



## Edward L. Uppenkamp

February 22, 1938 - February 25, 2026

Edward “Ed” Leo Uppenkamp, Sr., 88, of Celina, passed away Wednesday morning, February 25, 2026, at Vancrest of St.Marys. He was born February 22, 1938, in Celina, Ohio, the son of the late Leo and Catherine (Heyne) Uppenkamp. On April 4, 1957, he married Janet Marie (Klingshirn) Uppenkamp, who preceded him in death on December 24, 2022.

He is survived by

2 sons, Edward Uppenkamp, Jr., Columbus, Ohio, Rick (Therese) Uppenkamp, Celina, Ohio;

5 grandchildren, Jamie (Zakarij) Wright, Rebecca Uppenkamp, Erin (Austin) Abels, Nicole (Patrick) Schwartz, and Keith (McKenzie) Schwartz;

14 great grandchildren;

His beloved companion, Karen Messner;

2 sisters, Barbara Williams and Karen Brandehoff.

In addition to his parents and late wife, he was preceded in death by a son, Robert “Shorty” Uppenkamp, and his siblings Paul Uppenkamp and Rosalyn Fahncke.

He was a 1956 graduate of Coldwater High School, after which he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, carrying that sense of duty throughout his life. He spent his career in the trucking industry, later starting Mid-Pike CDL.

He found joy in the simple things—playing cards and dice with family and friends, operating equipment, and most of all, giving his great-grandchildren endless tractor and golf cart rides and treating them to ice cream whenever he could. His steady presence, generous heart, and love of family will be deeply missed and fondly remembered.

The family would like to offer a special thank you to the staff at St. Rita's Medical Center and Grand Lake Hospice for the wonderful care provided to Ed.

Private services will be held at the convenience of the family. Memorial contributions may be directed to Grand Lake Hospice of St. Rita's Medical Center. Arrangements are under the directions of the Eley Funeral Home & Crematory, Wapakoneta, where condolences may be expressed at [www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com](http://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com).

# Tribute Wall

PH

“ *Loved playing cards with Big Ed. Even though I don't play as I did. I miss his witty remarks and that chuckle when he won a hand or game. He will be dearly missed. Just his presents. Condolences to the family.*

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**Pamela Hildebrand** - March 06 at 01:54 PM



“ *May the love of God surround you and your family during this difficult time,  
May you come to know that the love of God is with you always,  
  
May your memories of Edward Leo Uppenkamp Sr., give you peace, comfort and strength...  
  
Rest now in the arms of our Lord your mission on earth is complete.  
I thank you for your service to our Country and my Freedom.  
You will not be forgotten...  
My thoughts  
and prayers to the family of ....  
  
US Marine Veteran, Edward Leo Uppenkamp Sr., is “A True American Hero” God Bless†  
  
† Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13 †*

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**Cheryl Skinner, Tri-state Military Museum** - February 28 at 04:32 AM

FP

“ From Nick & Patrick purchased the America the Beautiful for the family of Edward L. Uppenkamp.



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**From Nick & Patrick** - February 27 at 11:59 AM

HH

“ Hollie Homan purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Edward L. Uppenkamp.



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**Hollie Homan** - February 27 at 07:26 AM

RS

“ Did alot of tire work for Ed through the year Great guy . Many Thoughts and Prayers for the Family. Rick Strauser

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**Rick Strauser** - February 27 at 12:06 AM