



## Nicholas J. "Nick" Earl

December 6, 1947 - December 9, 2024

Nicholas "Nick" Earl, 77 aka "Big Nick" of Wapakoneta passed away suddenly at his home Monday December 9, 2024. He was born December 6, 1947, to Paul & Joan Earl who preceded him in death. Nick was a 1966 graduate of Wapakoneta High School and according to him, one of the greatest high school football players to ever come out of Wapak. He went on to be a 4-year letter winner and Captain on the Capital University football team. After college graduation he began to teach and coach football at the high school and the collegiate levels. On July 23, 1983, he married Peggy Earl, and the two started a family in Wapakoneta.

Survivors include daughter Nikki Earl(friend, Dusty Kohlreiser) of Wapakoneta & son Jon(Natalie) Earl of Lakeside-Marblehead, OH. Granddaughters Taylor(Alex) Wheeler, Miranda Smith, Kendall Earl. Grandsons Drake Harris and Carter Earl. Great Grandchildren, Beau, Bobbi, Blake, and Baylee. Sisters Susie(Henry) Klima, Marlene(Mel) Luttmer & brother Jim(Roxie) Stinebaugh. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews who were all an important part of his life.

Nick was also preceded in death by his step-father, John Stinebaugh, mother/father in law, Smilie and Joanne Wolfe, Aunt/Uncle, Vin and Pat Boyer and brother in law, Henry Klima.

Nick was an active member of the AMVETS Post 333, VFW Post 8445, American Legion Post 330 and the Wapakoneta Optimist Club where he liked to play cards and socialize. He was also a member of Wapak First Church.

Nick was an avid golfer and loved spending time boating with his family and Bass Haven friends where he was the self-proclaimed “Mayor of Bass Haven.” Nick retired from the Apollo Career Center in 2020, as the Dean of Students after 26 years. He was best known around town by all his former students as Mr. Earl and Coach Earl. He could frequently be seen driving around Wapak on his purple golf cart, rain or shine!

The family will receive friends from 2-4pm Friday, December 13, 2024, at the Wapak First Church, Glynwood Road. A service will start at 4pm, Friday, at the church, with Pastor Josh Tissot officiating. A Celebration of Nick’s Life will immediately follow the service at Wapakoneta VFW Post 8445 where stories of Nick can be shared for all.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Eley Funeral Home & Crematory, Wapakoneta, where condolences may be expressed at [www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com](http://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com). In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Apollo Educational Foundation founded to support the Apollo Career Center district which he loved dearly. Please use the following link, <https://district.apollocareercenter.com/apollo-educational-foundation/how-to-donate/>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 13. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Wapak First Church  
504 Glynwood Road  
Wapakoneta  
Wapakoneta, OH 45895

## Service

DEC 13. 4:00 PM (ET)

Wapak First Church  
504 Glynwood Road  
Wapakoneta  
Wapakoneta, OH 45895

# Tribute Wall

KM

“ *Condolences to the family. I graduated with Nick. He was a nice person.*

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**Kay Kinninger Meier** - December 14, 2024 at 06:48 PM

SM

“ *So sorry for your loss. I had the pleasure of working with Nick for many years at Apollo. He had a great sense of humor and could always make you laugh. I'm sure he is currently on his boat and fishing somewhere right now. You will be missed Nick.*

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**Sheryl Maier** - December 13, 2024 at 09:51 AM

JR

“ *Although I have not seen Nick in over 50 years, I deeply regret his passing. I consider it a privilege that Nick allowed me to share in his life. Rest in peace dear friend*

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**John Rinehart** - December 13, 2024 at 09:18 AM

KD

“ *Karen & Don purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Nicholas J. "Nick" Earl.*



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**Karen & Don** - December 12, 2024 at 02:39 PM

CK

“ Nick we will miss your genuine smile and humor. May the memory of you and your fondness for the lake live on at G dock. Our Love; Carmen, Aimee and Hailey

Carmen Kestranek - December 11, 2024 at 10:04 PM

JS

“ I will always remember Nick. He was a joyful person and you always felt a sense of optimism in his presence. It was an upbeating experience. I have some colorful memories of him on golf trips. He left his mark. May he rest in peace!

Jim Stroh - December 11, 2024 at 06:22 PM

JS

“ A very friendly guy with a big smile always. RIP

Jill Sanders - December 11, 2024 at 02:54 PM

JG

“ So very sorry for your loss. The entire Earl family remains in our prayers at this difficult time. J Goodes Family

Jeffery Owen Goodes - December 11, 2024 at 12:19 PM

WA

“ Whitehall Police Benevolence Association purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Nicholas J. "Nick" Earl.



Whitehall Police Benevolence Association - December 11, 2024 at 12:16 PM

RO

“ so very sorry for your loss. May God give you comfort during this time. Will be missed. Robert Knoch

Robert - December 11, 2024 at 11:50 AM

TF

“ The Tigges Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Nicholas J. "Nick" Earl.



The Tigges Family - December 11, 2024 at 09:38 AM



“ I will always remember, fondly, that Nick came all the way to Ossian, Indiana, for my Mom's funeral. He went out of his way to be kind, and it made my heart happy. Nick was a considerate man, with a great smile!

Debbie Elkins - December 11, 2024 at 06:04 AM



“ Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Nicholas J. "Nick" Earl.



December 11, 2024 at 05:59 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Nicholas J. "Nick" Earl.

December 11, 2024 at 05:59 AM

NE

“ Let’s just say it... Nick Earl was just a fun man to be around. He loved to make people smile and even better... laugh! He was a joy to be around. When he wasn’t sleeping in the middle of the party... he was the life of the party! 😭 Miss you dad!

Nikki Earl - December 10, 2024 at 09:26 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Nicholas J. "Nick" Earl.



December 10, 2024 at 08:36 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Nicholas J. "Nick" Earl.



December 10, 2024 at 04:24 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Nicholas J. "Nick" Earl.

December 10, 2024 at 04:24 PM