



# Andrew J. Merrill

AUG 12, 1928 - SEP 10, 2014



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## **Andrew J. Merrill**

AUG 12, 1928 - SEP 10, 2014

**A**ndrew J. Merrill, age 86, of Grandville, passed away suddenly September 10, 2014. A funeral ceremony will be held Saturday, September 13th at 2:00pm, at Hansen Janowicz Funeral Home in Remus. Patti Hicks will officiate with burial to follow at Pine River Cemetery in Blanchard where military honors will be performed.

Andrew was born August 12, 1928 in Greenville, MI, the son of Andrew and Violet (Bruce) Merrill. He grew up in Kalamazoo and later moved to Blanchard with his siblings after his mother passed away. In 1945, Andrew joined the United States Navy and served his country honorably, taking part in the Bikini Island bomb testing, until he was discharged in 1952. Andrew married his first wife, Mary Jane Staats on September 6, 1954, and together their family grew to include two children. Sadly, Mary Jane passed away in 1986 after 32 years of marriage. On November 27, 1999, Andrew married Rena Pendell, and his family grew further to include three step-children.

Andrew loved to hunt and fish, fondly he would remember his fishing trips to Canada with his family. He could always be found fixing something or tinkering on a car. He was treasurer and contract negotiator for Labors Local of Grand Rapids. He spent part of his life working construction before becoming maintenance at Grandville high school where he retired. Andrew loved to play his harmonica, watch his great-grandchildren play sports, and watch the Detroit Tigers on T.V.

He will be greatly missed by his wife of nearly 15 years, Rena; children, Danny (Gina) Merrill and Violet ( Ron) Welsheimer; brother, Richard; sister, Dorothy Jean Everts; step-children, Duane (Diane) Pendell, Nona Sellers (George Jones), and David (Linda) Pendell; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren and numerous step-grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren.

Andrew was preceded in death by his first wife; parents; brother, Bruce; sister-in-law, Nancy, and niece, Brenda Paulsen.



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Those desiring may direct memorial contributions to the American Heart Association or the American Diabetes Association in lieu of flowers. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.



# Events

**Andrew J. Merrill**

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## Visitation

 **Saturday**, September 13, 2014

 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET

 **Janowicz Family Funeral Home**  
469 West Wheatland, Remus MI 49340

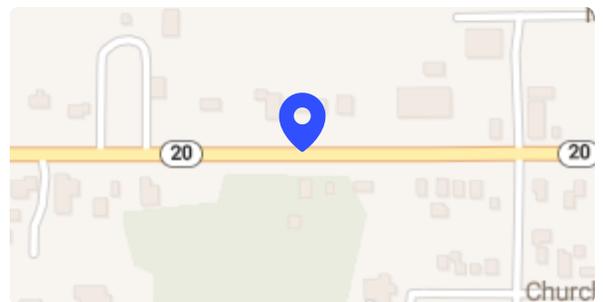


## Service

 **Saturday**, September 13, 2014

 2:00 PM ET

 **Janowicz Family Funeral Home**  
469 West Wheatland, Remus MI 49340





## Tribute Wall

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LI

**Linda** posted:

I worked with Andy at Grandville High School. We shared many laughs over the years. I will miss seeing Rena and him at basketball games. He is so handsome in this picture. May your hearts be filled with wonderful memories of joyful times with Andy. Retired Athletic Department Secretary Linda

September 15 at 6:56 AM

KH

**Katrina Hawkins** posted:

Hi my name is Katrina Marie Hawkins I knew Mr Andrew Merrill I'm the niece of Mr and Mrs daved pendell just wanted to say miss him loved seeing his face but now his is with are lord in heaven god bless the family and I will never forget him loved him alot god got angle stay strong love you all

September 14 at 8:16 AM

NI

**Nick** posted:

Grandpa, I will always remember the wonderful times we had together. Thank you for supporting me, in good times, and in bad. I'm sorry you will miss our wedding, but we know you will be there in our hearts. Thank you for everything!

September 12 at 8:08 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Merrill family.



September 12 at 5:50 AM

KL

**Kathie And Larry** posted:

Ours prayers and condolences are with Andy's family. I'll miss Andy's hugs and smiles and I'm sure he is now catching up with all of his old friends and family. Kathie and Larry

September 12 at 3:19 AM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Andrew by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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