



Dennis L. Babcock

DEC 29, 1938 - OCT 2, 2015



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Dennis LeRoy Babcock passed away on October 2, 2015. He was born December 29, 1938 in Bear Lake, MI to Chester and Edna (Clements) Babcock, both of whom preceded him in death. On August 17, 1963 he married Judith Sanford in Pentwater. She preceded him in death on May 29, 1997. He was also preceded in death by one grandchild, Connor Jay Babcock on December 2, 1999. Also preceding him in death were sisters Helen Myers, Alta Harold, Erma Kessler, Hazel Harold, June Myers and brothers Edward, Justus “Chum” and Chester “Mick” Babcock and brothers-in-law Arthur Myers, Byron Harold, George Myers, Stanley Harold, Richard Kessler, Sr. and sister-in-law Emma Persing Babcock.

He is survived by two sons: Blair (Denise) Babcock of Kentwood and Ian “Joel” Babcock of Kalamazoo. He is also survived by grandchildren: Devin (Melissa) Babcock of Grove City, Ohio, Kylie (Adam) Whitfield of Grosse Pointe Woods, Mason Babcock of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan and Alec Babcock of Chesterfield Township. Other survivors are: brothers Clayton (Phyllis) Babcock of Rockford and Mitchell (Judy) Babcock of Whitehall as well sisters-in-law Doris Babcock of Twin Lake and Marjorie Babcock of Montague. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews, including beloved caregivers Diane Babcock of Montague and Michelle (Jim) Berlin of Whitehall.

Dennis was a graduate of both Michigan State University (BA) and Central Michigan University (MA) and taught mathematics for 40 years: three years in Pentwater and 37 at Mona Shores. He was named three times in the Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers. He was a Life Member of the MSU Alumni Association, a member of the Log Cabin Republicans, and, at different times, a member of the Montague, Bear Lake, Pentwater, Lakeside and Lake Harbor United Methodist Churches. He served 14 years as a Muskegon County Commissioner and was Supervisor of Whitehall Township for 12 years. He was active as a Friend of the Hackley, Norton Shores and White Lake Libraries. He was a member of the Lakeshore Museum Center, Hilt’s Landing Development, Arc/Muskegon and Arc/Michigan. He also served on many other civic



Obituary

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organizations. Dennis was proud of his advocacy for the rights of the LGBT community and people with developmental disabilities.

The FUNERAL SERVICE will be 11AM Saturday, October 10, 2015 at Montague United Methodist Church (8555 Cook Street, Montague, MI 49437) with Pastor Mary S. Brown officiating.

VISITATION with the family will be 2-4 & 6-8 PM Friday at The Walburn Chapel, 1547 W.

Sherman Blvd. (231) 759-8565, and 1 hour prior to the service at church, from 10-11AM. Burial will take place in Pleasanton Twp. Cemetery in Bear Lake, MI. Memorial Contributions to Michigan's Heritage Park c/o Lakeshore Museum Center, Montague UMC After School Program, and His Arms Kenya will be appreciated. Share memories with the family online at www.sytsemafh.com



Events

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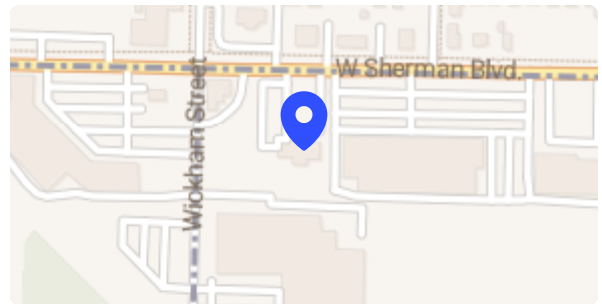
Visitation

Friday, October 9, 2015

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM ET

Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Walburn Chapel

1547 W. Sherman Blvd., Muskegon MI 49441



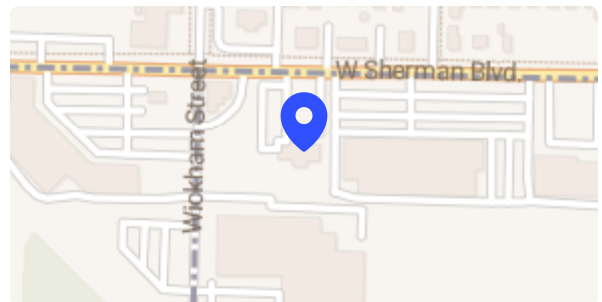
Visitation

Friday, October 9, 2015

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

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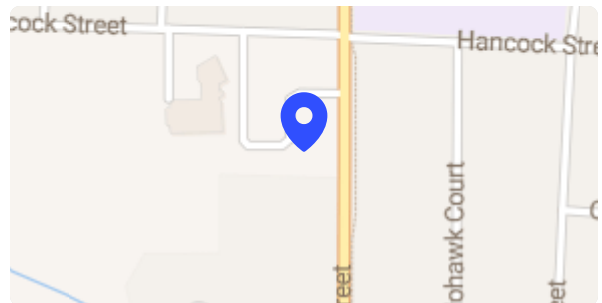
Visitation

Saturday, October 10, 2015

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET

Montague United Methodist Church

8555 Cook St., Montague MI 49437



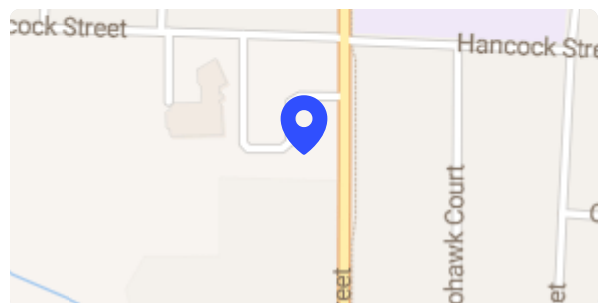
Funeral Service

Saturday, October 10, 2015

11:00 AM ET

Montague United Methodist Church

8555 Cook St., Montague MI 49437





Tribute Wall

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KK

Kathy Kadrovich posted:

I also was blessed to have Mr. Babcock in school. He was phenomenal, quick witted, inspiring and encouraging. Definitely a man who made a difference in many lives. A lesson he leaves with us is never be afraid to ask a question. There are at least 5 others around you who are thinking the same thing. I think he stated 'There is no such thing as a dumb question'. He leaves us with more than just a calculus education.

October 8 at 8:52 AM

MH

Melissa Hare lit a candle in honor of Dennis .



October 7 at 5:37 PM

MH

Melissa Hare sent a virtual gift in honor of Dennis .



October 7 at 5:36 PM

MO

Margaret Otoole posted:

It is with great sadness that on behalf of The Arc Muskegon, The Arc Michigan and the many people with developmental disabilities in our county he helped through his service to both organizations, we extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Dennis. It was a privilege to work with and to learn from Dennis. Margaret O'Toole
The Arc Muskegon
Executive Director

October 7 at 8:27 AM

RW

Rick Wilcox posted:

What a great teacher and civic leader. A great loss to all, especially his family. Thinking of the Babcocks today.

October 6 at 8:24 AM



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The Whitfield Family sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Babcock family.



October 6 at 3:06 AM



Tammy Head (Braden) posted:

Dennis and Judy were great neighbors and he will be missed very much by many R.I.P Dennis and this isn't goodbye this is until we meet again in paradise.

October 5 at 10:41 AM



Linda Noble posted:

I wish to express my deepest sympathy in the loss of Dennis. He was a person so involved in the lives of students and the community. I was overwhelmed reading his obituary and you must be proud of him and he will be missed. I have many fond memories of our time together on the Muskegon County Republican Executive Committee. May you find comfort in your treasured memories.

October 5 at 7:30 AM



Dave Alexander posted:

A family man and educator who loved his county and always wanted it to succeed. He did his best to make things happen in Muskegon.

October 5 at 3:18 AM



Blair Babcock shared an album called **New Album Name**.



October 3 at 2:44 PM



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Sue Zack posted:

Dennis was a valued colleague at Mona Shores High School--one whose outstanding mentorship as the Math Department Chair and union leader was so helpful to so many of us through the years. I will always remember his sly smile and chuckle during staff meetings. His was a life well lived!

October 4 at 10:49 AM



Deirdre Smith posted:

Mr. Babcock is one of those teachers you remember because he was amazing!

October 4 at 8:18 AM



Misty Miller posted:

Rest in peace Uncle Denny, say hi to Grandpa for me. Love you Misty

October 4 at 7:08 AM



Holly Hughes posted:

Our good friend former Supervisor of Whitehall Twp. and County Commissioner Dennis Babcock will be missed! He was always there for others! I could always count on Dennis for good advice. Thanks Dennis for caring about our hometown!State Rep. Holly and Rick Hughes

October 4 at 5:46 AM



Lisa Bassauer lit a candle in honor of Dennis .

Mr. Babcock was my favorite high school teacher. He will me sadly missed!

October 4 at 4:58 AM



Don And Maryann Scofield lit a candle in honor of Dennis .

Sorry to learn of Dennis passing. He and Judy were our neighbors for many years--wonderful people. We send our deepest sympathy to Blair, Ian "Joel", and their families.

October 4 at 3:35 AM





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Jon Jacobs lit a candle in honor of Dennis .

Thank you for everything you did for me and my family Dennis. I will never forget you.

October 3 at 6:02 PM



Nancy Rowe posted:

I love you Uncle Denny. So many great memories from vacations with you when we were little kids, all stacked in the back seat of the car, til times now when we all were older. May God help your precious family get thru this "til we all meet again." Love Nancy & Dan Rowe

October 3 at 2:44 PM



Blair Babcock shared 4 photos to the **New Album Name** album.

October 4 at 3:24 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Dennis by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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