



# **August W. "Whitey" Westphal**

JUN 25, 1926 - MAR 25, 2018



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## August W. "Whitey" Westphal

JUN 25, 1926 - MAR 25, 2018

**A**ugust W. "Whitey" Westphal, age 91, of North Ridgeville, passed away on Sunday, March 25, 2018 at the Cleveland Clinic Main Campus following a sudden illness.

He was born in Fremont, Nebraska and had been a resident to f North Ridgeville since 1986 moving from Falls Church, Virginia. He previously lived in Cleveland. August worked as a conductor for the Chicago-Northwestern's Railroad. He was also the manager of the Legislation and Education Department of the Cleveland branch of United Transportation Union. He served in Washington DC as a lobbyist to Congress and was director of Legislative research for United Transportation Union from 1965-1981. Whitey was also President Emeritus of NARVRE for the past 16 years.

He was a member of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Westlake and the North Star Masonic Lodge 638 in Cleveland, where he had been a member since 1967.

Playing golf and fishing were activities he enjoyed doing.

Survivors include his sons, Lynn (Margaret) Westphal and Rodney Westphal both of North Ridgeville; grandchildren Jeffrey (Lori) Guggenbiller, Jenni (Nathan) Lizanich, Jason (Katie) Westphal and Nicole (Russell) Clouse; great grandchildren CC, Charlie, Kaia, Cole, Gretchen, Stella and Russell IV; brother, Ronald (Juliet) Westphal of Arlington, Texas; sisters, Joyce Westphal of Fremont, Nebraska, Victoria (Bill) Wellstead of Waco, Texas, Beverly (Don) Rice of Fremont, Nebraska.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Gretchen (nee Hoefs) in 2008; parents, August and Ruby (nee Millar) Westphal and daughter-in-law, Karen Westphal in 2011.

Friends may call Wednesday from 5-8 p.m. at the Bogner Family Funeral Home, 36625 Center Ridge Rd., North Ridgeville. A Masonic Service will be held on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the funeral home. Funeral Service will be held Thursday at 10:00 am at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28455 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake.



## Obituary

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Pastor Sherman Bishop will officiate.

Burial will be in Resthaven Memory Gardens, Avon.

In lieu of flowers, family requests donations be made in Whitey's name to Friends Helping Friends, 21135 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park, 44126.

For further information or to send an online condolence please visit

[www.bognerfamilyfuneralhome.com](http://www.bognerfamilyfuneralhome.com)



## Events

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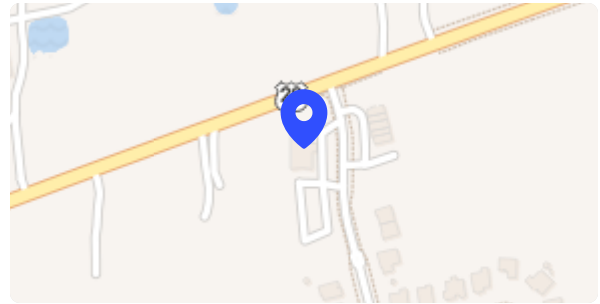
### Visitation

 **Wednesday**, March 28, 2018


 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET


 **Bogner Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services**

36625 Center Ridge Road, North Ridgeville OH  
44039



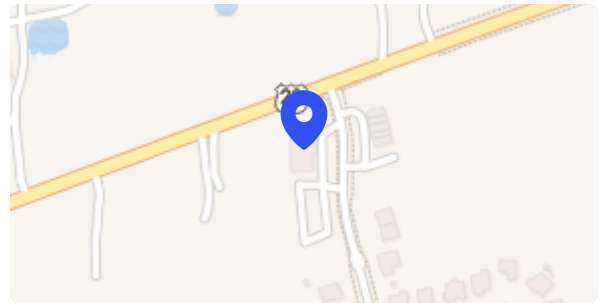
### Masonic Service

 **Wednesday**, March 28, 2018

 7:30 PM ET


 **Bogner Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services**

36625 Center Ridge Road, North Ridgeville OH  
44039



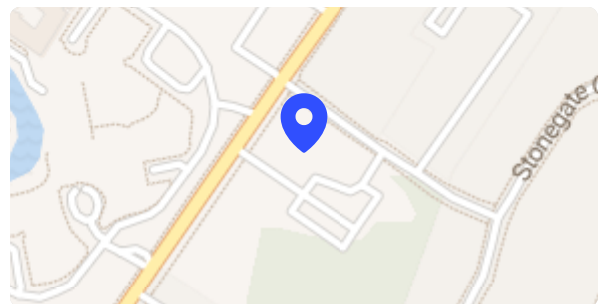
### Funeral Service

 **Thursday**, March 29, 2018

 10:00 AM ET

 **Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**

28455 Center Ridge Road, Westlake







## Events

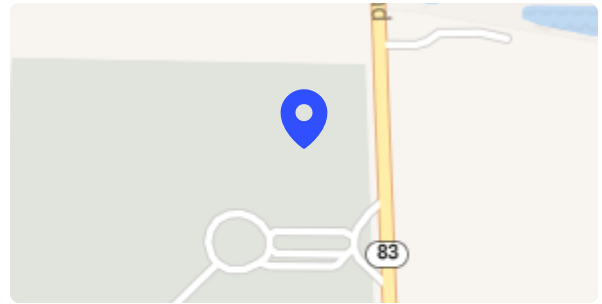
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### Cemetery Details

 **Resthaven Memory Garden**  
3700 Center Rd, Avon OH 44011

 **(440) 236-3961**





# Tribute Wall

## August W. "Whitey" Westphal

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**Bruce A. Hager** posted:

Whitey believed in Narvre so much that he flew into Fargo 4 years ago the weekend before Mothers Day and had me drive him to several Narvre meetings we went all the way to Havre Montanna and back to Fargo. Together we were able to obtain about 25+ new members for Narvre. He was a wealth of knowledge about Railroading and the value of unions and the importance of protecting our RR Retirement. Thank you Whitey for all you did to promote the right causes when you could have been fully retired and letting others worry about the future. May your memory live on forever, Bruce Hager area director 6.

April 2 at 5:32 AM



**Brad Bernard** posted:

Uncle Whitey was a great man, one of a kind. Loved him and his energy, stories, and sense of humor. Our condolences to Lynn and Rod. We will miss him. Brad and Laurie in Colorado

April 1 at 4:40 PM



**Gary Faley** posted:

Whitey was and is the face of rail retirees, and, of course, the Nat'l Assoc. of Retired & Veteran Railway Employees, Inc (NARVRE). His leadership and national presence will be missed, but always appreciated. He was involved in NARVRE's efforts to protect and preserve railroad retirement to the very end of his long and serving life. God Bless, my friend. Gary Faley Nat'l Legislative Director NARVRE

March 29 at 5:26 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White to the Westphal family.



March 28 at 6:53 PM



**Michael Whitaker** posted:

Whitey was my friend and Poker/Elks lodge brother for close to 10 years. He was such an Amazing Man. I am so sorry to hear about his passing. I will see those that come tonight at his service. Michael Whitaker

March 28 at 1:38 PM



# Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** sent a Classic Sympathy Dish Garden to the Westphal family.



March 28 at 8:50 AM



**Debbie Antonio** lit a candle in honor of August.



March 28 at 6:16 AM



**Bernie And Lisa Stumpf** sent a Fields of Europe for Spring to the Westphal family.



March 28 at 1:57 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White to the Westphal family.



March 27 at 10:09 AM



**Kathy Dombrowski** lit a candle in honor of August.

Dear Lynn, Marge and family, Please accept our sincere condolences on the loss of your sweet father. We had the opportunity to meet Whitey on several occasions and found him to be delightfully charismatic. I hope that you can find solace in the many wonderful memories you must have accumulated over the years you had together. Please know that you and your family are in our hearts and prayers at this very difficult time. With our deepest sympathy, Love, Kathy and Marty



March 27 at 9:12 AM



**Shirley Prolizo** posted:

I'm so sorry for your loss of your Dad. You know how much your parents meant to me. Blessings to all of the family during this time of sadness.

March 27 at 8:41 AM



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**N.J. Shacklette** posted:

I have known A.W. (Whitey) for 46 years, being involved with UTU Local#1823 and NARVRE Unit#56. A nice person to be a friend of. R.I.P. my friend. Norbert Shacklette

March 27 at 8:28 AM



**Nicole Bolton** posted:

Sending hugs and my love to you all! Nicole Bolton

March 27 at 7:08 AM



**D Lynch** posted:

I as well as others will miss Whitey. He had represented me in a court trial in Orlando a few years ago. My prayers go out to his family and friends. D J Lynch President Unit 066 NARVRE Wildwood, FL

March 27 at 5:19 AM



**Thomas Dwyer** posted:

I have known Whitey since 1985 in our union days. I was with him just a month ago in Council Bluffs, IA, the site of our 2018 convention. In the last ten years we traveled together on behalf of NARVRE to spread the word to railroad retirees. We are going to miss him and his stories. A toast to Whitey would be a Jack Daniels and water at 400 PM. God speed my friend. Tom Dwyer National President NARVRE

March 27 at 5:12 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Simply Lily to the Westphal family.



March 26 at 6:56 PM



## Tribute Wall

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MD

**Marcia Dalton** posted:

Uncle Wilmer was an incredible man and he lived a remarkable life. He loved his family fiercely and was always so giving. I absolutely loved his stories and his wonderful personality. He was always so caring and concerned when it came to my parents Max and Rachel. We loved him dearly. He will be forever loved and forever missed. God be with all of you and please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. Hugs and much love to all of you.

March 26 at 4:30 PM

LC

**Lisa Carstensen-Cooper** lit a candle in honor of August.

Grandpa Whitey was one of the coolest people I ever had the pleasure of meeting. I am friends with his granddaughter Jenni Lizanich. I have comfort in knowing he and Grandma Gretchen are together again in heaven.



March 26 at 4:07 PM

GT

**Glen Thor** posted:

Lynn/Rod, sorry to hear about Your Father, I great memories of this man.

March 26 at 3:44 PM

SR

**Sidra Reeder** posted:

Our deepest condolences to Lynn, Rod, Nicole, Jenni, Jason, Marge and other family members. You will be in our thoughts and prayers in the coming days.Sid and Danny

March 26 at 2:10 PM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring August by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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