



## Cay Arlis Newhouse Jr.

July 14, 1930 - February 17, 2026

Retired Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army, Cay Arlis Newhouse, Jr., passed away peacefully at home at the age of 95. A devoted husband, father, grandfather, and friend, he lived a life defined by integrity, service, and a deep love for family.

Cay is survived by his wife of 54 years, Young Ae Kim. Together, they wove a beautiful life, one marked by devotion, humor, and a deep affection. He is also survived by his daughters, Barbra Newhouse and Carol Campbell; his son-in-law, Darren Campbell; and his grandchildren, who brought him endless pride: Vaughn, Vivian, and Gwyneth (children of Carol and Darren), and Elijah and Luke (children of Barbra).

Born in Detroit and raised in Royal Oak during the Great Depression, Cay's earliest memories were of hunger, soup lines, and families making heartbreaking sacrifices to survive. He never forgot the neighbor's dog — lively one day, gone the next. Nor did he forget the Christmas when a single orange had to be shared between two children. These moments shaped him profoundly, instilling a lifelong gratitude for every comfort he later earned.

That early hardship shaped his deep respect for the freedoms protected by American soldiers. Cay never took those freedoms lightly; he believed every right we have was earned through courage, sacrifice, and lives laid down. He

often reminded us that “freedom is not free,” and he wanted us to honor that truth in the way we live.

Cay earned his Juris Doctor degree from Wayne State University and was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1957, serving 45 months of active duty. His legal and military career was marked by distinction, highlighted by his admission to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court in 1959.

After 37 years serving at the U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM), as an Acquisition, Disputes, and Appeals Attorney, Cay retired having earned the Army Meritorious Civilian Service Medal, one of the highest civilian awards given by the U.S. Army.

He was a champion for those without a voice. He fought for wounded veterans who had been denied the medical discharge and compensation they were rightfully owed, offering pro-bono support to help them receive the care and recognition they deserved. Together with Young Ae, he also stood beside many South Korean immigrants who faced difficult legal challenges — from workplace injuries to robberies, immigration issues, and family matters. He guided them through an intimidating system with patience, protection, and a deep sense of justice.

Cay cherished being a father. Weekends were full of adventures like speed-boating at Selfridge, fishing and hiking up north, bike rides, bowling, horseback riding, tennis, trips to the pet store, visiting metro parks, and vacations at Silver Lake Sand Dunes. What defined him most, though, was his unwavering presence. He always showed genuine enthusiasm for whatever his girls were interested in, learning about their passions so he could support them and help them grow. That wasn't unusual for him, it was simply who he was.

Retirement brought Cay new passions and continued achievement. He became a published poet and a competitive horseshoe player, earning 4th place in the World Horseshoe Championship (1999 Elder's Division). Up until his passing, he managed and cherished his favorite place on earth, his 350-acre tree farm.

At home, he was often at his desk reading or writing, or down in his workshop creating wooden "functional art" like walking canes, birdhouses, prayer benches, coffee tables, and wooden crosses.

Cay believed that a meaningful life comes not from reaching a final destination, but from appreciating the journey itself: the small steps, the unexpected turns, and the people who walk beside us.

Cay believed in these two powerful truths:

"Enjoy what you have and not what you don't have."

"What brings the most enjoyment out of life is happiness at home."

Additional "Cay-isms" he often shared:

"Never be afraid to invent or create."

"Obey the law and the same shall have no power over you."

"Once a job has once begun, never quit until it's done, be it large or be it small, do it well or not at all."

"He had the right of way, but they buried him yesterday."

"If you want it bad, you'll get it bad, and the worse you want it, the worse you'll

get it.”

“Do you know your N.A.W.A.N.?” (Net Asset Wealth Accumulation Number)

“Fix it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without; but whatever you do, NEVER buy it new.”

“Do the right thing, because the right thing to do is the right thing to do.”

“You can have anything, but you can’t have everything.”

“It’s not the event, it’s your reaction to the event.”

“Death is a part of life that we’re least prepared for.”

We miss you. Thank you for the life you shared and the example you set. Until we meet again, we carry your love with us, trusting you now rest in the arms of Jesus.

Cay will be laid to rest privately in Holly, MI at Great Lakes National Cemetery with well deserved US Army honors.

Even though Cay has left your sight, his family would be grateful for any messages or memory you feel moved to share whenever he comes to mind.

# Previous Events

## Interment

FEB 27 (ET)

Great Lakes National Cemetery  
4200 Belford Road  
Holly, MI 48442

# Tribute Wall

CF

“ Carlo Palmeri & Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Cay Arlis Newhouse Jr..



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**Carlo Palmeri & Family** - February 26 at 01:25 PM

MK

“ Matthew K. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cay Arlis Newhouse Jr..

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**Matthew K.** - February 26 at 10:44 AM

UN

“ Uncle Cay will always be remembered for his sharp wit and unwavering spirit with sense of humor. Forever in our hearts.

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**Unnie** - February 25 at 02:49 PM



“ "God Has You" 21" Sonnet Chime was purchased for the family of Cay Arlis Newhouse Jr..



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February 25 at 02:41 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Cay Arlis Newhouse Jr..

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February 25 at 02:41 PM



“ Mr. Newhouse was the kindest, most patient person I have ever known. His gentle heart and soul were matched by a calm strength: these combined created an overwhelming generosity of both wisdom and quality time- that only people who were blessed to know him can really appreciate. I still hear him saying, "It doesn't get any better than this!" after a simple day at the park, or after enjoying a "boomba sunday" from Saunders or Big Boy- of course after assuring us that "the sky is the limit" when pondering the menu. He always had it right: his life of hard work and creative past-times were never to be outdone by long, loving days spent with his beautiful family. My favorite "Cay-ism" will always be: "you can have anything, but you can't have everything," yet I believe he had it all, and I know he had the enlightenment to know it too. He chose family and togetherness. He chose honesty and integrity. He chose duty and honor for our country and to those who needed his help. It is no wonder he and Young Ae raised two amazing daughters, Carol and Barb, and I know nothing pleased him more than to go on to enjoy his talented and beautiful grandchildren. He was loved! I am so sorry for this great loss and can only hope his peaceful passing can offer serenity during this difficult time. His depth and maturity will live on through his legacy, and although this event is miserable, and he will be missed so much, I know he prepared you to handle all things, big and small, great and terrible, while instilling courage and gratitude through example. I am so sorry, he will be greatly missed. Cay A. Newhouse was truly a great man.

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**Karen Ulmer** - February 23 at 05:48 PM

VP

“ *Mr Cay will be greatly missed. He was one of the most wonderful men I have ever known. He was like a father to me and his influence helped shape me into a better person. My deepest sympathy for this profound loss. Sending prayers 🙏❤️*

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**Violet Peplowski** - February 22 at 02:44 PM

FF

“ *From nephew Sam from Seoul & family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Cay Arlis Newhouse Jr..*



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**From nephew Sam from Seoul & family** - February 21 at 11:17 PM

FF

“ *From nephew Sam from Seoul & family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cay Arlis Newhouse Jr..*

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**From nephew Sam from Seoul & family** - February 21 at 11:17 PM

TT

“ *What an amazing obituary. He sounds like a wonderful man. Our condolences to your family.*

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**Tricia Tandy** - February 21 at 06:53 PM

CP

“ I am so sorry for your loss... I Think he would be proud of his obituary. Sounded like a wonderful man with a fulfilling life. Thank you for sharing it. I agree with all of his ‘Cay’isms’ ....I can relate to most of them and might be adding some new ones to mine. Prayers to you all ❤️

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**Christina Poljanac** - February 21 at 06:46 PM