



Gene L. Pope

July 31, 1932 - April 15, 2023

Gene L. Pope, 90 of Bluffton, passed away on Saturday afternoon, April 15, 2023, at Bluffton Regional Medical Center, with his family at his side.

Gene was born on July 31, 1932 in Raub, ND to Fred T. and Vivian (Olson) Pope.

He taught at Jay County Schools for 50 years, the last two years, he taught special needs students. Even after he retired from teaching, he continued as a full-time substitute teacher. He also taught at the Kirkland Bible Institute. Gene was instrumental in setting up the Alternative School in Pennville. At a young age, Gene worked for the State Park CCC raising quail.

He was a longtime active member of the East 18th Street Wesleyan Church in Muncie, where he served as the music minister. He served on the board of All Tribes Missionary Council as was a huge part of the Athens Youth Camp. Since he started helping with the Youth Camp in 1971, he only missed the last 2 years of camp.

On October 11, 1953, at Mulberry Street Wesleyan Church, Gene and Evelyn E. Sweeny were married. They celebrated 70 years of marriage together.

Survivors include his wife, Evelyn of Bluffton, two children: Twila (Ron) Dubbeld of Bluffton and Allen (Beth) Pope of Indianapolis, along with 8 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by a sister Violet Veasey and a brother Richard (Linda) Pope, both of Markle.

He is preceded in death by his parents and a brother Wayne Pope.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 A.M. on Friday (April 21, 2023) at the

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton with Pastor Dennis Campbell and Pastor Paul Walden officiating. Burial will follow at Six Mile Cemetery in Bluffton.

Visitation will be held from 4 P.M. to 8 P.M. on Thursday (April 20, 2023) at the funeral home and for one hour prior to the service on Friday.

Memorials may be made in Gene's memory to All Tribes Missionary Council.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Lemler family at

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the Pope family at www.thomarich.com.

Cemetery Details

Six Mile Cemetery

4795 SE State Road 116
Bluffton, IN

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 20. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Visitation

APR 21. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

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

Funeral Service

APR 21. 10:30 AM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

MP

“ *Our sincere condolences to Evelyn and family on the passing of your loved one. May God bless and comfort you in the days ahead.*
Elmer & Marcia Pate

Marcia Pate - April 20, 2023 at 11:53 PM

MD

“ *A dear friend and soldier of the cross has heard the words “Well Done” by one he served so faithfully! Rev. Gene Pope was a mentor and great blessing in my life as I was beginning to sing and learning to work on the farm. Our Love & Prayers to his Wife Evelyn Pope, Uncle Ron and Aunt Twila Dubbeld and all the Pope Family!*

We are Forever Grateful to Bro. Gene Pope - Lives Touched and Eternal Impact!

The Mark Dubbeld Family



Mark Dubbeld - April 20, 2023 at 04:15 PM

DG

“ *The Pope and Dubbeld family will be in our thoughts and prayers. Dan and Darlene Gerdom*



Dan Gerdom - April 19, 2023 at 09:23 PM



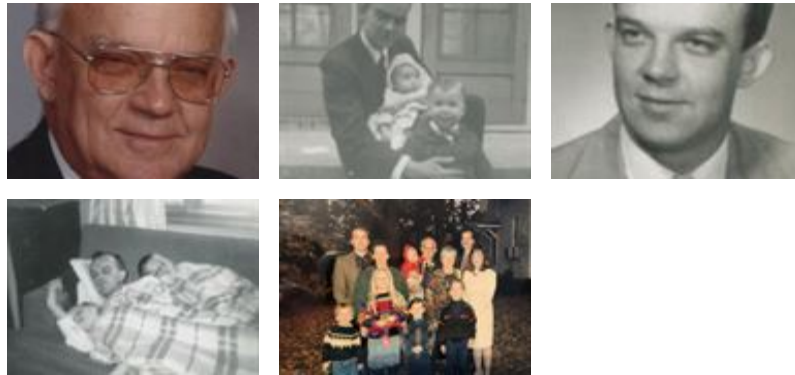
“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Gene L. Pope.



April 19, 2023 at 08:56 PM



“ 101 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - April 19, 2023 at 07:58 PM



“ *Reverend and Mrs. Arthur Jennings* purchased the *Divine Peace Bouquet* for the family of Gene L. Pope.



Reverend and Mrs. Arthur Jennings - April 19, 2023 at 10:52 AM

AG

“ Allen, Beth, children and grandchildren purchased the Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray for the family of Gene L. Pope.



Allen, Beth, children and grandchildren - April 19, 2023 at 09:32 AM

DE

“ Doug and Christine Ellenberger purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Gene L. Pope.



Doug and Christine Ellenberger - April 18, 2023 at 11:18 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Gene L. Pope.



April 18, 2023 at 07:33 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gene L. Pope.



April 18, 2023 at 07:23 PM

PN

“ Prayers for the family. I am sorry for your loss. Brother Pope was a good Christian man and will be missed.

Penny Nash - April 18, 2023 at 05:20 AM

KA

“ My deepest condolences to you all. I had Mr Pope for a time in 4th grade at Redkey Elementary. He came in mid year and gave us structure, consistency and had high expectations for all of us after we had gone a long time without a teacher. I never forgot his kindness and how he helped us so much that year.

Kayla Arguello - April 17, 2023 at 09:35 PM

KI

“ We appreciated the music and preaching ministry of Bro Pope. The Kincaids

Kincaid - April 17, 2023 at 07:22 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Gene L. Pope.



April 17, 2023 at 07:11 PM

GS

“ I send my condolences to this precious family. As a youth, I enjoyed attending the Athens Youth Camp. It was always a blessing. Thank God for Brother and Sister Pope! Great memories back in the day.

Gary Sparks - April 17, 2023 at 05:03 PM

RK

“ I met Bro. Pope at Athens Youth Camp years ago. I have teenagers now, that long ago. He made a lasting impression on me many of my peers. He showed a Christ like love to all. He treated us “ornery” kids with the same kindness and compassion that he treated the most well behaved. I am honored to have had the privilege of knowing him. My condolences to all. I can only imagine all of the jewels he has in his crown!

Rachel Kennedy - April 17, 2023 at 04:48 PM

SH

“ It was so sad to hear the news of your passing. But I can just see you shouting on the streets of heaven!! And really going to miss you.. my thoughts and prayers with sis. Pope and his family..



Sharon - April 17, 2023 at 04:30 PM

RM

“ My favorite memory of Gene was when he sang at revivals the song, "The King and the Beggar." He would get blessed and sing the chorus over and over. To this day I think of him when I hear that song. Gene and Evelyn were both part of the fond memories of my upbringing as I used to live beside them with my parents when I was a little girl. The farm was an enjoyable place!

Rhonda Moore (Foster) and Family

Rhonda Moore - April 17, 2023 at 02:16 PM

PM

“ *Pat Mayer lit a candle in memory of Gene Pope*



Pat Mayer - April 17, 2023 at 12:25 PM

GC

“ *My prayers and thoughts are with you and your family. Gerry claghorn*

Gerry Claghorn - April 17, 2023 at 12:03 PM