



## Richard A. Welch

September 5, 1933 - February 12, 2015

LaPorte - Richard A. Welch, 81, passed away in his home on Thursday, February 12, 2015.

Mr. Welch was born September 5, 1933, in Plymouth, IN, to Cleo and Margaret (Hurford) Welch and lived in the area all of his life.

On October 20, 1956, in Hamlet, IN, he was married to the former Joan Wicks, who survives. Also surviving are two daughters, Mary Beth (Dick) Reel of LaPorte and Susan Kay (Paul) Kitt of Elkhart; three grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and one sister, Loretta Shroust of LaPorte. He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Merle.

Mr. Welch retired as a principal from Riley Elementary School in LaPorte. He was a U.S. Army veteran, a member of the First United Methodist Church of LaPorte, and a former member of the Indiana State Teacher's Association.

Funeral services will be Monday, February 16, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. (Central Time) in Rannells Funeral Home, Hamlet Chapel. Burial and military graveside services will follow at Fletcher Cemetery, Hamlet. Friends may call Sunday at the funeral home from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. CT and Monday one hour prior to the service. Memorial contributions may be given to the First United Methodist Church of LaPorte or the Parkinson's Disease Research Fund.

# Tribute Wall

CW

“ We are saddened by the news of Dick's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Joan and your family during this difficult time.

Love,  
Bob, Chele (Stephani), Nathan & Claire Wojtowicz

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**Chele (Stephani) Wojtowicz** - June 18, 2018 at 10:59 AM

RN

“ Dear Joanie..... so sorry to hear about Dick... You were truly his loving and caring angel who did a wonderful job to make sure he was comfortable and where Dick wanted to be . When his tme came.It will depend on weather if we will be able to make it to funeral home. Just wanted you to know we R thinking of you and in ourbthoughts and prayers at this very difficult time. God Bless and keep you.Love, Ray and Debbie

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**Ray and Debbie NixonsP** - April 29, 2018 at 07:09 PM

RM

“ Dick was one of the finest men I ever met during my teaching career. He was always so pleasant to be around whether the first staff day of the year or on the golf course. Never worked for Dick nor did our kids attend Riley but I think both would have been a great experience. We've lost a "good" one. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

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**Randy McGriff** - April 29, 2018 at 07:09 PM

SC

“ Best man ever!

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**Shelley Cottrell** - April 29, 2018 at 07:09 PM

RW

“ My Wife and I will always remember Richard as a very kind and friendly person . My wife worked at Riley School when Richard was Principal and always had high praises for Dick . Our prayers go out to Richards Family .

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**Robert Wedow** - April 29, 2018 at 07:09 PM

RN

“ Dear Joan So sorry to hear about Dick. You were truly an angel to love and care for Dick at home where he wanted to be..Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this most difficult time. God Bless and keep you.Love You!!! Ray and Debbie Nixon

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**Ray and Debbie Nixon** - April 29, 2018 at 07:09 PM

LT

“ Dear Joan,  
you are truly a wonderful, caring person and I pray for you during this sad time. Dick was such a funny and cheerful man and we all will miss him...I pray for your health to return also...you are so brave.  
I am sorry I can't be with you...please forgive...loves and hugs...Lois

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**lois thomas** - April 29, 2018 at 07:09 PM

LT

“ Dearest Joan,  
You are such a caring and wonderful person. You were always there for your husband. He was a quiet man but I always enjoyed his humor...and I will miss seeing him at church...Please take care of yourself...I wish you a speedy recovery to good health. I am sorry I can't be at the funeral  
...loves, Lois

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**lois thomas** - April 29, 2018 at 07:09 PM

BT

“ *When I met Mr. Welch, I was just a kid. For years, he walked four miles a day in our neighborhood, which only took him an hour. We soon became friends and although we've been out of contact for years, I'll always remember what a nice man he was and what a great couple he and Joan made. I remember how much he valued his family and friends as well as what a great gardener he was. My condolences to everyone for your loss.*

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**Bryan Tisch** - April 29, 2018 at 07:09 PM

MH

“ *Joanie, Mary & Susie,*

*I am so sad to hear of your loss. Mary, your dad was a quiet man most of the time but he did have a great sense of humor. I know he enjoyed working in his garden and I will remember him riding up and down the street on his bike. Most of all he loved the three of you deeply. I always admired him. May he rest in peace.*

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**Mary (Konowitz) Hill** - April 29, 2018 at 07:09 PM