



Elmer F. Van Maele

November 5, 1928 - December 15, 2022

Elmer, age 94, peacefully passed away in his home surrounded by his loving family on December, 15, 2022. Loving husband of the late Amelia. Dear father of Daniel (Mary Jo), Denise (Ron) Roberts, Diane, Darice (Steve) Thielman, and the late Dennis. Proud grandfather of Adrienne (Rich Haddad) and Ava. Dear brother of the late Margaret, Elizabeth, and Frank Jr.

Elmer, son of the late Frank and Josephine Van Maele, was born in Detroit on November 5, 1928. He grew up on Tumey, which was one block from the flower shop that his father purchased during the Great Depression in 1929. He attended Holy Name School and later graduated from St. Anthony in Detroit. Elmer lived a full life with his beloved wife, Amelia. They enjoyed traveling, golfing, going to the casino, and long car rides ending at an ice cream shop. Elmer also enjoyed fishing with his sons, dining at restaurants, Detroit sports, and an occasional Bud Light. Elmer was proud of his children and especially his two granddaughters. He and Amelia babysat them when they were young and attended countless tennis matches when they were older. Elmer was fun-loving, never boring, and always, a good-natured friend to all. Elmer worked late into his 80s as the owner of the family business, Van Maele's Florist. He will rest in peace knowing his business, founded by his father, and later co-owned by him and his brother, Frank, will continue to be operated by his daughters, Diane and Darice, and will soon reach its 100th anniversary.

Guided by the words Elmer frequently used in the workplace, Van Maele's will
"Carry on."

Memorial Mass Saturday, February 4, 10 am at St. Kieran Catholic Church
53600 Mound Rd. Shelby Township, Michigan 48316.

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Cemetery

18201 Clinton River Road
Clinton Township, MI 48035

Previous Events

Memorial Mass

FEB 4. 10:00 AM.

St. Kieran Catholic Church

Tribute Wall



“ My belated and sincere condolences to the Van Maele family. Elmer was truly a great man. He put near was my favorite boss. He was very sharp, and witty. Treated me like family. I missed seeing him around in his later years when I would stop by the shop to visit. I often would imitate him in the shop, to make his daughters and the other workers laugh. What a guy.

Joe Guglielmetti - April 17, 2023 at 10:25 AM

DM

“ I am sorry for your loss. Mr. Van Maele was a very funny and nice person. It was so nice to have all the Van Maeles as neighbors as we grew up

Doug Macha - December 24, 2022 at 11:24 AM

RM

“ So sorry for your Loss, Elmer & Skippy were the best neighbors we could have. Our boys were so lucky to grow up with the VanMaele family. Elmer was such a great person to know. He will be missed.
Ron and Marge Macha

Ron &Marge Macha - December 24, 2022 at 11:22 AM

TD

“ Please accept our heartfelt sympathy for you and your family during this difficult time. It was with a heavy heart that we heard about the recent loss of your father and we wanted to reach out and express our condolences during such a difficult time.” Tom and Joann Delia

Thomas Delia - December 18, 2022 at 06:29 PM

FP

“ Dear Family and Friends,
I remember the flower shop very well, Van Dyke and E. McNichols.
Most Holy Name of Jesus Church (where my parents were married in 1941, and I was baptized in 1947) was close by.
Mom's family, the Flourys, lived on Leander St.
My Grandfather, Carl Floury, died in March 1954, and was at J. P. Miller Funeral Home, across Van Dyke from Holy Name.
In 1962 Uncle Jack Floury died, and was buried from Holy Name.
They, and Grandma Bernice, are all buried at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, also near the flower shop.
In all likelihood Mr. Van Maele's Family handled the floral arrangements.
I have also seen the new location in Clinton Twp., where my parents and brother are buried at Resurrection Cemetery.
Just seeing the "Van Maele" name gives me such comfort.
I see your family's business is expecting to celebrate its 100th Anniversary.
Best wishes for a wonderful celebration.
And, well done, Mr. Elmer Van Maele.



Fr. Mike Petroski - December 17, 2022 at 05:52 PM

JP

Very nice man, Beautiful family. I've been buying flowers from Van Maele's for many year. My Mom used to take use to six mile to buy flowers for Mt. Olivet cemetery, and Elmer and Amelia were the nicest people. Rest in peace Elmer.

joe pittinato - December 18, 2022 at 08:48 AM

BV

I will always remember our "business " discussions in his office at the shop. He was a smart, interesting man who was successful in many ways. He was a man who understood what hard work meant. It was my honor to say I knew Elmer.

Bob Vandenberg

Bob Vandenberg - December 18, 2022 at 10:41 AM

KG

So sorry to hear about Uncle Elmer - In my memories of him he is always smiling :-). His was definitely a life well-lived. Sending thoughts to you all at this time -Hugs from Lee and Wilma's daughter -- Kathy Cebulski(Gawronski) and family

Kathleen Lynn Gawronski - December 20, 2022 at 01:03 PM

AT

I have many memories of Elmer and Skip, but I'd like to pass on a story my mom told me. My mom and dad and your parents went golfing together a few times. After one of these times your dad said "get in the car, I'll take us all to get a bite to eat". The bite to eat ended up in Frankenmuth! My mom thought that was funny. He didn't tell them where they were going, he just kept driving until they ended up there ... a great example of Elmer's kindness and good nature.

Anne Thomas - December 20, 2022 at 03:55 PM

SG

Jim and Shirley send Our Deepest sympathy. Elmer was one of My cousins such a humble caring person. I always Loved having talks with Him. He Will be missed very much. But we all know He will be in a Better place.

shirley grobbel - December 21, 2022 at 01:50 PM