



Mark Owen Elder

April 24, 1958 - January 31, 2018

EATON, Ohio – Mark Owen Elder, age 59, of Eaton, Ohio, died unexpectedly Wednesday, January 31, 2018, at his home after a short illness.

Mark was born on April 24, 1958, in Detroit, Michigan, to Bruce E. and Suzanne M. Norton Elder. He graduated from the Academy of the New Church in Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania, and attended Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. Mark was an entrepreneur and a founder and partner of many growing businesses in Michigan and Indiana. Mark's passions include the General Church of the New Jerusalem and many other organizations, including "TEAM" youth basketball. He enjoyed golf and coaching and playing basketball.

Survivors include his wife of 34 years, Julie Ann LaFuze Elder; daughters, Ashley (Will) Johnston of Virginia and Jordan (John) Sheehan of Richmond, Indiana; son, Arie (Cree) Elder of Richmond; granddaughter, Harley-Madison Rose Johnston; mother and stepfather, Suzanne and Don Cochrane; one sister; six brothers; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Terry and Nancy LaFuze of Richmond; sister-in-law, Sherri (John) Fansher of Noblesville, Indiana; nieces; nephews; cousins; and many friends and team members.

He was preceded in death by his father; daughter, Madison Alyse; and son, Addison Kirk.

A memorial visitation for Mark Owen Elder will be from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, February 8, 2018, at Doan & Mills Funeral Home, 790 National Road West, Richmond. A memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, February 10, 2018, at the Oak Arbor Church, 495 Oak Arbor Circle West, Rochester, Michigan with Rev. Derek Elphick officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to: Oak Arbor Church School, 495 Oak Arbor Circle West, Rochester, MI 48306.

Condolences may be sent to the family via the guest book at www.doanmillsfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

FEB **8**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Doan & Mills Funeral Home
790 National Road West
Richmond, IN

Memorial Service

FEB **10**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Oak Arbor Church
495 Oak Arbor Circle West
Rochester, MI

Tribute Wall

TN

“ *I simply can't believe what I just learned about Mark. It hit me like a brick, and I am so very sorry for your family's loss.*

Mark joined the MAPP association nearly 20 years ago. He was one of the early believers in MAPP - understanding that people could join forces under one industry and literally help each other.

I am thankful each day for people like Mark who understand that the pursuit of profit is nothing without the pursuit of purpose.

My thoughts are with your family.

Troy Nix

Troy Nix - March 22, 2018 at 02:05 PM

BP

“ *We are sorry to hear of Mark's passing, our thoughts and prayers to the Elder family during this difficult time.*

From the Carriage Services family



Brijesh Patel - March 20, 2018 at 12:40 PM

AV

“ *Julie:*

We extend our deepest sympathies to you and your family during this difficult time.

Concept Caskets

Alberto Villarreal - February 14, 2018 at 10:28 AM

BJ

“ Know of our continued thoughts and prayers for the Elder Family yesterday, today and forever.

Brian A. Joseph

Chas. Verheyden, Inc.

Brian Joseph - February 12, 2018 at 07:31 AM

DE

“ So sorry to hear of Mark's passing! We didn't know him personally but heard so many wonderful things about him. I know he will be missed greatly by all of his family, friends and many acquaintances.

May God be with you always and especially during this difficult time.

Sincerely, Mike & Debby Resh

Debby - February 08, 2018 at 06:45 PM

JP

“ My Father Jack Phillippe and myself Dealt with Mark on and off for almost 40 years at Elder Davis and Vandor. He was a great guy and always asked Me about my Dad. I am very sorry for Your loss.

Sincerely

John Phillippe

john Phillippe - February 08, 2018 at 03:27 PM

PW

“It is with profound sadness that I have just learned of Mark’s passing. My wife, Cyndee, and I sat with Mark, Julie and Arie on the cruise on Lake Michigan at the CANA convention in 2016. We so enjoyed getting to know you and sharing the evening together. It was so evident that Mark was truly a good man. I know he will be richly rewarded for his Earthly work in his Heavenly home.

May your family be comforted by fond memories of fun family times together. May Mark rest in God’s peace.

*Sincerely,
Paul E. White, LFD
Sarasota, FL*

Paul White - February 08, 2018 at 01:57 PM

PG

“Julie and Family:
We are so sadden by the news of Mark's passing. We send our deepest sympathies, support and love to the family of such a wonderful man. Words can't begin to describe our admiration and respect for Mark and his approach to life, family and profession. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.
Warmest regards;
Pete and Karen Galletly

Pete & Karen Galletly - February 07, 2018 at 12:13 PM

AM

“Julie, our thoughts and prayers aren’t with you and the kids during this difficult time.

Andrea Miller - February 06, 2018 at 09:10 PM

AM

****thoughts and prayers are with you*

Andrea Miller - February 06, 2018 at 09:18 PM

TR

“ Julie

I am so grateful that we came and visited for 4-5 days in mid January. You were both such gracious hosts and your home is absolutely beautiful. Our heartfelt condolences on the sudden loss of Mark. He will be remembered as a man that gave of himself for others. He touched so many people through his work, church and coaching. Being around him was a joy. He was always positive and impacted so many people in that same positive manner. I consider myself blessed and grateful to have shared his friendship over the past 20 years. I thank God that we made that trip in January. I know it meant a lot to Rick, Joe and myself and I believe it meant a lot to Mark as well. We surely had happy times sharing meals, laughs and of course, watching and talking about basketball. He will be missed but he will be remembered by me for all the good he did for others and all the enjoyment we shared. We are here for you if you need anything.

*God Bless
Tom & Kathy Roessel*

Tom Roessel - February 06, 2018 at 05:06 PM

MM

“ Mike, Lois, Jeanette, Rod, Kyle, Mar, KM Merrick purchased the Cheryl's Classic Large Dessert Tray for the family of Mark Owen Elder.



Mike, Lois, Jeanette, Rod, Kyle, Mar, KM Merrick - February 06, 2018 at 04:37 PM

MO

“ *Mark was a smart, kind and gentle man. I will always remember him as he was the day I met him almost thirty years ago, happy and friendly!*

Michael Osmeyer

Michael Osmeyer - February 06, 2018 at 04:06 PM

BH

“ *We are so sorry to hear of the passing of Mark. Our sincere sympathies to his family and friends. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

*The Pettigrew Family
Pettigrew & Sons Casket Co.*

Barbara Pettigrew Hart - February 06, 2018 at 02:49 PM

BK

“ *On behalf of the CANA board staff, I extend our sincere condolences. Mark was a valued and respected member of the CANA family and we will miss his smile and gentle, encouraging words.*

Barbara Kemmis - February 06, 2018 at 02:17 PM

VD

“ *From our Richmond days, I remember Mark as such a kind and gentle man. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Julie and family.*
Vera Dyck

Vera Dyck - February 06, 2018 at 09:32 AM

JS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Joe Seley - February 05, 2018 at 11:23 PM

JS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Joe Seley - February 05, 2018 at 09:32 PM

JS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Joe Seley - February 05, 2018 at 09:27 PM

JS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Joe Seley - February 05, 2018 at 09:21 PM

JS

Joe in his air force flight suit, and Mark in his afro!

Joe Seley - February 05, 2018 at 09:22 PM

JS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Joe Seley - February 05, 2018 at 09:20 PM

JS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Joe Seley - February 05, 2018 at 09:18 PM

LV

“ *Julie and family
Thoughts and prayers for all of you in this sorrowful time*

Linda Vogelgesang - February 05, 2018 at 03:14 PM

GB

“ *I was privileged to serve with Mark on the General Church board for several years. He made many valuable contributions to our deliberations, His independent thinking, his clarity of thought, and his persistence in the face of mere conventional wisdom, were wonderful traits that I very much appreciated. I am grateful for having known him and celebrate his remarkable life of use. "Well done thou good and faithful servant."*

Gregory Baker

Gregory Baker - February 05, 2018 at 11:40 AM

JS

Thanks Gregory.

Joe Seley - February 05, 2018 at 09:33 PM



“ *Kosher Tower of Treats was purchased for the family of Mark Owen Elder.*



February 05, 2018 at 10:43 AM

LH

“ *Lauren Harrill purchased the Living Life Memorial Framed Art for the family of Mark Owen Elder.*



Lauren Harrill - February 05, 2018 at 10:37 AM

JD

“ *Our heartfelt condolences and prayers to Julie, Ashley, Arie, Jordan, Alan, Teal, and the entire Elder family. We have been blessed to know Mark through the Vandor-Starmark team.*

Keith and Julane Davis

Julane Davis - February 05, 2018 at 08:59 AM

JC

“ *We remember spending so much time with this sweet couple when the twins were born. I vividly remember the hospital, and the memorial park at the time of Addison's service. Sending so much love to Julie, Ashley, Jordan and Arie, and all the family. What a great man Mark is!*

Jennifer Cole - February 05, 2018 at 07:37 AM

SN

“ *To Julie, the kids, and the entire Elder family our heartfelt condolences during this difficult time. Mark will be missed by many who had the pleasure of knowing and working with him. Chris and I will be thinking and praying during this time. Big hugs to all.*
Chris and Sherry Nuzum

Sherry & Chris Nuzum - February 04, 2018 at 09:51 PM

MA

“ *My heartfelt sympathy, hugs and prayers to the entire family. He was loved and respected by all who knew him. Mary Helen Austin.*

Mary Helen Austin - February 04, 2018 at 09:36 PM

VK

“ *I remember attending Mark and Julie's wedding with my Mom, Julia Kolasa. What an enjoyable occasion it was. The Kolasa/ Elder friendship has gone on for over 60 years because our Dad's Henry Kolasa and Bruce Elder were business acquaintances. As a result of their strong friendship our families grew to know each other.*

Mark will be sorely missed by so many. Until we meet again Mark!



Vickie Kolasa

Victoria R. Kolasa - February 04, 2018 at 03:59 AM

JM

“ *I grew up with Mark at Vandor Corp. I remember the 1st day he came to work and start learning the business. We shared an office on South J St. and on Straight Line Pike. He was a GOOD person and father. I miss the time we spent together growing Vandor in the early years. I have not seen or spoke to Mark since I was asked to leave Vandor 15 years ago but wished I had. He will be missed by all who knew him Thank you Mark for all you had taught me over the years. May God Bless you and your family. Mark you have done well, Rest In Peace Jay Mayberry*

Jay Mayberry - February 03, 2018 at 08:53 PM

BD

“ Mark was such a stellar, classy individual.
Born in Michigan and lived there many years, but to me he was
always a “ Hoosier”
And perhaps the greatest Hoosier I knew
His pure class was unsurpassed in my eyes
RIP Mark
I know you are watching over your beautiful family with great pride

Brian Doyle

brian doyle - February 03, 2018 at 11:27 AM

TL

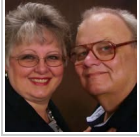
“ Mark was a true gentlemen in every sense of the word. We were
blessed to have known him. He made the world a better place and
was an inspiration to all who knew him. We pray that his family and
friends will be comforted.

TLD - February 03, 2018 at 11:12 AM

BB

“ We are thankful for the privilege of knowing Mark as a outstanding
Coach, businessman. mentor and friend for so many years. We
grieve with everyone that has ever been touched by his presents.
We are grateful for the positive impact he has given to our family.
He will always be loved and NEVER forgotten.
Love, The Bolhuis Family

Brian & Jackie Bolhuis - February 03, 2018 at 10:42 AM



“ *Worked with Mark at Elder Davis. I remember how he was always upbeat, positive and excited about everything he did. I am forever blessed because our paths crossed in life. Hugs and prayers to the entire family.*

---Debi Toschlog Brim / Indpls IN

Debi Toschlog Brim - Indiana - February 03, 2018 at 09:37 AM

SH

“ *Sarah Hellrung lit a candle in memory of Mark Owen Elder*

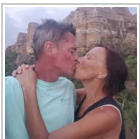


Sarah Hellrung - February 03, 2018 at 09:05 AM



“ *So sorry to hear this, prayers to your whole family, especially Julie, Jordan, and Arie!*

Stephen Resh - February 03, 2018 at 07:46 AM



“ *2 files added to the album New Album Name*



Joseph Viereckl - February 02, 2018 at 10:19 PM

SD

“ *Sending our thoughts and prayers during this time of loss. Our condolences. Shane Delroy & family.*

Shane Delroy - February 02, 2018 at 08:38 PM

TH

“ *A man of gentle spirit and great peace. He will be missed by all who knew him. Julie and family, may God's grace see you through. Would love to tell Mark thanks again for all that he did for Frank and all the kids with TEAM basketball. He left a lasting impression and we will always be grateful for his kindness and generosity. The Guidice Family.*

Therese - February 02, 2018 at 07:36 PM

JW

“ *My wife and I are thankful for the privilege of knowing Mark & Julie for 26 years as neighbors, Godparents to our kids & valued friends. I know of no man in whom God's light shone brighter every waking day. Mark will be missed. Dr & Mrs. J. Witt*

JL Witt - February 02, 2018 at 07:13 PM

 Ryan
Plough
Sr.

“ *I worked for Mark 30 years ago when I was first starting out with my family at Vandor. Mark helped me and my family a lot. Mark was a great person and cared about everyone he will be missed by all. Ryan Plough & Family*

Ryan Plough Sr. - February 02, 2018 at 06:10 PM

CF

“ I'm grateful for having known Mark for almost 20 years. He was kind, considerate and dedicated. He saw something in a 20 something Chad that I didn't see. It's a debt I can never pay. His generosity of spirit lives on in his wonderful family. He will be greatly missed by all privileged enough to have met him.

Chad Eversole & Family - February 02, 2018 at 05:31 PM

CM

“ Always loved seeing him at all the conventions. He sure is going to be missed by everyone at Cherokee. Praying for his Starmark family and personal family.

Casey Mims - February 02, 2018 at 03:58 PM

KE

“ Mark was a great man. He was extremely devoted to the Starmark , Vision and CJ Boots teams. He will be greatly missed. His legacy of kindness will remain with all that had the privilege to know and work with and for him.

Kellon - February 02, 2018 at 03:53 PM

DS

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time.

David Lydick and the Doan & Mills Staff - February 02, 2018 at 03:25 PM

GF

Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you...What a truly talented gifted man.He loved the Lord, his family and had a passion for his work. He truly led by example and what a wonderful legacy he has left to live on in all of you.

Gary Linda Fansher - February 03, 2018 at 05:09 PM

SC

My thoughts and prayers are with your family.

Shannon Carter-Carpenter - February 03, 2018 at 08:01 PM

MA

Mark and I went to to royal oak Dondero together. His family lived right across the street in a huge home. Mark went to my graduation party at somerset hotel. So sorry to he of his passing so young.

Mark Jablonski

markjablonski - June 21, 2021 at 07:24 AM