



Edmund "Jim" Peper

September 23, 1929 - December 15, 2019

Edmund "Jim" George Peper Jr., 90, of Napoleon, died peacefully on December 15, 2019, at Genacross Lutheran Home in Napoleon. He was born on September 23, 1929, in Auburn, Indiana, to the late Edmund G. and Helen E. (Hall) Peper of Holgate, Ohio. He married Donna J. Bloom on March 18, 1956, in Swanton, Ohio.

Edmund was a proud graduate of Holgate High School, Valparaiso University, and The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law.

He was an attorney at the Peper Law Firm in Napoleon for 62 years (1957 to 2018), joining the firm started by his brother, Robert. His daughter, Melissa, joined the firm in 1994. He also served as Henry County prosecutor for 16 years. He had a huge clientele from throughout Henry County and beyond, and he thought of every client as a friend. They knew him for his honesty and integrity.

Ed was a devoted member of Emanuel Lutheran Church in Napoleon. His Christian faith was very important to him. He taught Sunday School for many years and served on church council and many committees.

Ed served as a member and chair of the Henry County Bank Board of Directors. He also served on the Napoleon Public Library Board, Filling Memorial Home of Mercy Board in Napoleon, and the Henry County Historical Society. Additionally, he was a longtime member and past president of Napoleon Rotary and the Henry County Bar Association. He also was a past member of the Ohio Board of Governors for the Ohio State Bar Association

and served on numerous committees for the OSBA.

He was a longtime member of the Ohio State Alumni Association, and an extremely devoted fan of the Ohio State Buckeyes as a football season-ticket holder for more than 45 years. Some of his happiest moments in life were attending games with his family.

Ed was named after his father, but his brother Bob nicknamed him "Jim" and he was known by that name in Holgate where he was an outstanding basketball player in high school.

Following graduation from Valparaiso, he was immediately drafted into the Korean War. He served in the U.S. Army and rose to the rank of Sergeant. He was a member of the American Legions in Napoleon and Holgate.

He and Donna enjoyed ballroom dancing. They especially loved to travel with their family and took many trips around the U.S. He dearly loved his family trips to the Outer Banks in North Carolina which spanned decades.

An avid photographer, he won numerous awards at the Henry County Fair and elsewhere. As a historian, he gave countless talks about the history of the founding of Henry County and its towns. He also was known as an expert on Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War, but also gave talks on the Revolutionary War and World Wars I and II, among other topics.

He is survived by children, Melissa (Dan) Peper Firestone, Christian (Maureen) Peper, Emily (Kurt) Tempel, and Belgian exchange-student son Luc (Susan) Dendievel; grandchildren, Carson and Wyeth Firestone; Greg (Emily) Peper, Jenna Peper, Victoria (Ethan) Patrick, and Theresa Peper; Quinn, Hannah and Olivia Tempel; Derek (Leen), Bryan, Tyler, and Kevin Dendievel; great grandchildren, Lorelai Peper, Elowen Patrick, and Simme and Nio Dendievel; He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Donna; dear daughter, Sarah J. Peper; and brothers, Robert B. Peper and William H. Peper.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday at 11 a.m. at Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon.

Visitation will be held Friday from 3-7 p.m. at Rodenberger-Gray Funeral

Home, Napoleon.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial contributions be made to Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon Public Library, Henry County Historical Society, or the donor's choice of charity.

Cemetery Details

Glenwood Cemetery

Napoleon, OH 43545

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 20. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Napoleon Funeral Home
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545
(419) 592-2333
help@rodenbergergray.com

Service

DEC 21. 11:00 AM (ET)

Emanuel Lutheran Church
Napoleon, OH 43545

Tribute Wall

BK

“ Ed and i were good friends and first became acquainted at Valparaiso University were we belonged to the same fraternity. We corresponded every year via Christmas cards. He was a great pal and i'm so sorry he has passed away. Several times we had planed to get together on his trips to the Outer Banks but that unfortunately never worked out.

Bob Knospe
rhk22911@gmail.com

Bob Knospe - July 20, 2020 at 03:48 PM

CH

“ Sending you our condolences. Graham and Tharien Hechter, friends of Luc and Susan (Belgium)

Catharina Hechter - December 22, 2019 at 09:06 AM

SF

“ Suzanne Fotoples lit a candle in memory of Edmund "Jim" Peper



Suzanne Fotoples - December 20, 2019 at 03:45 PM

JC

“ Our sincerest condolences on Ed's passing. Always enjoyed his fun spirit and working with him .He has thought us many things. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. Sincerely Betty Felter & John and Beth Chick

john chick - December 20, 2019 at 02:12 PM

CL

“ *Ed Peper was a great man. He was our lawyer for over 50 years and was caring, easy to talk to, honest and did a job well done. We always looked to him for advice and he knew what to do. We miss him and know he is in a good place as he was such a fine man. Our sincere condolences and prayers to the family.*

Carol and the late Delano Leonard



Carol Leonard - December 20, 2019 at 08:57 AM

KM

“ *With regret, we will not be able to get back for Ed's funeral service. Words cannot adequately express the love, respect and gratitude we have for him and his family. The Henry County community has lost a true favorite son and leader. Ed was a mentor and role model to me professionally, a dear friend and an "adopted grandfather" to our children. We extend our sincere condolences to Melissa, Chris, Emily and Luc and all the family. May he rest in peace. Go Bucks!*

Keith & Karen Muehlfeld

Keith Muehlfeld - December 19, 2019 at 02:05 PM

CS

“ *Our sympathy to all of you on the loss of your dad/grandfather. What a wonderful person and will be missed by many. Peace to all of you. Carol and Andy Small.*

carol small - December 18, 2019 at 10:33 PM

KL

“ *Worked at The courthouse many year seeing Ed often. A very nice man. So very sorry for your loss.*

Kathy and Steve Lieb - December 18, 2019 at 08:14 PM

DN

“ Dear Melissa and Pepper family, My sincere sympathy at the death of your father, and loved one. It is with a prayerful heart that I hope your memories of "Jim" bring you much comfort and joy now and throughout the holiday season. May you be blessed in the holiness of the season of Christ's birth remembering that your father is eternally at rest in the Father's arms. Blessings and peace, Deb Noll



Deborah Noll - December 17, 2019 at 06:43 PM

CB

“ Chris, Maureen and family - our deepest sympathies to you.

~Carrie and Aaron Baynes

Carrie Baynes - December 17, 2019 at 03:40 PM

BS

“ Bishop Daniel Beaudoin and Staff purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Edmund "Jim" Peper.



Bishop Daniel Beaudoin and Staff - December 17, 2019 at 03:24 PM

JG

“ A great guy and awesome storyteller- loved his stories of WWII warbirds.

Jay Guelde

JAY GUELDE - December 17, 2019 at 02:00 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Edmund "Jim" Peper.*



December 17, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ *What joy your Dad must have felt when he entered the gates of Heaven. Remembering with a smile working at the law office so many years ago, right out of high school, and learning so many things from Ed, Bob, Kathryn and Carol. I have been blessed that they all were a part of my life. God's blessings to each of you.*

Vicki Glick - December 17, 2019 at 09:34 AM



“ *Our sincere sympathy on the passing of Mr. Peper. Ed and Donna were great neighbors. He was a true gentleman and a loss for the community of Napoleon.*
Tom and Susie Snyder

tom snyder - December 17, 2019 at 08:38 AM



“ *Melissa,
Please accept my sincere sympathy in the loss of your father. My thoughts & prayers are with you. Judy Glanz*

Linda Johnson - December 16, 2019 at 05:29 PM

KM

“ *Mr Peper assuredly kept me from getting lost many times (he loved showing maps!). I loved and cherish the times at the outer banks with him and the Peper family. Kathy, John, Parker,Griffin, Seth , & Ethan.*

Kathy Michel - December 16, 2019 at 03:49 PM

JS

“ *Sending our dearest condolences to the whole family. Napoleon has lost another of their greatest gentleman!
Sincerely, Jan and John Stover*

Jan Stover - December 16, 2019 at 02:17 PM

RS

“ *One of the nicest persons I have ever met. Mr. Peper was always a joy to speak with and truly an amazing individual. My sympathy and prayers of comfort go out to the entire Peper Family.*

Rick Small - December 16, 2019 at 02:17 PM