



# Mr. Lee Waite Branch

AUG 21, 1927 - OCT 22, 2012



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## **Mr. Lee Waite Branch**

AUG 21, 1927 - OCT 22, 2012

**M**r. Leland Waite Branch, age 85, went to be with his Lord and Savior early Monday morning, October 22, 2012, surrounded by his family. Lee was born August 21, 1927 in Muskegon, MI to Leslie and Clara (Meurer) Branch. He served his country in the United States Navy and later in the United States Army Reserve. On March 31, 1951, he married the former Delores May Cooper and she survives him. Lee worked as a machine operator at Bennett Pump for 33 years prior to his retirement in 1988. He was a long time member at Covenant Community Church where he had served as a greeter every Sunday for many years. Lee also served as an elder, deacon and Church Superintendent; volunteered for MAP Supper House and the Covenant youth summer recreation program. He was part of the Covenant "Alter Boys", restoring the church sanctuary and renovating Covenant's outreach ministry, Barney Maffett's Coffee Shop. Lee also enjoyed bowling, golfing, fishing and traveling. In addition to Delores, his wife of 61 years, Lee is survived by his daughter, Lori Johnson of Muskegon; his son, Scott Branch of Fruitport; grandson, Eric Johnson; and several nieces and nephews. Lee was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Helen Fox; brother, Howard Branch; and son-in-law, Stan Johnson. A FUNERAL SERVICE will be held 11 AM Thursday, October 25, 2012 at Covenant Community Church (134 E. Barney Ave.) with Pastor Mark Bush officiating. Full Military rites will be afforded under the auspices of VFW Muskegon County Council. VISITATION will be Wednesday from 5-8 PM at The Lee Chapel 6291 S. Harvey Street 231-798-1100. Interment will be in Mona View Cemetery. MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS may be made to Covenant Community Church.



# Events

**Mr. Lee Waite Branch**

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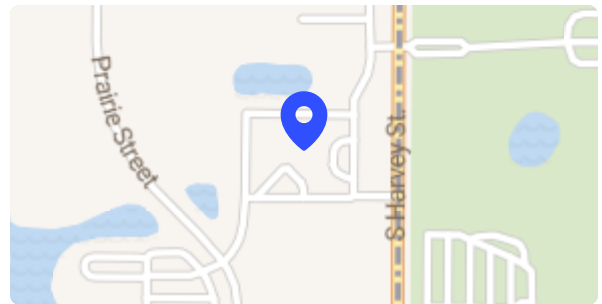
## Visitation

**Wednesday**, October 24, 2012

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

**Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Lee Chapel**

6291 Harvey St., Norton Shores MI 49444



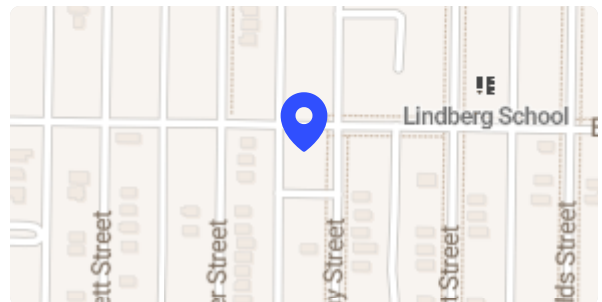
## Funeral Service

**Thursday**, October 25, 2012

11:00 AM ET

**Covenant Community Reformed Church**

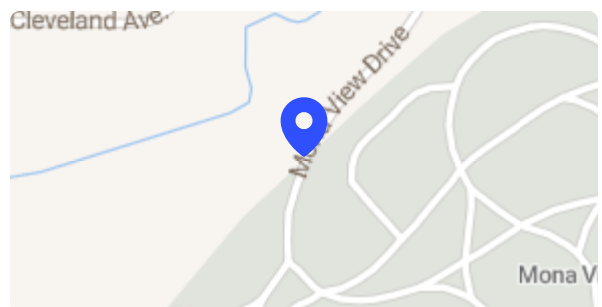
134 East Barney Ave, Muskegon Heights MI



## Cemetery Details

**Mona View Cemetery**

3335 Mona View Drive, Muskegon Heights MI 49444





## Tribute Wall

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RC

**Randy Crow** posted:

Dolores and Lori and Scott -My thoughts and prayers are with you all. What a beautiful tribute today for Lee. I will forever remember him for his kindness, his wit and compassion for people. The first time the door opened for us at Covenant there was Lee with that smile. Over the past 12 years he was always there with that greeting. After communion he would walk by where I sat and grab my hand and give me that smile. We worked together with the "Alter Boys" on Barney projects, the removal and re-install of the pews when new flooring went down. I so enjoyed my time with Lee, Cal and Bill. My life is much better from knowing such a fine model of a man. While sad to see him gone...I know in my heart when we meet again - he will call me by name - extend that hand - and hug and say Hey Randy - how's Randy today. God Bless such a fine man and wonderful family. Peace Until we meet again Lee !!

October 25 at 2:58 PM

SP

**Sarah Norat-Phillips** lit a candle in honor of Lee.

Lori....We are thinking of you and your loved ones at this difficult time. Be well, stay strong and if there is anything we can do to be of assistance, please do not hesitate to let us know.Sarah, Jason, Aaron and Rick Your Frontier Family in East Central Michigan



October 24 at 6:58 AM

JF

**Jackie French** posted:

Branches were my neighbors growing up on Jensen Road. I remember and always admired Lee for his quick wit and jovial humor. He was one to bring cheer and to lighten the mood - rarely do I recall not hearing Delores laughing in the background. Some of Lee's most encouraging and comforting words I recall were - "keep up the good work kiddo;" "be good kiddo;" "it's gonna be alright kiddo." Back in the day, my Dad and Lee would occasionally borrow tools back and forth to make repairs on the cars or house or the like. Because tools were expensive and hard to come by, my father was somewhat protective of his tools and hesitant to borrowing to just any one but with Lee he would say - "Lee is one of the few who knows the value, knows how to take care of them (tools) and....knows where they came from." ' Coming from my father, that spoke to me of Lee's Character and integrity - and I have never known anything other than that of Lee and all his goodness. My condolences. Jackie French

October 24 at 4:31 AM



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GM

**Gemmie Mattson** posted:

So sorry for your loss! He always managed to make me laugh. I will never forget sitting on his lap at Christmas time while he played Santa. He will be missed but I have a feeling a little more laughter has been added to heaven. Love you guys! -Gemmie

October 24 at 4:11 AM

RM

**Ron Maycroft** posted:

"Dolores and family. My daughter let me know about Lee a short time ago. I have such good memories of Lee, working with him, kidding around with him and just knowing him. He was one of the best! Jeanne and I are on our way to California to take care of a family matter. I would definitely be at the service, but my thoughts and prayers are with you. He will be missed. Ron Maycroft

October 23 at 7:59 PM

MM

**Marsha Ashcraft Mahynski** posted:

Dolores and Lori and family....I fondly remember Lee as being a kind, loving man. Such a dear...God Bless all of you and just hug each other and be "there" for each other...DeColores and God Bless You!!! -Marsha Ashcraft Mahynski

October 23 at 6:40 PM

PS

**Pam Schaner** posted:

Dolores, Lori, and Scott, Our deepest sympathy for you. Lee's smiles, laughter, and jokes will be missed by everyone who knew him. He is at peace now and will be laughing and happy forever. Pam and Frank Schaner

October 23 at 3:51 PM

MS

**Melodie Spencer** lit a candle in honor of Lee.

Delores, Lori & Family, Peace be with you. All of you are in our prayers. May God's arms hold each of you close to His heart as He lifts you up on eagles wings. May the SON/sun shine upon you. We will miss you Howard. Pray for us. Adios, my friend til we meet again in heaven. Delores, you are loved much. DeColores! With Love, Hugs & Prayers, Melodie C#130



October 23 at 9:10 AM



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MP

**Melanie K. Pritchett** posted:

Lori, my heart breaks for you today. Much love and prayers your way. Please don't hesitate to reach out if there is anything I can do to help you. Mel

October 23 at 5:44 AM

CH

**Claudia Hanson** posted:

Dear Delores, Lori and Scott, We are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of sorrow..Ken & Claudia Hanson

October 23 at 5:26 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

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



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