



Roy Dean Winebarger

December 10, 1945 - March 7, 2024

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Roy Dean Winebarger, 78, of Grand Rapids, died on March 7, 2024. Born on December 10, 1945, with Dutch-American roots that shaped the table more than the flag. Young, he understood that quiet competence outlasts loud plans.

He oiled undercutters that never held still. A ballast undercutter oil can wiped outlasted two bosses. Colleagues still mention a ballast undercutter oil can wiped.

In 1968 he married Martha. The marriage was not a speech; it was groceries, repairs, and three daughters walked to school in weather that did not care. When Martha died in 2017, he kept what still worked: the early walk, the small garden, the call on Sundays.

Neighbors remember someone who knew every child's name on the block. He liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. He died in Grand Rapids, among streets he never needed to explain. The radio is still tuned to the station that played while work got done.

What remains is not a legend but a practice: showing up, keeping a promise, leaving a place better than you found it. His life was the kind America is built from and too often forgets to name.

Services

Services in Grand Rapids will be simple: stories, coffee, and the names of people who showed up. Flowers optional; support for a local clinic or trade scholarship preferred.

NN-OBIT-2026-C1043

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