



## Gail Lee Shoemaker

October 19, 1936 - November 15, 2020

Gail Lee "Shoey" Shoemaker lifelong Grand Ledge resident passed away November 15, 2020. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend who will be greatly missed by the many lives that he touched. Shoey was born October 19, 1936 in Grand Ledge to the late Donald T. and Velma M. (Morgan) Shoemaker. He attended Grand Ledge High School where he was a talented athlete playing several sports. Gail graduated in the Class of 1955 and was inducted into the Grand Ledge Sports Hall of Fame in 2002. Shoey loved sports and after graduating played fast pitch softball for many years and also coached his daughters' sports teams. He continued to be a big supporter of Grand Ledge Athletics throughout his life and served the community for many years on the Parks and Recreation Committee. Shoey was also an avid piano player who could play music by ear and he enjoyed performing for his family and friends. Shoey married the love of his life, Marty on April 18, 1964 and they raised three wonderful daughters together. He retired from the USPS in 1998 as a rural mail carrier in Grand Ledge. After Marty's retirement they both enjoyed a memorable trip to Alaska and wintered in Gulf Shores for 18 years.

He is survived by his loving wife of over 56 years, Marty (Armstrong); daughters, Jennifer (Michael) Malmquist, Nikki Moore and Stephanie (Jeff) Talberg; granddaughters, Amanda (Kyle) Lay, Rachel (Nick) Kissane, Laney Moore, Natalie and Morgan Talberg; great grandsons, Cooper and Elijah Kissane and Benson Lay; brother, Gerald and sister, Gloria (Rich) Tucker. He is predeceased by his sister-in-law, Colleen (Brooks) Shoemaker. A Celebration of Shoey's life will be held June 26, 2021, 2:00 P.M. at Eagle Park Reception Hall, 14331 S. Grange Road, Eagle, Michigan 48822.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JUN **26**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Eagle Park Reception Hall  
14331 S. Grange Road  
Eagle, MI 48822

# Tribute Wall

SR

“ So sorry to learn of Shoeys passing. One of the kindest men I've ever met. Always spoke to me wherever we encountered each other. I have fantastic memories of him playing fast pitch softball with my Dad and the Grand Ledge squad. There will be a permanent standing room spot on the fence at football games. A GL Comet is soaring our colors in through heaven now. What a great representative for our community. I salute you Shoe and wish more people in the world would be like you.

Scott Redman - February 01, 2021 at 11:40 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gail Lee Shoemaker.



November 22, 2020 at 10:45 PM

DP

“ There are not enough words to describe this giant of a man who was my best friend since we attended Greenwood School in the 1940's. Gail was always respectful of all and respected by all. Sports were a huge part of his life. There was a wood backboard and basket on a mammoth oak tree at Greenwood. Gail, Jerry, my brother Rod and I would shovel snow off the court (dirt/mud) all winter. I remember in 7th grade when Gail was fortunate to attend a MSU-Ohio State basketball game and he came home all excited about a jump shot by OSU Dick Schnitkeer. We laughed as we tried in vain to jump and shoot at the same time. Wow, Gail really mastered that! Later, my good friend and legendary Holt basketball coach Dan Hovanisian told me how it was impossible to stop the Brooks to Shoemaker pick and roll. In football, Gail had many long gain pass receptions. Most famous was the legal sideline sleeper pass play which was later banned by the MSHAA, another accolade for Gail. Gail had lots of stories which he loved to relate, a talent passed down from his father. His repertoire included stories of decades of Grand Ledge athletes and other interesting happenings around Grand Ledge. His stories will be missed but not forgotten. Finally, to have friends, you need to be a friend. That was Shoey. Condolences to Marty, Jerry, Gloria, and all the family. Doug Pearl, The Villages, Florida

Doug Pearl - November 22, 2020 at 03:18 PM

JS

“ 1 file added to the album Shoey



Jerry Shoemaker - November 21, 2020 at 12:10 PM

SW

“ Marty, I am so sorry to hear of Gail's passing. Our hearts and prayers are with you and your family. Thinking of all of you with much love. I was happy to see Gail & I shared the same birthday.

Sandy Shuert Widgery

Sandy Widgery - November 20, 2020 at 09:16 PM



“ On behalf of the Gulf Shores Snowbird Coffee Club, we all send condolences to Marty and family on the passing of Gail "Shoey" Shoemaker. Shoey was a past president of the coffee club (2006). We will miss his very warm smile and unforgettable laugh. We'll also miss watching MSU Basketball at Big O's and MSU Baseball in Pensacola on their spring swing. Shoey helped make every winter memorable and will not be forgotten.

Larry and Ruth Cole  
Lansing

Larry Cole - November 19, 2020 at 08:58 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gail Lee Shoemaker.



November 19, 2020 at 07:32 PM

VM

“ Virginia M. purchased the *Enduring Grace* for the family of Gail Lee Shoemaker.



Virginia M. - November 19, 2020 at 04:24 PM



“ 72 files added to the album *Shoey*



Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home - November 19, 2020 at 02:23 PM



“ *Serene Retreat* was purchased for the family of Gail Lee Shoemaker.



November 19, 2020 at 01:19 PM

SN

“ I'll be half of the N 100 McDonald's family I would like to send our condolences. It saddens our hearts to hear that we have lost a member of our table of wisdom. You will always be remembered and we are grateful for the time that you have spent with us.

*Sonia and the Mcfamily team*

Sonia Nicoloff - November 19, 2020 at 01:00 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Gail Lee Shoemaker.*



November 19, 2020 at 12:56 PM



“ *Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Gail Lee Shoemaker.*



November 19, 2020 at 12:14 PM

LS

“ *The M-100 McDonald's "Table of Wisdom" has lost an icon. We enjoyed talking sports, past and present. Shoey always knew who hit the homerun or scored the touch-down in almost any game. His knowledge will be missed. Diane and I truly enjoyed our visit with Shoey and Marty down in Gulf Shores. We will raise our coffee cups high in honor of Shoey. Prayers for Shoey and his family. Larry & Diane Schulte*

**Larry & Diane Schulte** - November 19, 2020 at 11:32 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gail Lee Shoemaker.*



November 19, 2020 at 11:01 AM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Gail Lee Shoemaker.*



November 19, 2020 at 04:35 AM

DD

“ To Marty and Family, Sallie and I are so sorry for your loss. Gail was a joy to talk to and such a nice person. We feel that our lives are better because we could call Gail our Friend. The Memories of Gulf Shores.  
Doug & Sallie Dallmann

Douglas Dallmann - November 18, 2020 at 05:52 PM

NB

“ Nicole Brown lit a candle in memory of Gail Lee Shoemaker



Nicole Brown - November 18, 2020 at 04:42 PM

NB

“ He was one of the greatest neighbors anyone could ever ask for. Always so kind to our kids and gave us great life advice. We will miss him dearly and are praying for his family in this saddened time

Nicole Brown - November 18, 2020 at 04:41 PM

LE

“ Shoey was truly a wonderful man! I have lots of fond memories of him and my father Snake playing softball. All the games and tournaments we traveled to. I remember the talks he would give to Jenny & I when we were going out to do something. His wisdom and his love for his family and the GL Community will never be forgotten! Heaven has gained an angel!

Laura A Elliott - November 18, 2020 at 02:14 PM

KM

“ First he was Mr. Shoemaker and then he became a second Dad. I am so blessed to have been a part of this family and I always enjoyed talking with Shoey unless he was a little mad that Nikki and I kept him and Marty up at night while we goofed off in town. Such a wonderful man, husband, father, grandpa, and great grandpa!. You left a lasting impression on my heart and you are surely missed by me and everyone else that you touched with your kindness and wisdom. Heaven just got a bit brighter.

Kim Marton - November 18, 2020 at 12:05 PM

NP

“ NTC Law PLLC purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Gail Lee Shoemaker.



NTC Law PLLC - November 18, 2020 at 11:58 AM

DH

“ Thinking of all of you with love. The Harley Barnes family.

Debbie Hansbarger - November 18, 2020 at 11:53 AM

NK

“ Dear Marty so sorry to hear of the passing of Shoey. Norm enjoyed the friendship of Shoey for many years in Gulf Shores and our snowbirds luncheons in Lansing. What a wonderful person to know and he always had a smile to share. What wonderful memories everyone will have of him. God's Blessings to you and your family. Norm and Joyce Krogman. Peace be with you Marty.

Norman A Krogman - November 18, 2020 at 09:55 AM

DW

“ I lived around the corner from Gail and always enjoyed shooting the breeze with him or enjoying his smile and wave as I drove by. Enjoyed many lunches with "Shoe" at The Barn too. My sincere condolences to the family and may he rest in peace,

David Wilcox - November 18, 2020 at 07:53 AM

TW

“ I have many fond memories of talking and exchanging tales with Gail over the years. He had an engaging wit and a huge love for his family and for the community. I will miss him dearly and my heart aches for Marty and his family.

Tim Walling - November 18, 2020 at 06:26 AM

GB

“ I have thought of Gail many times times dating back to high school and Charlotte vs. Grand Ledge. He was a gifted athlete and a pleasure to know and talk with.

Gary Beebe

Gary Beebe - November 18, 2020 at 04:40 AM

LL

“ I knew Gail Shoemaker as my basketball coach. He was the best coach anyone could ever have. He was so kind and encouraging. My condolences go out to Jenny his daughter with whom I graduated with. I am truly sorry for this loss of such a wonderful man. Laura Cypher Lawler

laura lawler - November 17, 2020 at 05:02 PM

RD

“ Marty and family, Rozanne and I are very saddened to here of the passing of Gail,your family is in our thoughts and prayers.

Robert E Doty - November 17, 2020 at 04:13 PM

JH

“ Shoey was a great guy. Still is and we'll meet again. Love to all the family.

Jan Hughes - November 17, 2020 at 03:45 PM

JH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jan Hughes - November 17, 2020 at 03:43 PM

JT

“ In all the years I knew Gail, I never saw him in a bad mood. He always had a smile ready. He would also take the time out of his mail route and "shoot the breeze" with my grandpa. I know my grandpa enjoyed those conversations and Gail left a lasting impression on him.

Janna Trimble - November 17, 2020 at 01:46 PM