



## Henry John Wachtman

January 12, 1934 - February 15, 2023

Henry John Wachtman, 89, of Napoleon, Ohio passed away in his home, surrounded by his family. He was born in Napoleon, on January 12, 1934 to Henry and Emilia (Rickenberg) Wachtman. On August 10, 1957, he was married to Marilyn Freytag at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Napoleon Twp., by Reverend George Hueter.

Henry graduated from Ridgeville High School in 1952 and was employed by Harper Supply. He joined the U.S. Service in August of 1955 and served in the Korean Conflict. He earned the rank of CPL in the U.S. Army I Corp, from 1955 to 1957. Upon his return home he was employed by Harper Supply where he worked for 43 years.

He was a lifetime member of the Ridgeville American Legion, Ridgeville Corners, Ohio. He was also a life member of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Napoleon Twp., where he held many duties of the church including Elder, President, Sunday school teacher, and St. Paul Foundation founding member. Henry was a 4-H advisor, member of the Low German Club, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Farmers Mutual Telephone Co.

Besides being devoted to his family, Henry enjoyed farming and the daily checking on his growing crops. He also loved spending time with his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Henry is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Marylin; children, Debra (Mike) Miller (Napoleon), Kathy (Tom) George (N. Carolina), and Edwin J. (Lori) Wachtman (Napoleon); grandchildren, Andrew (Amy) Miller (Napoleon), Katie (Bob) Black (Napoleon), Megan George (N. Carolina), and Luke (Lauren) George (N. Carolina); great-grandchildren (all of Napoleon), Lorelei Miller, Lyla Miller, Macoy Miller, Allie Black, and Jake Black.

He was preceded in death by his parents as well as siblings, Clara (Leonhard) Schwiebert, Edwin (Almeda) Wachtman (killed in WWII), Arthur Wachtman, Eldor Wachtman, and Albert (Dorothy) Wachtman.

Friends and family will be received at the Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home, Napoleon, on Sunday, February 19, 2023, from 2:00 PM until 6:00 PM. Funeral services will be held at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Napoleon Township on Monday, February 20, 2023, at 11:00 AM with an hour of visitation prior to services. Interment will take place in the church cemetery with military honors accorded by the Ridgeville American Legion Post 454. Memorials may be made to the St. Paul Foundation or to the 4H Endowment Fund. Online condolences and messages may be shared with the family at [rodenbergergray.com](http://rodenbergergray.com).

# Cemetery Details

## St. Paul Lutheran Church Cemetery- Napoleon Township

16976 County Road Q1  
Napoleon, OH 43545

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

FEB **19**. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon  
1010 Westmoreland Avenue  
Napoleon, OH 43545

## Public Viewing

FEB **20**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Napoleon Township  
16976 County Road Q1  
Napoleon, OH 43545

## Funeral Service

FEB **20**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Napoleon Township  
16976 County Road Q1  
Napoleon, OH 43545



# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Video*



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**Rodenberger Funeral Home** - November 03, 2023 at 01:29 PM

SN

“ *Henry was always such a nice person and always very welcome. Loved singing in the German chorus with him and he others ❤️. He sure will be missed by many.*

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**Scott & Alessandra Norden** - February 25, 2023 at 06:19 PM

RR

“ *Ed and Lori , Deb and Mike and children, Marilyn and family members Sorry for your loss of the dear loved one. Lord Christ be with you all. Ron Richard*

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**Ron Richard** - February 19, 2023 at 04:31 PM

GB

“Marilyn and family, may the peace of God and the assurance of our resurrection in Christ Jesus bring comfort to you at this time of sorrow. Henry was a precious child of God and I was blessed to have had the privilege of knowing him and serving with him in the AALC.

*Rev. Gary Benson, Pastor Emeritus  
Peace Lutheran Church  
Defiance, Ohio*

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**Gary D Benson** - February 18, 2023 at 02:45 PM

“ From the frozen tundra of Korea to fields and forests of war-torn Europe to the jungles of Southeast Asia, from the deserts of Kuwait and Iraq to the mountains of Afghanistan, brave patriots have protected our nation’s ideals, rescued millions from tyranny, and helped spread freedom around the globe. America’s veterans answered the call when asked to protect our nation from some of the most brutal oppression the world has ever known. Military service demands a special kind of sacrifice. The places where you are sent to live and serve bring risk every day. From the time you put on that uniform for the first time, the interests of the nation move to the forefront and define your life. Those duties are shared by family members who make many sacrifices of their own, sometimes bearing the burden of losing a loved one. Service brings rewards as well. There is the pride in developing one’s own character, serving a cause far greater than self-interest. Every person who wears America’s uniform is part of a long, unbroken line of achievement and honor. No single military power in history has done greater good, shown greater courage, liberated more people or upheld higher standards of decency and valor than the Armed Forces of the United States of America. That is a legacy to be proud of and those who contributed to it must never be taken for granted. To honor our veterans, we must keep the promises we have made to them. We must care for those who have been injured in the service of our country. We must honor and remember those who have died. And we must remember those whose fate is still undetermined. We fly the Prisoner of War flag on Veterans Day for a reason, to show that this nation will not relent until we have accounted for every one of our missing Americans. Thank you for your service. Thank you for all that you have sacrificed for this great nation. Thank you for being the backbone of America.

*BG (Retired) Mark W. Lee, USA*

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**Dr. Mark Lee, BG (Retired) USA** - February 18, 2023 at 08:14 AM

CD

“ Marilyn you have my sympathy on the death of Henry. He will be missed and was such a wonderful man. You and your family are in my heart and prayers that you find Peace at this very hard time.  
Love, comfort and Prayers, Carma J DeCair

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**Carma DeCair** - February 17, 2023 at 09:13 PM

LK

“ Marilyn, My sympathy to you and your family on the death of Henry. God bless you with HIS comfort and peace.

*Lillian Keller*

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**Lillian A. Keller** - February 17, 2023 at 03:21 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Henry John Wachtman.



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February 17, 2023 at 11:44 AM

LH

“ Lynn Heller lit a candle in memory of Henry Wachtman



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**Lynn (Sharpe) Heller** - February 17, 2023 at 09:35 AM

DK

“ *David Keesbery lit a candle in memory of Henry Wachtman*



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**David Keesbery** - February 16, 2023 at 08:40 PM

JD

“ *I'm so very sorry to hear about the passing of Henry. I know how you will miss him. It's still very fresh in my mind with the loss of Marv. You have my prayers.*  
*Judy Dickmann*

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**Judy Dickmann** - February 16, 2023 at 05:46 PM