



## Ed Higgins

July 20, 1937 - August 2, 2022

Ed Higgins, 85, of Bluffton, passed away on Tuesday, August 2, 2022 at his home.

Ed was born on July 20, 1937 in Bluffton to Garth H. & Evelyn (Arnold) Higgins. He graduated from Bluffton High School in 1955. Following graduation, Ed proudly served our country in the U.S. Marine Corp. In 1972, Ed started working for Schwartz Plumbing & Heating until his retirement in 1999. Ed enjoyed woodworking, creating a variety of items to be cherished by friends and family. He played the keyboard, organ and piano, and he even had his own professional CD. He could be found at Richard's Restaurant morning, noon, and night as he frequently enjoyed all of his meals there. Neighbor Ed was a huge fan of Mayberry and traveled many times to Mt. Airy, NC for Mayberry Days and could be seen driving his Mayberry Police car in many local parades. He is now casting a line with Andy and Opie.

On January 18, 1959, Ed and Diann Langel were married in Bluffton. They celebrated 39 years together before her passing in 1998.

Survivors include his children; Steven Edward (Kathryn McIver) Higgins of Bluffton, Sue (Len) Smith of Poneto, Jeffrey Allen (Cinda) Higgins of Bluffton and June Ann Rea of Warsaw, along with 14 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by a caregiver, Ellie Evick, her daughter, Chelsea and granddaughter, Josie.

He is preceded in death by his parents, his wife Diann and his sister, Marilyn Vanden Top.

Visitation will take place from 2 P.M. to 8 P.M. on Tuesday (August 9, 2022) at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton, and for one hour prior to the service on Wednesday at the church.

Funeral services will take place at 10:30 A.M. on Wednesday (August 10, 2022) at the First Baptist Church in Bluffton with Pastor Les Cantrell officiating. Burial will follow at Elm Grove Cemetery with Military Honors by the United States Marine Corps. Honor Guard and American Legion Post #111 Honor Guard.

Memorials may be made to the First Baptist Church of Bluffton or to the M. S. Foundation.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send condolences to the family at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Elm Grove Cemetery

3500 East State Road 124  
Bluffton, IN

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 9. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home  
308 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
<http://www.thomarich.com>

## Visitation

AUG 10. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church  
202 W. Cherry St.  
Bluffton, IN

## Funeral Service

AUG 10. 10:30 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church  
202 W. Cherry St.  
Bluffton, IN



# Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ed Higgins*



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**Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home** - August 09, 2022 at 01:38 PM



“ *Ed Higgins*

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September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *Steve and family, sat beside Ed when he played the piano many times, in the good ol days. He sure was one of the good guys. We will miss him. Tom*

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**Thomas Durr** - August 21, 2022 at 07:55 AM



“ *To the Family,  
I have known, and appreciated, Ed Higgins for decades. I consider him a friend though we never socialized.  
He was a talented and kind man who always had a smile and a helping hand.  
Sympathies to you.  
Jeff Espich*

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**Jeff Espich** - August 13, 2022 at 07:46 PM

VJ

“ Valerie Wilson Jackson lit a candle in memory of Ed Higgins



Valerie Wilson Jackson - August 09, 2022 at 11:36 PM



“ Father - Large Memorial Stone was purchased for the family of Ed Higgins.



August 07, 2022 at 01:16 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ed Higgins.



August 06, 2022 at 10:24 PM

PS

“ Phil and Marsha Schaddelee purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Ed Higgins.



Phil and Marsha Schaddelee - August 06, 2022 at 05:50 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Ed Higgins.*

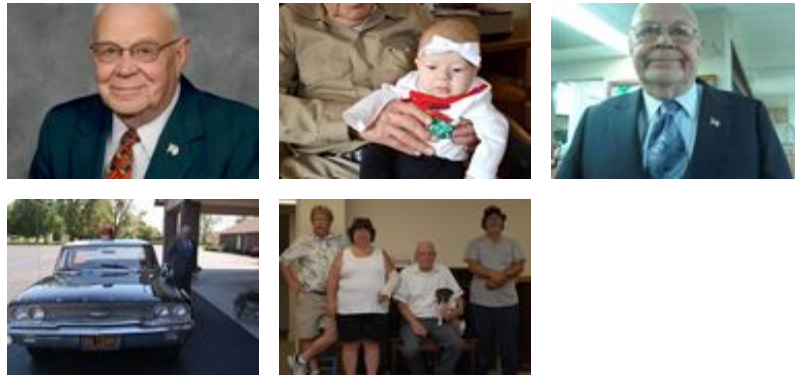


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August 06, 2022 at 04:33 PM



“ *151 files added to the album LifeTributes*



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Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - August 06, 2022 at 12:29 PM



“ *Sue and family, We are so sorry to read of Ed's passing. Ed, Diane, and Marion graduated together, so now your Mom and Dad are together again. We send hugs and love to you.*  
*Marion and BJ Gray*



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**BJ Gray** - August 06, 2022 at 11:58 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ed Higgins.*



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August 05, 2022 at 01:46 PM



“ *When Bud Abrams became pastor of First Baptist, it was September. We knew very little about Street Fair. Ed came to the church parking lot where we're selling parking spaces in his Barney car. He placed handcuffs on us and made us wear black and white prison shirts. He ordered us into the back seat and drove us up town to be in the parade !! We loved Ed so much and he was an awesome ambassador for First Baptist. I play his "Jazzy Hymns" cd regularly! A dear friend.*

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**jan abrams** - August 05, 2022 at 01:09 PM



“ *Mr. Kool Htg./Schwartz Plmb. & Htg. purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Ed Higgins.*



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**Mr. Kool Htg./Schwartz Plmb. & Htg.** - August 05, 2022 at 09:39 AM

JS

“ It was a pleasure to have Ed as an employee at Schwartz Plumbing and Heating. He started working for my dad and continued with me until his retirement. He was very helpful and friendly with the customers and a pleasure to be around. He will definitely be missed. Prayers for the family.  
Joe Schwartz

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**Joe Schwartz** - August 04, 2022 at 11:03 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ed Higgins.



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August 04, 2022 at 06:27 PM

SG

“ I knew Ed only through his daughter, June. Her love for him was so deep. I've heard many times about Ed's great sense of humor. I, and everyone who knows June, know that she definitely got her sense of humor from him. So sorry for your loss, June...and to all who knew and loved him.

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**Sheila Gilbert** - August 04, 2022 at 12:59 PM

RA

“ To the family of Ed,

*My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. I am proud to say he was a good friend to my husband Steve and myself. I enjoyed talking to him at Richards every day. He made me laugh and when he came in with his guys from Schwartz's it was a hoot. He was loved by many and we will have you in our prayers.*

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**Rita Atherton** - August 04, 2022 at 11:12 AM

JW

“ *Condolences to the family! Everyone in Bluffton knew Ed. He was a wonderful man!*

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**Jerry Wafford** - August 04, 2022 at 10:29 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Ed Higgins.*



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August 04, 2022 at 09:30 AM

NM

“ *Condolences to the Higgins family. Like my husband Nolan, Ed was a member of the BHS class of 55 and we always enjoyed visiting with him at the class lunches. He will be thought of for sure tomorrow when some of that class reunite for lunch.*

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**Nolan and Suzanne Markley** - August 04, 2022 at 08:18 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Ed Higgins.*



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August 03, 2022 at 11:45 PM



“ *Sorry to hear of Ed’s passing. Ed played for me when I sang specials many years ago!*

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**Dan Oswalt** - August 03, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ *Steve, I’m sure your dad lived a productive, meaningful, and giving life. If your character came from him in any way, he must’ve been a fine man. You can now carry his memory on with you. Best wishes, sir.*

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**Jeff Clausen** - August 03, 2022 at 08:12 PM



“ *Steve and family - We were very saddened to hear that Ed had passed away. I loved listening to him play piano and enjoyed seeing him drive his Mayberry car around town. We would often see him at Coco China on a Sunday and enjoyed catching up with him. You have our sincere sympathy and are in our prayers during this difficult time. Bob and Sue Coolman*

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**Bob and Sue Coolman** - August 03, 2022 at 04:23 PM

MB

“ Ed was a wonderful example of Christ and a true friend. Every time I sang at the First Baptist Church, he was there to greet me! He had a beautiful God given talent! I will never forget the way he loved to joke and his smile! I was lucky enough to call him friend!  
Michele Bowling

Michele E Bowling - August 03, 2022 at 03:45 PM

KS

“ I am proud to have known Ed Higgins. I will cherish the times when he would push out his upper dentures and look like Mr Ed the horse. I can happily hear his saloon style piano playing. His way always made the listener smile and tap their foot. That is a gift to create that happiness. Thank you for your friendship Ed.



Kurt Shady - August 03, 2022 at 03:06 PM

KS

“ Ed was always a Welcoming face at First Baptist church. He always greeted me with a hug & a kiss on the cheek. As long as I can remember, Ed was a pillar at the church. Now he joins all the other pillars from the church & there's a Welcoming Party 🎉 to greet him!!!



Kendra Shady - August 03, 2022 at 01:17 PM

DG

“ Sorry to learn of Ed’s passing. He was such a friendly guy to everyone. He always helped me out when he worked at Schwartz Plumbing. Ed always had a Mayberry story to tell you. The Higgins family will be in our prayers. Dan and Darlene Gerdom



Dan Gerdom - August 02, 2022 at 07:26 PM

HH

“ Herb And Janet Heyerly lit a candle in memory of Ed Higgins



Herb and Janet Heyerly - August 02, 2022 at 07:17 PM

JA

“ I worked with Ed

for 18 years. One of my very best friends. Ornerly is an understatement would do anything for you. He made coming to work an adventure. He pulled a few classic jokes on my wife which she will never forget. I was very fortunate to have visited with him and his minister yesterday afternoon and had communion with them. Rest in peace my friend you were a very special person. ❤️ you!

Joe Ayers - August 02, 2022 at 04:41 PM