



## Mr. Richard "Dick" V. Willey

November 6, 1921 - October 12, 2012

Richard "Dick" Vaughn Willey, 90, of Bluffton passed away on Friday, October 12, 2012, at Bluffton Regional Medical Center.

Dick was born on November 6, 1921, in Waterloo, Indiana to Lyle and Ruth (Vaughn) Willey. He graduated from Bluffton High School with the class of 1939, and went on to study at and play football for his beloved Purdue University. After graduating from Purdue in 1943, he served in the United States Army in the 953rd Field Artillery Battalion. His unit landed at Omaha Beach following D-Day, fought across France and Germany, including the Battle of the Bulge, until the end of the hostilities in 1945.

After his service in the Army, during World War II, he was hired at Franklin Electric. He worked there as a supervisor and retired after 35 years of service. An avid golfer and gardener, he was also a member of the John Purdue Club, Parlor City Country Club and First United Methodist Church.

On December 22, 1946, he married Carol (Harvey) Willey. They were lifelong residents of Bluffton, and both were very active in the community. Together they raised four daughters and shared nearly 60 years of marriage before she preceded him in death on October 13, 2006.

He is survived by daughters Sylvia (Kenneth) Clark of Alexandria, Indiana;

Sally (Douglas) Halberstadt of Bluffton, Indiana; Cynthia (Daniel) Leininger of Winona Lake, Indiana; and Sarah (Michael) Gotsch of South Bend, Indiana. He is also survived by 14 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 27, 2012, at the Thoma/Rich, Chaney & Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends are invited to visit with the family from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m., prior to the service. The Rev. Greg Rittenhouse will officiate. Burial will follow at Elm Grove Cemetery in Bluffton. Military honors will be performed by the United States Army Honor Guard and the American Legion Post #111 Honor Guard. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in his memory to Bluffton High School Athletic Boosters for the benefit of the golf team or to the First United Methodist Church.

Friends may send online condolences to the Willey family at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com).

# Cemetery Details

## **Elm Grove Cemetery**

3500 East State Road 124  
Bluffton, IN

# Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Richard "Dick" V. Willey*



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**Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home** - October 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Richard "Dick" V. Willey*



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**Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home** - October 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mr. Richard "Dick" V. Willey*

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September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM

MW

“ My thoughts and prayers are with your family as you honor your father, grandfather today. I had the pleasure of getting to know him when he was my patient. We talked about golf, gardening, sports and family. He was so proud of all of you. One day we were discussing how there is nothing like an Indiana grown tomato and the next time he was in, here he came with a bag of tomatoes from his garden. He was such a nice, nice gentleman and will be greatly missed by so many. Wendy Weaver

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**Mrs. Jay (Wendy) Weaver** - October 27, 2012 at 08:12 AM



“ White Large Sympathy Arrangement In Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Richard "Dick" V. Willey.



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October 26, 2012 at 11:47 AM



“ Multicolor Bright Large Sympathy Vase Arrangement was purchased for the family of Mr. Richard "Dick" V. Willey.



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October 26, 2012 at 11:42 AM

BS

“ Sarah and Family, I hope you know you have continued to be in my thoughts and prayers during this time. Unfortunately, I am not going to be able to make it on Saturday, but I hope you know I will be thinking of you and your family. I always loved hearing your "dad stories". He was such a special man. I am sure your mom is so happy to have him with her now.

*Beth Schneider*

*P.S. Boiler Up!!*

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**Beth Schneider** - October 25, 2012 at 01:12 PM

LC

“ OUR HEARTS OUR HEAVY ON YOUR LOSS.

*DEATH ENDS A LIFE, NOT A RELATIONSHIP. WE AND YOU WILL ALWAYS HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH ALL THE GOOD MEMORIES OF HIM.*

*HE IS AS HAPPY NOW BEING WITH CAROL AS WE ARE SAD IN LOSING HIM.*

*LEE AND CAROLYN COLEMAN*

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**LEE AND CAROLYN COLEMAN** - October 19, 2012 at 11:46 AM

SR

“ I just wanted to let you know how sorry I am for your loss. He was a great man and I sure will miss him. I'm not able to stop on Sat. so I wanted to let you know I'm thinking of your family's. May God be by your side in this hard time. Rudy's Groomer and friend

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**Shelly Reinhard** - October 17, 2012 at 09:12 PM

NH

“ *What a legacy he left for his beautiful girls and their families!*

*Please accept my sincere condolences. My prayers are with you and I hope that you find comfort in the love and memories that you shared.*

*Nancy Reusser Halstead*



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**Nancy Reusser Halstead** - October 17, 2012 at 09:00 PM