



Howard T. Handy

December 4, 1929 - December 11, 2021

On December 11, 2021, Howard T. Handy (Ted) went peacefully home to the Lord.

Born on December 4, 1929, Ted celebrated his 92nd birthday in his home, surrounded by family and friends. He is survived by the love of his life, Edith (Edie), following 68 years of marriage. Mr. Handy also leaves behind 4 children, Delsea Schaffer (Dave), Leanne Zilinski (the late Walter Zilinski), Trobie Thompson, (Tommy) , and Allen Handy (Sharon), 7 grandchildren and a host of great-step-and adopted children. He was preceded in death by his mother, Alice Stone, His Aunt who raised him-Maggie Toulson, and his father Howard K Handy.

Ted's love for navigation began in 1953 when he began driving tractor trailers out of Penns Grove for Parvins Transit and became a passion when he took on the role of school bus driver for the Penns Grove –Carneys Point school district. He was notorious for his ability to navigate anywhere within the tri-state area without a map, pre-dating the invention of the GPS. Mr. Handy especially loved driving bus for the high school band and various athletic teams. He was fond of recounting the many times he was on the road and could round up the other drivers for a quick bite at a nearby diner.

Soon after returning from the Korean War, Ted met Edie at the Riverview

skating rink, another story he loved to tell. He later began his life work of developing and building—by hand—10 acres of woods into Handys Mobile Home Park, a 45 unit establishment, which became a source of great memories for his family. Though he sold the park in his retirement, his children and grandchildren continue to boast of the many ingenious ways Ted made the park a resort-like family community.

In his retirement, Mr. Handy enjoyed working for Walt's crabs in Pennsville and volunteering at Habitat for Humanity ReStore with his daughter, Delsea. Finally Ted was a longtime, devoted member of the Cross Point Wesleyan Church in Carneys Point.

A Memorial Service for Howard T. Handy will be held Saturday, December 18 the Cross Point Wesleyan Church, 333 Georgetown Road, Carneys Point, NJ. Visitation will be from 3:00pm - 4:00pm. Service will begin at 4:00.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Wesleyan Church in his name.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 18. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Cross Point Wesleyan Church
333 Georgetown Road
Carneys Point, NJ 08069

Memorial Service

DEC 18. 4:00 PM (ET)

Cross Point Wesleyan Church
333 Georgetown Road
Carneys Point, NJ 08069

Tribute Wall

ES

“ *To all the Handy Families,
My family and I would like to extend our condolences for the loss of Ted. I lived next to Ted and Eddie for years before I bought my house. And my father before me. They are great people and would bend over backwards to help with anything. Every time they came into the Acme they made sure to stop and say Hi and ask how everyone was doing. I really missed them when I moved.*

Esther Pierson, Anna May Pierson, and Betty Ann Dilks

Esther - December 19, 2021 at 11:49 AM

TT

“ Today is my dad’s Memorial Service—a celebration of his 92 years of life, well lived. December 4, 1929 – December 11, 2021. When I think of my dad, several memories come to mind, but here are a few that I would like to share. Last night, we were watching a movie. One of the characters commented about getting seasick on a boat. That reminded me of the time when I couldn’t have been any more than 5 or 6 years old. The family was riding on one of those ferries—I think it was the Cape May-Lewes Ferry—anyway, it was at least a 2 hour ride. I got seasick. I remember my dad taking me to the little food shop on the ferry and getting me some saltine crackers and a soda. All the while, telling me how to overcome the seasickness while telling me about his seasickness experience from his Army days when he was sent to Korea during the Korean War. I don’t know why, but it helped me feel a whole lot better.

I posted a picture of my dad with my horse, Rowdy. I love this picture. The picture was taken just before mom and dad presented Rowdy to me. They didn’t have much money, but somehow my parents managed to scrap up enough to give me my dream. From the moment I was born, I wanted a horse. Horses were all I thought about and wanted. My dad fenced off a section of land in the trailer park—using existing trees to wrap the fencing wire around—and built a lean-to. While I was in school, he made sure Rowdy was fed during the day. He took care of all the blacksmith and vet appointments. We would go to the Woodstown Feed store periodically to get Rowdy’s grain. And I don’t know how dad did it, but whenever we needed to get hay, he would load up his little Toyota truck with what seemed to be between 40 and 50 bales of hay. Those bales were hanging several feet over the side of the truck, on top of the truck’s cab, and several rows high. He would drive the back roads at no more than about 30 mph and then unload and stack all those bales in the storage trailer. If ever there was a testament to dad’s packing ability, this was it!

Dad loved driving the PGHS school buses and always drove the lead bus for the high school band competitions. I don’t know when

he started doing that—probably the year Penns Grove High School began competing. But he drove all the years my older sister, Leanne, was in the band as well as those four years for me and my brother Allen’s four years. He continued to drive the lead bus for many, many years after his kids had graduated high school. He was a “staple” for those Penns Grove High School band competitions.

Dad was well known for his navigational ability. Long before GPS guidance systems became a standard app on everyone’s cell phone, we needed to find out how to travel to various locations either by reading a map or writing down the directions. We would frequently ask dad how to get to a location, and he would instantly rattle off at least three different ways. All included a McDonald’s as a landmark along the way (LOL) and the option to “shoot across” via one roadway to get to another roadway. As our eyes glazed over, we would give dad the time-out sign and ask for just ONE set of directions—the easiest, most direct! We would always get to our destination by following his guidance. I once told dad he had a road map in his head. He loved that!

I would like to thank all of those that shared their memories of my dad. He made such a wonderful impact on this community. His years of driving the school buses as well as the Wesleyan Church bus for Sunday School, annual Vacation Bible School, and monthly roller skating trips to the Franklinville Skating rink. So many of my childhood friends knew my dad and thought highly of him. Seeing all the posts about him mean soooooo much to my mom and my family members. It’s heartwarming to see the positive impact my dad had on so many people. Those mean more than you can know to my dad’s family. Thank you!

Trobie (Handy) Thompson

Trobie (Handy) Thompson - December 18, 2021 at 12:49 PM

DC

Beautifully written Trobie. Your dad touched so many lives, mine included.

Deanna Clark - December 18, 2021 at 04:55 PM



Trobie, you have had some great memories of your father! I am sorry Doug & I were unable to attend the service today. Doug & I have a lot of memories also. The 10 years we spent at Carneys Point Wesleyan in ministry. Doug was very involved with your family. And then there were the years as a child I would attend with my grandfaher. God Bless and bring your family peace and comfort in the days ahead.

*Fondly,
Doug & Karen Heckman*

Karen Heckman - December 18, 2021 at 05:56 PM

TT

Beautifully written. I know he was one of your major influences in life. Your dad would be proud of your comments.

Tommy Thompson - December 20, 2021 at 11:56 AM

RH

are you from the Handy's from West Meath, Ireland. We are?

Roanna Handy - February 02, 2025 at 06:16 PM

LP

“*Dear Delsea and family,
Was so sorry to read of your father's passing. I only knew him briefly from my short stint as a substitute driver for Wyshinkski's....He was a true genteman and a good man.*

May God grant him eternal rest and peace and may his memory be eternal.

*Sincerely,
Liz Pappas, PV*

liz pappas - December 18, 2021 at 07:53 AM

JH

“ I would like to express my condolences to the family of Mr. Handy , he was a wonderful person who was known and will always be remembered as the " # 1 BUS DRIVER" he was also Good friends with my Dad Cliff from Clines Trucking. he use to take the P G H S wrestling team to away matches , and he did not sit on the bus , he sat in the stands and cheered us on. and when we had a home match and didn't need a bus , he would again be in the stands cheering us on. and Parvin's had one bus that was a coach bus ,and sometimes we would ask Mr. Handy to bring Bus # 10 next time, he would reply I will see what I Can do. as it was always a treat when Mr. Handy arrived with Bus # 10. Thank You for being the wonderful person that you were. May you "Rest in Peace"



Jerry Hall

Jerry Hall - December 16, 2021 at 09:39 PM

DA

“ Deepest condolences to the Entire family of Mr. Handy. So sorry to hear of this sad news. He was such a really nice man I remember of him as a young girl & he was like every child's pop pop who got on his bus, always joking with us kids, where ever & whenever he took us, either band. Bible /church, skating rink. Rest in heavenly peace Mr. Handy 🙏🙏

Dawn - December 16, 2021 at 06:10 PM

MN

“ I met Mr. Handy at Habitat Restore. He would come in to see if we needed any help. He was fun-loving and liked to make us laugh. RIP Mr Handy. Prayers to the family, he was a beloved man💔

Maryanne Spatola Nolan - December 15, 2021 at 01:13 PM

TM

“ He drove the Police Explorers on many long trips, always had a smile. He was a very good person. God Bless.

Tom McDonough - December 15, 2021 at 08:47 AM

DT

“ He loved all of his students he drove and cared for us all like family. Rest In Peace Mr. Handy

Dawn Troupe - December 14, 2021 at 09:59 PM

JR

“ Best Bus Driver Ever!



JoAnne Harvey Rankin - December 14, 2021 at 09:11 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Howard T. Handy.



December 14, 2021 at 08:25 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Howard T. Handy.



December 14, 2021 at 07:22 PM



“ So very sorry to hear of “Teddy Bear’s” passing. He was my school bus driver for a long time & was also a big part of the Wesleyan Church when we attended. Our sincere condolences to Edie, Delsea & the rest of the family. He will be missed.

Sharon & Kerry Bradford - December 14, 2021 at 03:45 PM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Howard T. Handy.



December 14, 2021 at 02:52 PM



“ So sorry to hear this, We lived in the mobile home park when I was a kid, great memories, prayers to the family. Lorrie(Henry) Honaker

lorrie honaker - December 14, 2021 at 02:49 PM

DS

“ I will always remember Mr. Handy driving the bus to our many band competitions as well as taking us to many sporting events. He was always so pleasant but he didn't tolerate poor behavior on his bus. RIP, Mr. Handy.

Deb Sillery - December 14, 2021 at 11:57 AM