



Carl Edward Coleman

May 22, 1954 - October 30, 2025

Carl Edward Coleman, affectionately known as Ed or “Papa Ed,” peacefully went to be with his Lord, Jesus Christ, on Thursday, October 30, 2025, at the age of 71, after a courageous battle with esophageal cancer.

Visitation will be held at Dryer Funeral Home on Saturday, November 1, 2025, from 5:00 to 9:00 PM and on Sunday, November 2, 2025, from 2:00 to 9:00 PM. A Celebration of Life will take place at Holly Calvary Church, located at 15010 North Holly Rd., Holly, Michigan, on Monday, November 3, 2025, at 11:00 AM, followed by a luncheon.

A lifelong resident of Holly, Michigan, Ed was born on May 22, 1954, in Gastonia, North Carolina, to Carl Coleman and Nancy (“Gladys”) Coleman. Ed was a proud graduate of Holly High School, Class of 1972, and dedicated over 53 years to his business, Coleman & Sons Garage, which he owned and operated with passion. He was not only a successful businessman but also an active member of the Holly community, including Christmas in Action, and a parishioner at Holly Calvary Church. Ed was a giving member of the community, making generous contributions to various organizations, including the Holly Dickens Festival, the Fourth of July Fireworks, Holly Schools’ Project Graduation, and Wednesday Night Car Shows, to name a few.

Ed cherished his time spent outdoors, enjoying activities such as e-biking, kayaking, hiking, snowmobiling, motorcycling, and dirtbiking with his beloved wife, Debra Coleman. Together, they traveled extensively across the United States, creating lasting memories with family and friends. Ed loved gatherings with family and friends, equipping others, solving problems, and had a heart for serving others.

He is survived by his loving wife, Debra Coleman, and children: daughter Nicole Coleman (Scott Wawrzyniak) of Gregory, Michigan, and stepchildren Lisa (Nathan) Taylor of Clio, Michigan; Derek (Wendy) Hillman of Clarkston, Michigan; and Nicole (Randy) Foor of Fenton, Michigan. Ed was a proud grandfather to Chloe (David) Asebiode, Derek Jr. (Katie) Hillman, Kirsten Foor, Anna Hillman, Alaina Taylor, Randie Foor, Addison Taylor, Rashontae (Ben) Patton, Elizabeth Wawrzyniak, Thomas Wawrzyniak, Anna Thomas, and Jenna Thomas. He also leaves behind his great-grandchildren: Evelyn Hillman, Mason Patton, Shiloh Asebiode, and Zayden Hillman. Ed is survived by his siblings, Dr. Steven Coleman (Heather Upchurch) and Nancy (Greg) Schroth. He was predeceased by his parents, Carl Coleman and Nancy ("Gladys") Coleman.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Holly Calvary Church or LifeWise Academy of Holly (<https://lifewise.org/giftthankyou/> or make a check payable to LifeWise Academy and mail it to: L-4327 Columbus, OH 43260-4327, include in memo Holly Schools 48442).

Ed will be remembered for his infectious spirit, love for his "Ed" adventures, and the profound impact he had on the lives of those around him. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 1. 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Dryer Funeral Home
101 First St.
Holly, MI 48442
<http://dryerfuneralhomeholly.com>

Visitation

NOV 2. 2:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Dryer Funeral Home
101 First St.
Holly, MI 48442
<http://dryerfuneralhomeholly.com>

Visitation

NOV 3. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Holly Calvary Church
15010 N Holly Rd
Holly, MI 48442-1902
(248) 634-9711

Celebration of Life

NOV 3. 11:00 AM (ET)

Holly Calvary Church
15010 N Holly Rd
Holly, MI 48442-1902
(248) 634-9711

Graveside Service

NOV 3 (ET)

Lakeside Cemetery
Holly, MI

Tribute Wall

JP

“ *Jaye Parker lit a candle in memory of Carl Coleman*



Jaye Parker - November 05, 2025 at 07:41 AM

CA

“ *I was fortunate to share some family events with Ed and Debbie. Ed was a very friendly and helpful person who shared his joy for life with everyone. May he rest in peace. Carole Taylor*



CaroleTaylor - November 03, 2025 at 10:31 AM

KW

“ *Karin Winchester lit a candle in memory of Carl Coleman*



Karin Winchester - November 03, 2025 at 10:25 AM

TL

“ *I am saddened by hearing of his passing ! I always loved watching him ride his bike past my shop during work ! He was a great heart in this community! Helped many ! He and his wife have a strong love for god and was always nice to see that ! Rest with the lord Ed your faith has earned your place I know !❤️ Tracy - Langco Jewelers*

Tracy Lang - November 02, 2025 at 12:29 PM

RF

“ *Robert Stokes and family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathi phyllum for the family of Carl Edward Coleman.*



Robert Stokes and family - November 02, 2025 at 10:43 AM

RF

“ Robert Stokes and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Carl Edward Coleman.

Robert Stokes and family - November 02, 2025 at 10:43 AM

HF

“ There are a few things that I've learned about Ed over the last 20 years, which demonstrated the caliber of the person he was. First, he will always help you if your car's broke down. It doesn't matter if your family or a friend of. Second, he is one of the most reliable people to help you move. He even shows up with an enormous trailer:). Third, I soon realized that he was a little overzealous with respect to outdoor activities. He literally turned a family van into a weekend warrior RV. But above all else, he was kind and I'll give you an example. My husband worked for a dealership as a technician for 17 years. He was paid flat-rate, which meant that if there were no cars to fix, there was no money to be made. Times were rough. We had 5 year old twins and struggled financially. Ed gave my husband a job at the shop that paid not hourly, but a weekly salary. This doesn't happen outside of working on fleet type vehicles. My husband worked for Ed for 5 years and learned so much. Ed was a great businessman, for sure, but he was also a good teacher and believed that continued education was his responsibility for his technicians. When COVID hit and the cars stopped coming in, Ed didn't let his workers suffer without pay. Ed made sure to keep his employees working by doing different things around some of the properties he owned. When DOGE was all the rage, Ed sent a text to my husband and told him that "if DOGE was going to end his position, he could always come back to the shop." These are the things that me and mine will remember about Ed. Love, the Frey Family.

Heather Frey - November 01, 2025 at 05:01 PM

DH

“ To our family, Ed's middle name was Dependable! When Dave was on the road and my car was stuck in mud or snow, had a flat tire or just wasn't running, I would call Ed. I just said, "I need the car ready to go at 7am tomorrow". Mr. Dependable made sure it was – dozens of times. Thanks, Ed Coleman, for making sure we could get to work. Rest in peace – we will miss you. Dave and Pat Huellmantel

Dave and Pat Huellmantel - November 01, 2025 at 04:48 PM

DA

“ Played tennis with Ed in high school. He was a great player with an amazing zest for life. We pray for his family, and remember the good times.

David Allan - November 01, 2025 at 01:22 PM

DK

“ Ed was a very nice person and will be missed by all. May he rest peacefully and without pain.

Eric and Diana Klein & Family



Diana Klein - November 01, 2025 at 12:06 PM

MG

“ Marti Addis Goforth lit a candle in memory of Carl Coleman



Marti Addis Goforth - November 01, 2025 at 11:44 AM



“ 25 files added to the album LifeTributes



Dryer Funeral Home, Inc. - November 01, 2025 at 10:20 AM

SE

“ I remember Eddie as a tall, skinny kid, riding his Sting-Ray bike down Hadley Street. Even with the banana seat and hi-rise handle bars, he still looked too long for little bike. Ironically, 60 years later, we acquired Ed and Deb's Magnum ebikes in a swap and caught their passion for the hobby. Forever grateful.

Sherlynn Everly and Jim Clark

Sherlynn Everly - November 01, 2025 at 09:27 AM

OP

“ O'Reilly Auto Parts purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Carl Edward Coleman.



O'Reilly Auto Parts - November 01, 2025 at 09:25 AM

JP

“ I went to school with Ed. We were classmates together, in Jr High, and High School. graduating in 1972. He will definitely be missed around the village, and the community. Rest in peace my friend.

Julie Parker - November 01, 2025 at 08:23 AM

LR

“ Lorne & Penny Winglemire Raupp lit a candle in memory of Carl Coleman



Lorne & Penny Winglemire Raupp - November 01, 2025 at 07:23 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Carl Edward Coleman.



November 01, 2025 at 12:08 AM

SB

“ Eddie gave me my first job as a mechanic when I was 19 years old. He taught me techniques that I still use today. That was 36 years ago. We became life long friends and when we weren't dirt bike riding or snowmobiling together we would frequently call each other to bounce an idea off each other if we were stumped with a problem. Always the optimist, Ed always had a pep in his step and a smile on his face. I will miss you my friend.

Stan Boyd - October 31, 2025 at 09:58 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Carl Edward Coleman.*



October 31, 2025 at 03:15 PM

SA

“ *Steve and LuAnn Alexander lit a candle in memory of Carl Coleman*



Steve and LuAnn Alexander - October 31, 2025 at 02:29 PM

JC

“ *I believe that Ed was a very good man and an asset to the community. I trusted him to work on my cars and and will be forever grateful that he was responsible for getting Sherlynn and I into ebikes. He will be missed.*

Jim Clark - October 31, 2025 at 02:07 PM

LY

“ *Linda Young sent a virtual gift in memory of Carl Coleman*



Linda Young - October 31, 2025 at 01:56 PM

BM

“ *Ed was a man of great faith and loved the Lord. He was my mechanic for 10 years. He was honest, trustworthy and very humble. He would often come and pick me up at my house when my car was ready and we would chat about everything under the sun. During the Christmas season he has a sign outside of his shop that read...CHRISTmas is the reason for the season. He was so selfless and cared about everyone and the community. We need more Ed Coleman's in this world. He will be greatly missed and prayers go out to his family during this tough time.*

brandon morton - October 31, 2025 at 12:39 PM



“ Ed has been helping us with our cars since we moved to holly some 30 years ago... he would pick up and drop off the car when our kids were very little..he came our kids graduation party's...so many memories it's hard to remember.. a true man of god he was..I hope holly does something special for him he is a true hero of holly.. I feel we were friends more than a customer.. we will miss you Ed Coleman.. the world needs more like you.. god bless all who have knew this man and his family.. Rest In Peace ..Chris ambrose

Chris Ambrose - October 31, 2025 at 11:02 AM