

Richard Vredevelde was a Godly man, very involved in church leadership, discipleship Bible studies, Gideons ministry, and raising his family in Christian faith. Husband to Marian (nee Huizenga) for 60 years, he had been looking forward to a heavenly reunion with her since her home-going in 2006. He also anticipated being restored to full health, and meeting his Savior face-to-face.

Dick was born in 1923 to Reka and Henry Vredevelde in Fremont, Michigan — one of nine children. He proudly served in the U.S. Army during World War II, stationed throughout Europe. He carried that same loyalty and discipline into his 40-year career with Gerber Products Company, in Fremont and Three Oaks. Retirement gave him new opportunities to explore life — traveling to the Holy Land, earning a 4.0 in the one college class he took, winning the Baldwin Street CRC Chili Cook-off, and squeezing his own orange juice.

His four children — Barbara (and Peter) Wagenmaker, Janet (and Kendall) Weiden, Gordon Vredevelde, and Karin Vredevelde — are grateful for his Christian example, his gentle sense of humor, his almost-daily fresh-baked muffins, and his snippets of song that would pop up at predictable points in any given conversation.

Grandchildren Brian and Jeanette Weiden, Curtis and Sarah Weiden, Jason Wagenmaker, and Jennifer Wagenmaker will also miss their grandfather's attendance at concerts, sporting events, and church programs, as well as his genuine interest in their lives, careers, and growing families, including great-grandchildren Noah Weiden and Kendall Weiden.

Dick leaves behind sister Lois VanStraten; sisters-in-law Joan Workman, Alyce Veldkamp, Marva Jacobson, and Ellen Huizenga; brother-in-law Ernest Mullinax; family friend Melanie Jongsma; and many nieces and nephews.

We praise God for the fulfillment of His promise in Psalm 34:5 — “Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame.”

Memorial Service

celebrating the life of

RICHARD VREDEVELD

September 26, 1923 – July 28, 2009



Ridgewood Christian Reformed Church

August 3, 2009

10:30AM

Service of Celebration

Welcome and prayer Pastor Karl Van Harn
Ridgewood Christian Reformed Church

All sing *And Can it Be* (#260, red hymnbook)
One of Dick's favorite hymns throughout his life, he sang a few lines of it during his last hospital stay and requested it be included in his funeral service.

Reading Tribute to a Godly man

Scripture readings Psalm 34 and Romans 8:30-39
After sharing these passages with Dick last week, Pastor Karl learned that Psalm 34 had also been meaningful to Dick's wife Marian.

Special music *Children of the Heavenly Father*
sung by Chuck Witteveen, family friend

Scripture readings Psalm 23 and Revelation 21:1-7
These passages are particularly significant for believers looking forward to life beyond the grave.

Special music *Holy, Holy, Holy* (Dykes/Foss arrangement)
played by Jennifer Wagenmaker, granddaughter

Message Psalm 112
Pastor Karl Van Harn
This passage was marked in Dick's Bible as a source of guidance for living as a Godly man.

All sing *God of Our Fathers* (#687:1,2,4)
Not only does this hymn speak of the bright promise awaiting generations of the faithful, its musicality also inspires a sense of respect appropriate for Dick's military service.

Benediction

Military Honors

The family of Richard Vredevelde invites you to stay for a fellowship lunch directly following the service.

The committal service will be at Fort Custer National Cemetery in Battle Creek. Maps will be available for those inclined to attend. The service, led by Pastor Van Harn, will begin at 2:30PM.

