



Clemente C. "Clem" Ruiz

FEB 7, 1941 - DEC 12, 2021



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Clemente C. "Clem" Ruiz

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Age 80, of Clark Lake, passed away Sunday, December 12, 2021. He was born at Highland Park, Michigan in 1941, the son of Manuel and Caroline (Maino) Ruiz. Clem grew up in Ferndale; then went on to earn his Bachelor's Degree from Ferris State University. Later in his career, he furthered his education with a Master's Degree from Michigan State University. He was a lifelong educator, teaching in the Business Department at Columbia Central High School for 30 years. Clem also taught driver's training courses to students at several Jackson County schools during his tenure as an educator.

Clem is survived by his wife and partner of 55 years, Vicki F. (Bloom) Ruiz; daughter, Marie (Scott) Pettis; son, Jeff Ruiz; five grandchildren, Greg (Victoria) Bryant, Dylan (Trisha) Bryant, Tyler Pettis, Dustin Ruiz and Zoe Ruiz; three great-grandchildren, Payton, Wyatt and Waylon Bryant; sister-in-law, Dawn (Jim) Mannor; niece, Erin (Kevin) Zalma; great-niece, Adeline Zalma and great-nephew, Austin Zalma; many special neighbors, long-time family friends and wonderful Lions Club friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Manuella Ruiz; brother, Eugene Ruiz; and in-laws, Irwin and Frances (Day) Bloom.

For the past 55 years, Clem enjoyed living at their home on Clark Lake. He enjoyed water sports on lake, hunting, fishing and bowling. The greatest joy was that of watching and being a part of his children and grandchildren's life events over the years, he certainly was proud of them all. Since 1979, he had a great passion for the Lions Club and community service that the Lions clubs provide. Clem was active with Lions Clubs on the club, district, state and international levels. He was Past President of the Clarklake Lions Club and now an active member with the Michigan Center Lions Club. Clem was District Governor in 1996-97; former President of the Lions of Michigan Foundation; active with the Michigan Braille Transcribing Fund; International Convention Liaison for many years; as well as other key roles in the Lions organization too many



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to mention. He loved to travel and he and Vicki were able to travel to over 25 Lions International Conventions on four different continents.

Services to honor and celebrate Clem's life will be held at Arthur-Day Funeral Home in Michigan Center on Monday, December 20, 2021 at 11:00 am with Reverend Larry Rubingh officiating. Interment will follow at Clark Lake Cemetery. Visitation will be held at the funeral home on Sunday from 2 to 4 pm and 6 to 8 pm with Lions Club Honors at 6 pm. For those who wish, contributions in Clem's memory may be given to the Michigan Center Lions Club or the Lions of Michigan Foundation.



Tribute Wall

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JR

Jean Ruppel posted:

So sorry to hear! We enjoyed our time and great memories with you guys! Prayers for your family and you, Vicki.Love, Rick and Jean

December 14 at 8:00 PM

JS

Judy Southworth posted:

Always remember how much Clem and I loved Vicki's LEMON CAKE. PRAYERS TO YOUR FAMILY.
Judy Southworth.

December 13 at 8:00 PM

TM

Terry Johnson Mahr posted:

A sympathy note for Vicki and family. Sorry for your loss.

December 12 at 8:00 PM

DW

Diann Wiley posted:

Vicki, I am so sorry to hear of Clem's passing. I lost my Bob last year and the journey without him has been difficult. My thoughts are with you and I want you to know that knowing you and Clem and working with Clem at Columbia Central was one of the greater gifts in my life. How great to hear of how Clem spent his live in service to others. Sending my love,DiAnn Wiley.

December 12 at 8:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Clemente C. "Clem" by
contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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