



## Edward M Rockwell

March 18, 1921 - February 10, 2016

Edward M. Rockwell, 94, of Orlando, FL and formerly of Coloma died Tuesday, February 10, 2016 in Winter Park, FL.

Services celebrating his life will be held at 1 PM on Friday, Feb 19, at the Davidson Chapel of Florin Funeral Service in Coloma. The family will receive friends and relatives beginning at Noon on Friday at the Davidson Chapel. Burial will follow in Coloma Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Orlando Youth Aviation Center. Please share messages, memories or photos at [www.florin.net](http://www.florin.net).

Ed was born on March 18, 1921 in Watervliet to Earl and Marie Rockwell. At the age of 18 Ed learned to fly in the Civilian Pilot Training program and his interest in aviation continued throughout his life. In 1942 he married his wife, Betty Harris and have celebrated 73 years of marriage. Ed enlisted in the US Army in 1943 as a pilot and became a flight instructor. He was then transferred to US Military Academy at West Point, NY where he taught until 1946. After the war Ed started a seaplane flight school on the Hudson River which he operated for the next 11 years. He was also the owner of the Rockwell Vending Service in the NY area for 35 years. Ed's interest in building airplanes made him a very active member of the EAA Chapter 74. He built one of the first Rutan Vari-Eze planes and was featured in the news and the Today Show. In 1980 Ed and Betty retired to Orlando where he continued to

be active in the EAA and started its youth program, Young Eagles.

Ed leaves behind his wife, Betty; his son, Dale E. Rockwell of Orlando; his brother, Duane Rockwell of Coloma; his 2 grandchildren Dale S. and wife, Mercedes & Danielle and his 4 great grandchildren, Shayna, Matt, Jade and Paige.

# Cemetery Details

## Coloma Cemetery

5900 Coloma Road  
Coloma, MI 49038

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 19. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Davidson Chapel of Florin Funeral Service  
249 East Center Street  
Coloma, MI 49038  
(269) 468-3181  
[staff@florin.net](mailto:staff@florin.net)

## Service Celebrating His Life

FEB 19. 1:00 PM (ET)

Davidson Chapel of Florin Funeral Service  
249 East Center Street  
Coloma, MI 49038  
(269) 468-3181  
[staff@florin.net](mailto:staff@florin.net)

## Burial

FEB **19**. 2:30 PM (ET)

Coloma Cemetery  
5900 Coloma Road  
Coloma, MI 49038

# Tribute Wall

RR

“ *My father Hugh Edward Robertson was Ed and Betty's best man at their wedding. They met during basic training at Tulare and would spend weekends doing excursions up to San Francisco or over to Hollywood. I have a reunion letter typed up by Ed which I can share. Best wishes and loving thoughts to your family.*

*Sincerely,  
Rebecca Robertson  
Usedtofly@aol.com*

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**Rebecca Robertson** - June 16, 2017 at 12:14 PM

NH

“ *Nikole Harris lit a candle in memory of Edward M Rockwell*



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**Nikole Harris** - February 17, 2016 at 09:40 AM

LH

“ *Landon Harris lit a candle in memory of Edward M Rockwell*



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**Landon Harris** - February 17, 2016 at 09:40 AM

SH

“ *Stephen Harris lit a candle in memory of Edward M Rockwell*



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**Stephen Harris** - February 17, 2016 at 09:39 AM

NH

“ *Neil Harris lit a candle in memory of Edward M Rockwell*



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**Neil Harris** - February 17, 2016 at 09:39 AM

NH

“ *Some of my fondest memories of Uncle Ed were the times that we got to sit in the motor home with he and Aunt Betty and look at all of the cool airplanes he had been involved with and all of the places they had visited together.*

*Fast forward 20+ years and they both were still visiting us every summer and taking the time to share those same memories with my sons and my wife...so many generations together enjoying each other!*

*What else can you say - that is what family is for...simply enjoying each other when we get together!*

*We'll miss you Uncle Ed!*

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**Neil Harris** - February 16, 2016 at 09:47 AM

GJ

*ED, was great person, always great memories of him !! lots of great flying ! RIP , George J.Parker jr.*

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**George J.Parker JR.** - March 20, 2016 at 04:14 PM