



## Merwin "Mel" E. Williams

June 2, 1927 - September 15, 2016

Merwin E. "Mel" Williams, age 89, died Thursday, September 15, 2016 at Sannes-Skogdalen Heim Nursing Home in Soldiers Grove, WI. He was born on June 2, 1927 in Ontario, Wisconsin the son of Earl & Winnie (Potts) Williams. On July 26, 1948 he married Wanda Mae Vandervort.

Survivors include his sister, Darlene Cooley of La Farge, WI; 3 daughters, Sally Achenbach (friend Jerry Fischer) of Boscobel, Sherry Santine Hearn (Don) of Montana, Sara (Steve) Law of Wyoming; as well as four grandchildren, Rachel Santine, Travis Law, Taryn Law and Rick Achenbach; two great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews; a few special friends, Ben and Renee Haugh of Indiana.

He was preceded death by his loving wife, Wanda; his parents; siblings, Helen Russell, Woodrow Williams, Dorothy Wagner, Otis Williams, Bud Williams; and a grandson, Grant Achenbach.

As per his wishes, there will be no formal funeral services. Merwin and Wanda's ashes will be co-mingled and buried in the Bear Creek Cemetery near La Farge, privately at a later date by the family.

The Clary Memorial Funeral Home in Richland Center assisted the family with arrangements. On line condolences can be made at [www.clarymemorialfuneralhome.com](http://www.clarymemorialfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *The first band that I'd ever played in was with Mel Williams' "Good And Country." Mel was a wonderful mentor for an aspiring musician. He was a master showman and excellent singer. The summer of '80 was the beginning of my musical journey, and I thank God that it started with Mr. Williams. Rest in peace my friend.*

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**Scott Wyman** - January 30, 2019 at 05:45 AM

YD

“ *Your HCC Fine Arts & Humanities Department purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Merwin "Mel" E. Williams.*



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**Your HCC Fine Arts & Humanities Department** - September 22, 2016 at 06:24 PM

EG

“ *Phyllis McCoy and family send their condolences; Mel and Wanda were good friends of my mother, Phyllis, and my late father, Donald. We all enjoyed their visits to their "Oil City" farm and also their visits to Bethany Heights Assisted living in Holmen,,Wi. Mel always said that Mom was like a sister to him. We will miss you!*



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**Elaine Gran** - September 20, 2016 at 05:18 PM

KP

“ *Grandpa Mel, there are no words to express the sadness in my heart. I loved our chats, you always treated me like family. I am so thankful that Rachel and I got to come visit in February. We had a great day out in the beautiful weather. Give Grammy a big hug for me...I love you both.*

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**Kelly Potter** - September 19, 2016 at 06:58 PM

RS

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



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**Rachel Santine** - September 19, 2016 at 04:00 PM

RS

“ 2 files added to the album Grandpa and Grandma



Rachel Santine - September 19, 2016 at 03:57 PM

RS

*These pictures were taken just a few months ago...*

Rachel Santine - September 19, 2016 at 04:03 PM

SH

*Rachel, so sorry to hear of your loss. Mom, Judie Jacobson and I were talking about all the fun times with your family. We are sending blessings your way!*

SUZAN M Harris - September 22, 2016 at 11:41 AM

RS

“ 1 file added to the album Grandpa and Grandma



Rachel Santine - September 19, 2016 at 03:55 PM

RS

*This picture of my amazing grandparents was taken just after they moved to Sannes. Thank you to Sannes Skogdalen Nursing Home staff for your care and concern for them. I appreciate all the special things you did for them.*

Rachel Santine - September 19, 2016 at 04:02 PM

DE

“ *Darlene I think of your family often and the family band I danced to many times and hired them when I was in the bar business. my sympathy and hope your well*  
*Delores Fargen*

Delores - September 18, 2016 at 01:07 PM

RH

“ You know, there are so many great memories of spending time with Mel and Wanda ! From Gold panning in Colorado to fishing the Arkansas River. Ben Haugh and Mel played music from Wisconsin to Colorado and back ! From Cripple Creek CO.to Woodland Park to Rockton Bar in WI. Where ever they were they always had a good time playing music ! We had house parties in Colo. Springs and always had music !

Mel was a true Master of Ceremonies sharing comments and compliments with his audiences. His band consisted of Marty Middlestead on bass, Denny Schultie on sax and vocals, Herb Crouch lead guitar, Ben Haugh on lead piano, and Mel on guitar, vocals and announcing. A great dance band and a good time was had by all ! From Country Clubs to Honky Tonks to Nashville Tenn. and back!

Mel and Ben cut their last cd know as the Elderly Brothers. It was recorded in La Farge, WI.

Mel had two songs picked out for the celebration of his life, one was Fairwell Party sang by Gene Watson and the other was Danny Boy. When you hear these songs think of Mel !

Blessed be the memories of Mel and his wife Wanda Mae. Renee Haugh

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**Renee Haugh** - September 17, 2016 at 09:26 PM

LM

“ wow, I use to work for Mel on a couple of Log home and he was a good neighbor on Bear Creek. he was a good teacher of building, log home and always had a good stories to tell , when he stop and see cowboy north and i , when we work at the " Old Mill Flea Market. he even play a few song there too . I will miss him ...

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**Loren Muller** - September 16, 2016 at 04:35 PM

PB

“ Herb Helgerson and family send their condolences; Mel was a good friend to our Dad at Sannas.

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**Patti Boller** - September 16, 2016 at 08:46 AM