High School in 1945, he served in the US Army. He graduated from Hope College and began his 39 year career in education at a four-room schoolhouse in the Van Raalte School District. He went on to spend 21 years at the Holland Christian Schools as a teacher and elementary principal. Along the way, he earned a master's degree from the University of Michigan. He retired in 1990 as the principal of Blue Star Elementary School in Hamilton.

He was currently a member of Graafschap CRC, and formerly Prospect Park CRC. Wendell and his wife, Lillian Stegenga Rooks, enjoyed many years of retirement living in Conyers, GA. She preceded him in death on February 11, 2023.

Wendell is survived by children: Tom (Becky) Rooks of Topeka, KS, Linda (John) Workman of Chattanooga, TN, Jim (Arda) Rooks of Holland, Charles Rooks of Atlanta, GA, Kathie (Mike) Bamsey of Conyers, GA; 19 grandchildren, 44 great grandchildren; a niece Deb (Bob) Van Wyk of West Olive, as well as other extended family.

Besides his wife, Lillian, Wendell was also preceded in death by his sister and her husband, Barb and Jerry Holthof.

No services are planned. Private interment will be in Restlawn Memorial Gardens. Memorial contributions may be given to Holland Christian Schools.

# Cemetery Details

## **Restlawn Memorial Gardens**

994 Paw Paw Dr  
Holland, MI 49423  
(616) 396-4949

# Tribute Wall

JB

“ Please accept our heartfelt condolences. Wendell’s was obviously a life well-lived in service and love to others. Hugs and prayers to the Rooks family. Greg and Jeanette Barry



---

**Jeanette Barry** - February 19, 2023 at 10:46 PM

SZ

“ You have my sincere condolences! I have fond memories of your mom and dad from the days at Prospect Park. I'm sending prayers for peace> Best Regards, Scott Vander Zwaag

---

**Scott Vander Zwaag** - February 16, 2023 at 08:08 AM

BH

“ Fond memories of Van Raalte school with gentle spirited .....

*Mr Rooks. Admired and respected.*

*Bart Helmus*

---

**Bart Helmus** - February 15, 2023 at 10:53 AM