



Norman Leon Crane

September 9, 1938 - May 28, 2025

Norman Leon Crane, of Clinton Township, passed away on May 28, 2025 at the age of 86. Leon is the cherished husband for 64 years of Joyce; the loving father of Jeannine (Brian) Hansen and Annette (Randall) Riepma; the adored papa of David Leon, Ryan, and Rachel Riepma; The dear brother of the late Eldon (survived by Joan) Crane. Leon is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Leon proudly served his country in the United States Army. He was a longtime teacher in the East Detroit Public Schools. He was active in many sports throughout his life, especially softball, basketball, and bowling. He also gave his time back to those sports he loved by becoming a softball umpire and a basketball referee. Leon enjoyed being active, not only with sports but also working outside. He also enjoyed putting puzzles together. Leon treasured his time reading and studying the Bible; and was very active in his church throughout his life, from teaching Sunday School to singing in the choir. He deeply loved his family and will be dearly missed.

Leon's family will receive friends for visitation on Monday, June 2, 2025 from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 8459 Hall Road (3 blocks East of Van Dyke), Utica. Visitation will continue on Tuesday, June 3, at Shelby Bible Church, 47905 Hayes Road, Shelby Township, from 10:00 a.m. until the time of his service at 11:00 a.m. Memorials are

appreciated to Shelby Bible Church, 47905 Hayes Road, Shelby Township,
Michigan 48315. Please share a story or leave a tribute at www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com

Cemetery Details

Cadillac Memorial Gardens East Cemetery

38425 Garfield Road
Clinton Township, MI 48038

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 2. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wm Sullivan and Son Funeral Home
8459 Hall Road
Utica, MI 48317
(586) 731-2411
utica@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

Visitation at Church

JUN 3. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Shelby Bible Church
47905 Hayes Road
Shelby Township, MI 48315

Funeral Service

JUN 3. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Shelby Bible Church
47905 Hayes Road
Shelby Township, MI 48315

Tribute Wall

EM

“ I had mr Crane at forest park in the early 70's one of my favorite teacher. He always love to talk hockey may he rest in peace.

Emmet McNamara - May 31, 2025 at 07:36 AM

KA

“ I was blessed to have Mr.Crane for a Sunday School teacher at Bethany Baptist and have him as my elementary teacher for 6th grade at the same time. Spending precious time with him 6 days each week. It did come as a blessing and a curse because he would share stories involving me in school during Sunday school and share Sunday school stories in school. He made a profound impact in my life and thought of him very often.

My condolences to Mrs. Crane, his daughters and family.

Karin (Boughton) Anderson

karin anderson - May 31, 2025 at 01:30 AM

BP

Leon and Joyce lived next door to our family home for approximately 60 years as well as attending Gratiot Baptist church together for many years. Couldn't have been blessed with better neighbors, Leon so often helped our parents. He lived his faith and was a wonderful Vhristian man. Our caring thoughts go out to Joyce and his family 🙏❤️. The O'Brien family

bsrbsra pokley - June 02, 2025 at 02:25 PM

MB

“ Mr. Crane was one of my favorite teachers in elementary school. He was always kind and caring. Mr. Crane made a big impact on Forest Park when I was there in the mid to late 70's.

Michelle Lombardo Bradacs - May 30, 2025 at 11:30 PM

KW

“ I'm sorry to hear about this. I had Mr Crane as a teacher Forest Park in the 80s. He was very nice. May he rest in peace.

Kelly (Livingston) Walters - May 30, 2025 at 10:10 PM

CF

“ Mr. Crane was my 5th or 6 th grade teacher at Forest Park many years ago . I always remember his kindness , and that he seemed so tall !

Cheryl Slowiczek Focht - May 30, 2025 at 08:30 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Norman Leon Crane.



May 30, 2025 at 02:28 PM

TC

“ The Leek Children purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Norman Leon Crane.



The Leek Children - May 30, 2025 at 09:24 AM

GS

“ Leon was one of the key encouragers and mentors in my life and the lives of so many Gratiot teens. He left a legacy much greater than he probably knew. I was privileged to have him a part of my growing up church experience and wisdom.

Gary Sinclair - May 29, 2025 at 07:43 PM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Norman Leon Crane.



May 29, 2025 at 06:28 PM

ZH

“ Zomers and Haleys purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Norman Leon Crane.



Zomers and Haleys - May 29, 2025 at 05:48 PM

SJ

“ Leon was a cherished Cousin to Earl and myself. I had a Special Memory as his Mom and Dad told us he was named after my Dad. We always enjoyed visiting when Leon and Joyce would come back to Kansas. His Faith was always shown in his Life. We will miss you!

Sharon and Earl Johnston

Sharon Johnston - May 29, 2025 at 05:01 PM

MD

“ Mary Jo DeVries purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Norman Leon Crane.



Mary Jo DeVries - May 29, 2025 at 04:21 PM

JL

“ I remember several summers of visiting Uncle Leon and Aunt Joyce with our family and years later Jay and I taking our family to visit. Trips to the cabin, the Boblo Boat, Henry Ford Museum, along with days spent at their home. I'm sure my love for number and math began with the domino games with Grandpa Crane, Leon, and my dad.

Leon was a friend to many. It seemed he knew everyone and if he saw someone he didn't know he'd waste no time introducing himself.

My favorite memory is listening to Uncle Leon pray. It was like eavesdropping on him having a conversation with his best friend. Love and prayers to Aunt Joyce, Jeannine, Annette and your families.

Julie and Jay

Julie Leek - May 29, 2025 at 03:34 PM

LC

“ Leon had a contagious laugh and smile...he lived and enjoyed life. Strong Christian man.
He'll truly be missed ~

Linda Crane - May 29, 2025 at 03:15 PM