



## Richard C. Birkenmeier

January 27, 1930 - February 3, 2017

Richard Charles Birkenmeier, 87, of Archbold, Ohio died Friday evening, February 3, 2017 at Genacross Lutheran Home, Napoleon, Ohio.

He was born January 27, 1930 in St. Louis, Missouri to the late Leo Birkenmeier and Ruth (Brown) Birkenmeier-Alderfer. He moved to Caro, Michigan at the age of 8 when he lost his father. He married Adeline Pederson in Mayville, Michigan on October 14, 1951.

Richard was employed at Universal Engineering (Houdi) in Frankenmuth, Michigan for 41 years, retiring in 1992. After living in the Birch Run and Frankenmuth, Michigan area for 58 years, he moved to Archbold, Ohio in 2010 to be closer to his daughter's family. In his earlier years, his hobbies included traveling, gardening, fishing and keeping a beautiful lawn.

He was a long time member of St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church of Frankenmuth, Michigan where he was confirmed on December 29, 1968 and later served as elder, usher and cared for the shrubs. He was currently a member of Peace Lutheran Church of Deshler, Ohio.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Adeline; daughter, Nancy (Tim) Avery, Defiance, Ohio; grandson, Jeremy (Rachel) Avery, East Canton, Ohio; great grandson, Devin Avery; sister, Norma Johnson, Flint, Michigan; brother, Clifford "Tom" Alderfer, Caro, Michigan; and in-laws, Alice Hebner, Alabama; Jackie Pederson, Jeanetta Birkenmeier and Frank Johnson, all of Michigan. He was also preceded in death by brothers, Oliver, Harold, Leo and Irving Birkenmeier; sister, Betty Ann Johnson; and step brothers, Paul and Robert

Chambers and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Visitation services will be held from 4-8 p.m. on Thursday, February 9 at Rodenberger Funeral Home, Napoleon with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m. with Pastor Peter Heyn officiating.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 11 at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Frankenmuth, Michigan with Pastor Jeffrey Luplow officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

Visitation will be from 10-11 a.m. prior to the services at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to Grace Hospice, Peace Lutheran Church or St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church.

Online condolences may be made at [www.rodenbergerfuneralhome.com](http://www.rodenbergerfuneralhome.com).

# Cemetery Details

## St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery

Frankenmuth, MI 48734

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 9. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

## Prayer Service

FEB 9. 7:00 PM (ET)

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

## Visitation

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

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
1200 E. Genesee St.  
Frankenmuth, MI 48734

## Service

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FEB 11. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
1200 E. Genesee St.  
Frankenmuth, MI 48734

# Tribute Wall

DB

“ I am so sorry for your loss! Wish we had stayed in touch.

*Love, Diane Birkenmeier*

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**Diane Birkenmeier** - April 24, 2017 at 01:51 PM

KZ

“ Nancy & family - so very sorry to hear of the loss of your Dad. How blessed you must feel to have had him in your life for so many years! Thinking of you & keeping your family in my prayers.

*Kathy (Sanborn) Zehnder*

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**Kathy Zehnder** - February 13, 2017 at 07:01 PM

EB

“ Henry and Ellen Bender send their deepest sympathies. He was a great neighbor.

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**Ellen Bender** - February 10, 2017 at 12:08 PM

PW

“ Adeline and family, I am so sorry to hear about Richard's passing and want you to know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. May God wrap His loving arms around you and give you comfort, peace and strength to endure the days ahead without him. May God bless you all. Patti

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**Patricia Wright** - February 08, 2017 at 06:13 PM