



## Richard Glen "Dick" Stearns

August 9, 1935 - January 12, 2026

Richard G. "Dick" Stearns, 90, of Wapakoneta, passed away at 3:57 a.m., Monday, January 12, 2026, at St. Rita's Medical Center, Lima. He was born August 9, 1935, in Lima, OH, the son of the late Wilfred and Irene (Schneider) Stearns. On February 4, 1961, he married Audrey B. Cull, and she preceded him in death on September 22, 2020.

Survivors include,

2 children, Joe Stearns, Wapakoneta,

Janet (Mike) Pettifor, Cassopolis, MI;

a granddaughter, Atalie (Eddy) Henle, Signal Mountain, TN;

2 great grandchildren, Asher and Lincoln Henle;

2 step-sons, Boyd (Elsie) Cull, Elvis (Belinda) Loder;

several step-grandchildren & step-great grandchildren;

brothers-in-law, Fremonder (Lucy) Cull, Calvin (Betty) Cull,

Valence (Betty) Cull;

sister-in-law, Lillian (Harold) Cook.

He was preceded in death by 2 sons, Michael and Daniel Stearns, step-son, Willie Pilgrim, brothers-in-law, Alex (Margaret) Cull and Gilbert Cull, and a sister-in-law, Rita Nardachioni.

Dick was a 1953 graduate of St. Joseph High School, and a graduate of the General Motors Institute, Flint MI. He worked as Senior Engineer at Monarch Machine, Sidney. He was a technical writer and authored several manuals. He later retired from Monarch Lathes, Sidney. Dick was a member of St. Joseph

Catholic Church, Wapakoneta, and was a CCD instructor for 28 years . He also served in the U.S. Air Force. In his younger years, he was a member of the Drum and Bugle Corps with the Wapakoneta Eagles and a member of the Boy Scouts Troop #4. Dick enjoyed reading. He had a thirst for knowledge and was constantly learning. He was a fan of The Ohio State University Buckeyes and the Cincinnati Reds, and an avid fan of the Cincinnati Bengals. Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m., Monday, January 19, 2026, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Wapakoneta, with Fr. Sean Wilson officiating. Burial is to follow in the St. Joseph Cemetery, Wapakoneta., where military rites will be conducted by the Wapakoneta V.F.W. Post #8445. The family will receive friends 2-5 p.m., Sunday January 18, 2026, and 9-10 a.m., Monday, at the Eley Funeral Home & Crematory, St. Rt. 501, Wapakoneta. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Holy Face of Jesus Parish. Condolences may be expressed at [www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com](http://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com).

# Cemetery Details

## St. Joseph Cemetery

Wapakoneta, OH 45895

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 18. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Eley Funeral Home & Crematory  
1102 Lincoln Hwy  
Wapakoneta, OH 45895  
(419) 738-7676  
eleyfuneralhome@gmail.com  
<https://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com/>

## Visitation

JAN 19. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Eley Funeral Home & Crematory  
1102 Lincoln Ave.  
Wapakoneta, OH 45895  
eleyfuneralhome@gmail.com  
<http://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com>

## Service

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JAN 19. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Joseph Catholic Church  
Pearl Street  
Wapakoneta, OH 45895

# Tribute Wall



“ I first met Dick Stearns when I started working at Monarch as a co-op student in October of 1990. He immediately told me that he graduated from GMI (the same school I was going to) in 1957.

*He loved to talk politics and we found we had similar beliefs.*

*I ran into him a few years ago at mass at St. Joseph and he told me about a breakfast where former Monarch people would get together quarterly. We got reacquainted through that.*

*He will be missed.*

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**John O'Neill** - January 18 at 09:03 PM

CM

“ *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 Richard G. Stearns, 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 Air Force Veteran, Richard G. Stearns, 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 J Skinner Tri State Military Muse** - January 14 at 07:59 AM

JH

*My sympathy to the family. Dick and I were friends for many years and attended St. Joseph School together, Dick was one year ahead of me but we were close nevertheless. Dick grew up on Washington Street in Wapakoneta, just a few blocks from my home. Rest in peace Dick. Jim Harrison*

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**Jim Harrison** - January 15 at 11:31 AM