



Ed Olleman

April 25, 1952 - January 9, 2026

Edward Roy “Ed” Olleman, 73, of Monrovia, completed his earthly journey at 2:25 p.m. on Friday, January 9, 2026, at Life’s Journey Hospice in Avon, surrounded by his three favorite women—the ones who meant the world to him. He was born on Friday, April 25, 1952, in Martinsville, Indiana, to the late Edward Hayes and Jacqueline (Kenworthy) Olleman, and he spent his life doing what he did best: loving his people, serving his community, and living fully.

Ed was a family man through and through. The only boy, tucked right between his two sisters, Debbie and Shawntel, he grew up learning how to stand his ground while keeping his heart wide open. A proud Monrovia native, Ed, loved the history of his hometown and the people in it. He attended Monrovia High School, where his leadership was already shining—becoming the school’s first student council president in 1968; graduating with the Class of 1971.

His strong work ethic started early, working alongside his grandparents at Kenworthy’s Hardware Store. That’s where his lifelong love of all things mechanical began. In 1971, Ed started driving for Coca-Cola, a career that would span more than four decades. In his free time, he truly enjoyed working alongside Dianne with her photography passion. He was reliable, committed, and proud of the work he did—always showing up, always giving his best.

On June 16, 1973, Ed married the love of his life, Dianne Marie Cross. Together, they built a life filled with laughter, loyalty, and deep love. Ed was Dianne's rock, best friend, and biggest fan. They raised two daughters, Cybil and Natalie, and Ed took great pride in being a hands-on, supportive, and endlessly loving father, not to just them, but his son-in-law, Tony. Still, if asked, he'd tell you the greatest joy of his life was to become "Papaw" to his four beloved grandsons. Nothing made him prouder.

After retiring in 2019, Ed and Dianne slowed life down and soaked it all in. Whether it was traveling, enjoying quiet moments together, or simply being home, retirement gave them time to do what mattered most: be together.

Ed had a presence you felt the moment he walked into a room. Loud, boisterous, joyful, and warm, he was a storyteller with a laugh you could hear across a crowd. He was hardworking, responsible, always frugal, and very dependable. He cherished his family heritage and was fiercely proud of his small-town roots.

In his younger years, Ed enjoyed open-wheel racing, drag racing, and riding motorcycles. He and Dianne loved going out to movies and plays, and Ed never turned down a good time. He was well-traveled, exploring places like France, the Bahamas, Cancun, Hawaii, Alaska, India, and Canada. Music was a constant in his life—of all kinds—and he loved going to concerts and shooting guns, sharing that passion with his girls.

Ed cared deeply about people and believed in giving back. A true public servant, he was civil-minded, fair, and respected by all who knew him. He was the kind of man who led by example, showed up when it mattered, and treated everyone with kindness.

His faith was a cornerstone of his life. A lifelong member of Monrovia United

Methodist Church, Ed served in countless ways—on the administrative board, as a trustee, deacon, choir and bell choir member, lay leader, and PPRC Chairman. Most recently, he attended services at the Mooresville First United Methodist Church. Sworn in with the original first Monrovia town council board members in 1995, Ed served as the fourth town council president, serving two terms and stayed for many years on the Plan Commission and BZA boards.

Ed was a fourth generation Democrat and third-generation Mason. A 40-year member of Monrovia Masonic Lodge #654; serving as Past Worshipful Master and treasurer for 12 years. In addition, he was previously a member of the Monrovia Lions Club and Teamsters Steward and contract negotiator. Ed's close friends and family nicknamed him the Mayor of Monrovia. A lifetime of fond memories and a legacy to live on. He leaves us with his favorite bit of wisdom: "Be good, and if you can't be good, be careful." Ed was loved beyond measure, and his memory will be treasured by the army of family and friends that he so adored.

Along with his parents, Ed was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Lorris and Iva Marie (Hayes) Olleman; maternal grandparents, Roy and Maude Kenworthy; stepmother, Jean Olleman; and brothers-in-law, David Cross, Gary Light, and Rick Ream.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife of 52 years, Dianne Olleman; daughters, Cybil Burnside (Tony) of Monrovia and Natalie Carroll (Ryan) of Indianapolis; sisters, Debbie Williams (Mike) and Shawntel Light, both of Monrovia; siblings-in-law, Stephen Cross (Billie) of Seattle, Susan Tennison (Lance) and Annie Wedlund of Arlington, and Cath Ream of Seattle; his four beloved grandsons—Nate and Nick Burnside of Monrovia, Jacob and Garrett Robinson of Indianapolis; bonus grandchildren, Madison, Mason, and Knox Carroll; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, lifelong friends, and

neighbors who felt more like family.

Friends and family are invited to gather for visitation from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 17, 2026, at Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel in Monrovia. A Masonic Service will begin at 5:00 p.m., followed by a funeral service officiated by Rev. Dr. Amber Karkosky-Litten. Cremation will follow the service, and a private inurnment will take place in West Union Friends Cemetery, Monrovia. In honor of Ed's generous spirit, memorial contributions may be made to the Monrovia Masonic Lodge, Boys Town (serving at-risk youth), or Disabled American Veterans (Envelopes will be available at the funeral home). To share a favorite memory, a story, or a laugh that Ed gave you, please visit www.lightmemorial.com.

Cemetery Details

West Union Friends Cemetery

2038 W St Rd 42
Monrovia, IN 46157

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 17. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel
585 East Main Street
Monrovia, IN 46157
(317) 996-2101
<https://www.lightmemorial.com>

Masonic Rites and Funeral Service

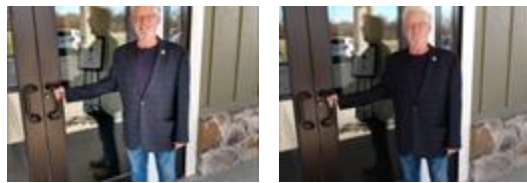
JAN 17. 5:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall

SK

“ This is Steve Kaiser,,sad to hear,,I just found out yesterday Wednesday February 11th, 2026 while I was at Steve Hadley showing back on Sunday November 6th,2022 at 2:37 pm I took two (2) photos of Ed ushering the front door,,he and I and others spoke for about twenty minutes,,Ed is a good man to say the least,,he was right in saying we grew up with best music,, indeed brother indeed,,



Steven Kaiser - February 12 at 11:25 AM

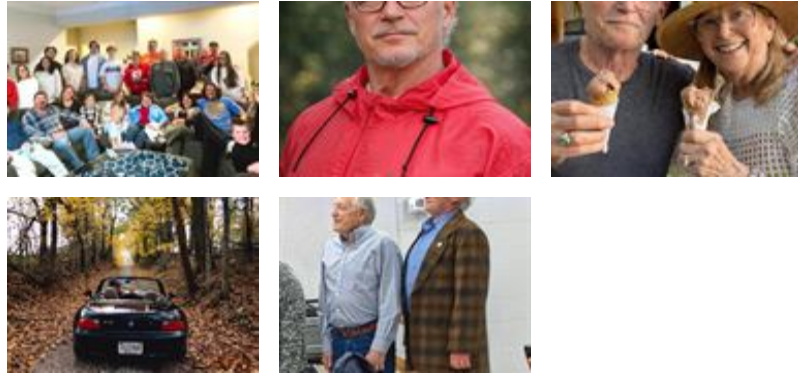
AW

“ I’ve put off writing this because somehow it makes it seem teal and really have to say goodbye. I have loved Edidie since I met him. I was living in Texas when I came up to visit Deenie and him. He picked me up in a borrowed sports car and driving crazy back to his house we almost (by inches) hit the side of a one lane bridge. After our shock we burst out laughing and that just cemented our friendship. I loved his crazy side and I was like a sister to him. I’ve always thought he would slay dragons for his wife and children. But in reality, he would do that for anyone he loved. I will miss him always. 🧡

Anne Wedlund - January 17 at 02:03 PM



“ 308 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel - January 17 at 11:56 AM



“ Justin, Rebecca, Brooke and Brandi Lane purchased the *Full Of Love Bouquet* for the family of Ed Olleman.



Justin, Rebecca, Brooke and Brandi Lane - January 16 at 08:23 PM



“ Justin, Rebecca, Brooke and Brandi Lane planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ed Olleman.

Justin, Rebecca, Brooke and Brandi Lane - January 16 at 08:23 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ed Olleman.*



January 16 at 04:34 PM



“ *178 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel - January 16 at 02:30 PM



“ *I was very sad to learn of Ed's passing. Last thing I heard was that he was doing well. To Diane and family, you are in my thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. Wish I could be there to give you a hug, will be praying for all of you, I didn't know him very well, but he was a classmate and every time I did see him, he was always friendly and happy. We compared notes on our adventures in Arizona and Hawaii and he always had a funny story or a joke to tell. I know he will be missed for a long time to come. God Bless all of you and may He comfort you as only He can.*

Debbie Holder Blunk

Debbie Holder Blunk - January 16 at 02:25 PM

WF

“ With Love from PNW folks purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Ed Olleman.



With Love from PNW folks - January 16 at 10:25 AM

WF

“ With Love from PNW folks planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ed Olleman.

With Love from PNW folks - January 16 at 10:25 AM

LF

“ Love your Stewart Home Group Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Ed Olleman.



Love your Stewart Home Group Family - January 16 at 10:11 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Ed Olleman.



January 16 at 09:44 AM

CA

“ *Adventures in Seattle... or with the Seattle family :)*



Cath - January 15 at 10:04 PM

TS

“ *Todd and Donna Steward purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Ed Olleman.*



Todd and Donna Steward - January 15 at 07:44 PM

MM

“ *I had the pleasure of working with Ed on transferring the Monrovia Methodist Cemetery over to Monroe Township. This enabled it to still be maintained and continue on to the future. I will always be grateful for him in taking the time to allowing this to happen. Sorry for the loss!*

Mike Marsh - January 15 at 07:38 AM

CA

“Wow. How to say goodbye to Eddie? He was my brother in law: the best husband, father and grandfather to his beloved family. He lived a full life filled with family, friends, a lot of fun and few regrets. Born and raised in Monrovia Eddie was the town’s premier ambassador. He was fiercely proud of his family’s history and accomplishments in this town and shared Monrovia with all whom he met.

Yet despite his citizenship in a small Midwest town, he was also a curious world traveler. He never met a stranger anywhere. He always endeavored to know others and to understand their cultures and experiences.

I am thankful to have known Ed and grateful to have shared family with him. Fly high, I will miss you.

Cath - January 15 at 01:50 AM

SC

“Eddie was always there for me. He listened, validated my feelings, and always took the time to care in a way that made me feel seen and understood.

As my Godparent, Eddie was a steady and loving presence in my life. He offered support without judgment and kindness without condition. Knowing I could turn to him meant more to me than I can ever fully express.

Eddie’s care was genuine and selfless. He showed up not because he had to, but because that was who he was. His love and patience has left a lasting impression on my heart.

Though I will miss him deeply, I am grateful for every moment, every conversation, and every quiet act of love. Eddie will always hold a special place in my heart, and his presence will be felt in my life forever.

Shannon Cochenour - January 14 at 10:50 PM

CK

“ Cathy Kingsbury purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Ed Olleman.



Cathy Kingsbury - January 14 at 09:34 PM

TF

“ The Hubbard Family purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Ed Olleman.



The Hubbard Family - January 14 at 01:37 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ed Olleman.



January 14 at 12:25 PM

MI

“ From the track to the other side of the world, you loved to explore and learn about those around you. You will be missed!



micki - January 14 at 10:29 AM

MI

“ Oh Uncle Ed! Always up for a good time



micki - January 14 at 10:27 AM



“ Eddie and I go way back, at least 60 years and in those early years, we spent many all nighters at his house after his mom passed away. Too many memories to count. One that I hold dear is going out to dinner with he and Diane at Eagle Creek a few years back. It was great just to hang out with them. Blessings on you, Diane and your daughters. May the Lord give you strength and peace.

Stan Hayduk - January 13 at 11:21 PM

PL

“ I was sorry to hear about Ed. We shared war stories fighting cancer. Now you're an angel no more suffering. I will continue the fight for you. Diane and family I'm sorry for your loss. Wednesday half price dinner won't be the same!! 🙏

Pamela Littleford - January 13 at 04:37 PM

DR

“ God Bless all his family!! I remember him well from my 7th grade. He was a great friend in those days!! Wish I could have known his family!!

Debra Rightmyer - January 13 at 04:48 AM

RD

“ Ed was such a gentle, caring soul... He always had a funny story to tell to make you laugh. He touched so many lives and will be missed dearly by everyone who knew him... Continue to honor him with your family traditions, and know he is watching and smiling with such pride! Love you Olleman family and prayers for you all thru this difficult time....Steve and Robin



Robin DeArth - January 12 at 10:04 PM

LT

“ Larry Tooley lit a candle in memory of Ed Olleman



Larry Tooley - January 12 at 08:06 PM

AM

“ Ed & Diane have been great next door neighbors. Some of the nicest people you could know. I remember walking over to their house to babysit for Cybil & Natalie many, many years ago. My thoughts & prayers are with Diane, Cybil & Natalie in this difficult time.



Ann Meece - January 12 at 06:11 PM

CT

“ Diane and family so sorry for the loss of Ed. You are in our prayers 🙏💕 jim and cindy Tuck

Cynthia Tuck - January 12 at 06:03 PM

LA

“ I didn't know him as well as others. But he was always friendly when I did see him. I enjoyed talking to him. He was one of the few people left that knew my grandparents and it was always fun listening to him talk about them.



Laura - January 12 at 04:56 PM

DN

“ Sending deepest condolences to the entire Olleman family. Our hearts are so sad for the loss of Ed. He will be missed so much! Diane, Cybil, Natalie - sending love and prayers ❤️

Diane Neff - January 12 at 04:35 PM

ST

“ RIP Eddie. So sorry for your loss Deenie, Cybil & Natalie and entire family. You are in our thoughts and prayers.



Susan & Lance Tennison - January 12 at 11:33 AM

DC

“ Maria and I send our prayers and sincerest condolences to Diane and the entire family. Ed was a friend and very good man with a great sense of humor. Heaven gained a very special angel.

Danny & Maria Chenault - January 12 at 09:49 AM

LF

Prayers and condolences to Diane and family

Loretta Faulkenberg - January 12 at 10:03 AM

SW

“ Our deepest heartfelt sympathy to a Diane and family. We are so sorry for your loss. Eddie was a tremendous husband, father and friend. I hold to the memories of that friendship. R. I. P. my friend.

Steve and Jane Willett - January 11 at 03:38 PM

JC

“ Jan Holcomb Cummick lit a candle in memory of Ed Olleman



Jan Holcomb Cummick - January 11 at 03:26 PM

LS

“ Love you all, Cathy Stopczynski purchased the Forever in Our Hearts LED Musical Water Globe for the family of Ed Olleman.



Love you all, Cathy Stopczynski - January 11 at 02:43 PM

LC

“ Prayers n Condolences to Diane n all the family ...
We hav known the family most of r life n what great friends - I babysit Eddie n Debbie when I was n high school many years ago.
Blessings



Larry & Carolyn Clements - January 11 at 01:22 PM

PF

“ Ed was a mentor and friend to me on the Monrovia Town Council. He was one of the first members of the first official Town Council when it was formed in 1995. And he was is 4th president. He also served on the Plan Commission and the BZA. I shall miss him and Monrovia has lost a remarkable man!

Philip L Fowler - January 11 at 01:08 PM

VA

“ Virginia Page Austermiller lit a candle in memory of Ed Olleman



Virginia Page Austermiller - January 11 at 12:52 PM

JH

“ It is with a heavy heart I write this. Eddie has been a friend since early childhood when we met in kindergarten. After graduation from Monrovia High School, I moved away, built a career and raised a family. Eddie was doing the same in Monrovia. We rekindled our friendship six years ago just prior to the pandemic and both of us maintained steady contact. Eddie was always interested in others, never boastful of his own accomplishments which were many. He had a servant's heart. He supported me in my vocation as a professional artist, showing up at many of my solo and group shows throughout central Indiana over the last several years. I have been blessed by his unconditional friendship and will miss him dearly. Eddie occupies a special place in my heart and memory. Rest in Christ's arms, dear friend. The struggle is over.

James W Hubbard - January 11 at 12:07 PM

BM

Loss of a dear childhood friend and lifelong family friendships. First memorable contact was First grade. Taking a class "Sunshine Box" of classmate's get well cards & gifts. Eddie had had a tonsillectomy where ether anesthesia nearly killed him. Eddie & I were same ages, as were our sisters.

Due to his extensive recuperation, Eddie repeated first grade. But, I and others always considered him part of 1970 class. His kindnesses, caring, many, many community contributions

And so much more inspired many to do better.

May heartfelt prayers for all of Eddie's family and friends. God bless you.

Brenda Morgan - January 11 at 02:05 PM



You will be missed by many. I will never forget all of the fun years we played euchre! You were a tough one to beat.

My thoughts, love, and prayers continue for your wonderful family.

Julie Fields - January 12 at 06:41 PM

DO

“ *Denise Oxford lit a candle in memory of Ed Olleman*



Denise Oxford - January 11 at 11:24 AM

SL

“ *Thanks you for being the best big brother a girl could ever have 🍷 I will cherish the memories in my heart forever and pretty sure I might even hear some new stories about you as time marches on.*

Godspeed my brother / my friend

Shawntel Light - January 11 at 10:56 AM

PF

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Philip L Fowler - January 11 at 11:11 AM

DW

I will miss my one and only brother so much. He was always there if I ever needed him and I will always cherish those precious memories we had. I am so happy you finally get to be with mom, dad, grandma and grandpa and plan on seeing you all someday too❤️❤️

Deborah Williams - January 11 at 11:32 AM

RF

*Ed and I have been good friends for many years. I will miss my friend.
RIP
Dianne and the family are in our prayers* 🙏❤️
Roger and Cindy Fouty

Roger Fouty - January 11 at 06:48 PM

JC

We are deeply saddened to learn of Eddie's passing. We have so many fond memories of evenings spent at the Olleman residence with dear friends. It was nice visiting with Eddie and Dianne after so many years at the 50 year Mooresville HS class of 1970 reunion where she was taking pictures and he was her assistant.

RIP brother. You'll be missed.

Jay and Diane Curry

Jay Curry - January 14 at 04:52 PM