



Harry Karl Burkard Jr.

May 27, 1937 - January 12, 2025

Harry Karl Burkard, Jr., 87, of Wapakoneta, Ohio, passed away peacefully at home on Sunday, January 12, 2025.

Harry was born on May 27, 1937, in Sidney, Ohio, to Harry Karl Burkard, Sr. and Nellie Grant Spaulding Burkard. He graduated from Wapakoneta High School in 1955 and attended Miami University for a short time afterward. On July 14, 1957, he married the love of his life, Betty Joalyce Tangeman Burkard, with whom he shared a devoted and joyful partnership spanning over six decades.

Harry dedicated 42 years to his career as a Nationwide Insurance Agent, serving his community with professionalism and care. He was an active member of Salem United Methodist Church and a committed participant in the Lions Club of Wapakoneta, contributing his time and energy to causes close to his heart. During his years of service, Harry held every office position in the club, serving as president for the 2000-01 year and receiving the Lion of the Year award for 1997-98.

A lover of nature, Harry found great joy in hunting and fishing with family and friends. At home, he tended to his vegetable and flower gardens with pride and passion. He enjoyed yearly trips to Florida during the winter months and summers at the family cottage in Reading, Michigan, where he forged lifelong

friendships and created countless memories.

Harry was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Marjorie Burkard Kachelries, as well as his brother and sister-in-law, Robert and Dorothy Dicke. He is survived by his wife Betty; their children: Bradley Jay Burkard (Jill) of Wapakoneta, Brenda Jane Halker of Wapakoneta, Harry Bruce Burkard (Sherri) in Michigan, Mary Vorhees (Michael) of Wapakoneta, Beth Alyce Knoch (Eric) of Loveland, Brian John Burkard (Stacie) of New Bremen, and Barbara Ann Burkard of Wapakoneta; as well as thirteen grandchildren and twenty great-grandchildren who brought him immense pride and joy.

Visitation will be held at Salem United Methodist Church, Wapakoneta from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Friday, January 17. Harry's funeral service will begin at 12:00 p.m., Friday, with Pastor Phill Jarrells officiating. Lunch will follow in the fellowship hall. In lieu of flowers, donations to Grand Lake Hospice are appreciated. Arrangements are under the direction of the Eley Funeral Home & Crematory, Wapakoneta, where condolences may be expressed at www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com.

Harry's legacy of love, honesty, and dedication will live on. May his memory bring comfort to his family and all who loved him.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 17. 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Salem United Methodist Church
505 Bellefontaine Street
Wapakoneta, OH 45895

Service

JAN 17. 12:00 PM (ET)

Salem United Methodist Church
505 Bellefontaine Street
Wapakoneta, OH 45895

Tribute Wall

RW

“ I’m so sad to hear of Harrys passing. My memories of sweet Harry and Betty was when I grew up attending Salem EUB. They were so inspiring and such wonderful role models. I did babysit their adorable children. I truly loved them both. Harry will be sadly missed by all that knew and loved him. Prayers, love and hugs to Betty and the family.

Becky Kantner Weber 🙏❤️

Rebecca Kantner Weber - January 19, 2025 at 02:19 PM

NM

“ Always enjoyed seeing Betty & Harry dining out to update each other about our families . My sympathy to Betty & family . The memories you have will always be with you . May God give you peace & comfort .

Nancy Myers - January 17, 2025 at 07:26 PM

MN

“ What a wonderful neighbor and friend. We are sending hugs and prayers for you all! Love the Niehous and Short families.

Mark and Karen Niehous - January 17, 2025 at 05:37 AM

KN

“ Karen N. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Harry Karl Burkard Jr..

Karen N. - January 17, 2025 at 05:27 AM

TD

“ So very sorry for your loss. Praying the Lord wrap you all in His loving arms hug you, hold you and comfort you with His power, presence and peace. Ed & Tammy (Singleton) Danner

Tammy Danner - January 16, 2025 at 01:41 PM

CL

“ Thinking of you all at this time
Sincerely, Chris Lambert



Chris Lambert - January 16, 2025 at 07:55 AM



“ To Betty, Brenda, Beth, Brad, Bruce, Brian and Barbie:
We are so so very sorry and sad to hear of your dad's passing. Some of my fondest childhood memories were mini escapes from Lima and overnights at your beautiful home when visiting Beth and all of you.
I will always remember your Dad and his big heart and kind soul. I will remember how grateful I was to see him at my Dad's funeral and how happy Daddy would have been to know their friendship endured to the end of their lifetimes. Memories of “deer meat tacos” And Harry's insurance office where we played “office” come flooding back as he was quite the presence in stature and personality. He was an amazing man and my Dad so enjoyed his friendship and his great support as a colleague at Nationwide and in the insurance industry.
I wish we could be there to give you all warm hugs but I hope you can feel them from Denver and Cincinnati as Ann and I grieve with you.
Be proud of his life well lived and the incredible legacy he leaves behind in all of you.
We will send a donation on his behalf and remember him in our hearts.
In sympathy —Kymberli and Ann Elizabeth Frueh

January 15, 2025 at 09:45 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Harry Karl Burkard Jr..



January 15, 2025 at 04:55 PM

PK

“ So sorry for your loss, Harry was truly a bright shining star for everyone he met. Our prayers are with the family.

Paul & Joyce Knueve - January 15, 2025 at 09:53 AM

JD

“ Johnathan D. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Harry Karl Burkard Jr..

Johnathan D. - January 15, 2025 at 09:06 AM

PU

“ Harry & Betty are our dearest friends, and we are going to miss him so much. May God bless Harry and all his family. With all our love, Paul & Carlene ❤️

Paul Uppenkamp - January 14, 2025 at 10:19 PM

M(

“ My deepest sympathies for your loss. My prayers are with you all.
Melinda (Singleton) Otto

Melinda (Singleton)Otto - January 14, 2025 at 05:43 PM

SP

“ With great sadness Rheal and I are sending our sincere condolences to Betty and family. Florida winters brought us together and we were blessed to share many fun times with our friends Harry and Betty. Beyond incredible hospitality was shown to us during our stops at Wapakoneta from Ontario Canada to Florida. Harry was a very honourable gentleman loved by many and will be greatly missed. Harry was more than a friend, he was family! Safe travels to heaven Harry!
Love.....Susan & Rheal Pitre

susan Pitre - January 14, 2025 at 03:04 PM

DR

“ Deanne, Scotty & Ronnie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Harry Karl Burkard Jr..

Deanne, Scotty & Ronnie - January 14, 2025 at 02:48 PM

DR

“ Deanne, Scotty & Ronnie purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Harry Karl Burkard Jr..



Deanne, Scotty & Ronnie - January 14, 2025 at 02:48 PM

JW

“ Harry was truly dedicated to anything he made a part of his life. We will miss him.

Wac and Norma

Jim Wachauf - January 14, 2025 at 01:57 PM

TC

“ *As a friend of Beth, I spent a lot of time at the Burkards house and have lots of memories. What a great family and Harry will be missed. Prayers to a great family and one that I considered my second family for several years . 🙏💔🙏💔*

Tracy Clinger - January 14, 2025 at 07:51 AM

KK

“ *we are so very sorry for your loss. Harry was a great guy. He was a good friend to my father, Herman Wilges Jr. He will be missed. God grant you all comfort at this time.*
Robery & Kathy Wilges Knoch

Kathy Knoch - January 14, 2025 at 04:55 AM