



## Donald McClarin

March 16, 2011

### Obituary of Donald McClarin

Donald George McClarin, 71, The Villages, FL passed away on Wednesday, March 16, 2011.

Don was a 1957 graduate of Clarence High School in New York State. He earned a Bachelor's degree at the State University of New York at Fredonia and a Master's degree from the University of Buffalo. He was a High School Band Director at Starpoint Central School, then at Portville Central School, both in New York State. His marching band won numerous awards on the east coast in the 1970's and into the 1980's. In 1989 he became the High School Principal at Cuba Central School which later became Cuba-Rushford Central School. Upon retirement, he and his wife spent their winters travelling throughout the United States, Mexico, New Zealand and Australia in their RV. An active member of Bethel Lutheran Church, he volunteered to do Mission work at Peace Lutheran Church in Slidell, LA for 5 months following Hurricane Katrina. In April 2006 the McClarins relocated to The Villages, FL.

Mr. McClarin loved the out of doors. He section-hiked 1,320 miles of the Appalachian Trail, was a member of The Villages canoe and kayak club and

the Dragon Boat Team and was a frequent golfer. He also played trumpet in The Villages Concert Band, the Sunshine Strollers, and the Celebration Brass Band. At Hope Lutheran church in The Villages he was the head of an usher team, active on the Disaster Immediate Response Team, and the leader of the Building Team for 2 years.

Don was predeceased by his father and mother, Leroy and Virginia McClarin and leaves his wife of 48 years, Marion (Taylor) of The Villages. Also, a son Donald Jr. (Christine) of Virginia Beach, VA; Ronald (Brandy) of Tampa, FL; and Daughter Bonnie Jean (Terry) Cole of Endicott, NY. He has 10 grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held Sunday, March 27, 2011, 5:00p.m. at Hope Lutheran Church in The Villages with Pastor Barry Huntman officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Hope Lutheran Church Building Fund, 250 Avenida Los Angeles, The Villages, FL 32159 or to Bethel Lutheran Church of Portville, P.O. Box 606, Portville, NY 14770.

## Services

A memorial service will be held Sunday, March 27, 2011, 5:00p.m. at Hope Lutheran Church in The Villages with Pastor Barry Huntman officiating.

## Memorial Donations

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Hope Lutheran Church Building Fund, 250 Avenida Los Angelos, The Villages, FL 32159 or to Bethel Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 606, Portville, NY 14770.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Donald McClarin*

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October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Marion, Don, Ron, & Bonnie, I don't think there is another person who had the impact on not only my life, but the community of Portville, New York. Don was a man who knew the give of giving back through service. He will be deeply missed, but will live on through all he touched from year to year. We didn't know it then, but how lucky we all were. Thank you McClarin Family for sharing your husband, and Dad. May God heal your pain.*

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**Carol Savey Heron** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *We were so sorry to hear of your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this very difficult time. You all have wonderful memories that can be cherished for the rest of your lives.*

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**The Diorio Family** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Marion My sincerest condolences on your loss. My fondest memories of Don center on simple things like band night practice at Mulberry Grove Rec Center where he would drop by the Fitness Club to say hello, or at Hope where we shared so many mission activities together, including the Slovokian mission trip. Farewell friend, sleep in peace*

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**Don Akers** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Dear Marion and Family-Another saint has gone marching home! Don now knows his reward for all his wonderful works and making this earth a bit more heavenly because he was here. And so much of that is because of you and was with you-from Portville you traveled and made the world a better-thank you to both of you for touching so many with so much. What a special time we had with both of you in Slidell. May you know the peace and comfort of our God, family and friends and wonderful memories of your life together. God Bless you and keep you.

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**Judy (Fischer) McClain** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ So sorry for your loss. I feel blessed to have been taught by him. He was an outstanding teacher!

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**Deb (Fancher) Jordan** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

EJ

“ Marion, You are in our thoughts and prayers and have been for quite some time. You are missed by neighbors and the community. We are sorry for your loss.

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**Erin & Babbs Johnson** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

FN

“ Marion and family, Marylou and I are sorry to hear of Don's passing and even sadder that we didn't know you were residents in the Villages. We have lived in Tavares or Leesburg for the past six years. We would like to visit when you have the time. Fred Nichols 352-326-2769

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**fred Nichols** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ Your friends in Louisiana share your sorrow. We'll never forget Don and his wonderful calm presence during a storm in our lives. May God be with you in this storm.

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**Sara Pagones** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TY

“ I always meant to contact Mr. McClarin so that I could thank him. It is no secret to anyone in my life that I credit him with a singular influence on my approach to music. He said that, if I could stop twirling everything, I could be a serious musician. While I'm not sure made it all the way to serious musician, Mr. McClarin (and the other music teachers at PCS) modeled a pursuit of precision and excellence that has echoed throughout my life as I've had seemingly ceaseless opportunities to reaffirm, YES, I READ MUSIC! Peace and comfort to the McClarin family.

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**Terrance Yates** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ Thoughts and prayers for the family. Don hung out and lent a helping hand for awhile after Katrina struck our area (as did his wife), We remember him with respect, honor and admiration for the caring soul that he was.

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**Christine Barnhill** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ Marion and Family, Sorry for your Loss. I new Don only as my best friend's brother back in Clarence Center, NY. I am pleased to hear that from his humble country beginnings he aspired to rememberable greatness. God bless and keep you all.

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**Kathy (Schweigert) Behm** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Marion, We were so sad to hear of his passing. We know that eventually, we will all be together with our Lord and we look forward to being together again then. We have thought of you both often since enjoying y'all's friendship while volunteering at Peace. We miss you dearly! Our most sincere love to you! Love - Ted, Renee, Olivia and Wade McKnight

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**The McKnight's** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

L1

“ My sincere condolences to the whole family. Mr. McClarin taught me how to play the flute from age 9 and was a very strong influence for me throughout my school years at Portville. My love for many kinds of music increased due to the Portville Music and Marching Band programs. Mr. McClarin will certainly be missed.

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**Lori Hill (Portville Class of 1978)** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ Marion, please accept our condolences and prayers on Don's passing. Both of you are in the hearts and prayers of all at Peace Lutheran in Slidell. We were blessed to have you for those many months. As sad as we are at his passing, he is where we all want to be, happy at God's side. Much love, Phyllis and Phillip Helm, and Jonesy.

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**Phyllis Helm** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Dear Marion and family; Our hearts are aching along with yours---- such a loss of a great man, a wonderful friend; fine Christian and many more positive adjectives. We pray our Loving Heavenly Father will grant each one of you (Marion, Don Jr, Ron and Bonnie and all the grandchildren) peace and comfort as you adjust to this terrible loss and big change in your lives. With much love to you all, Muriel and Merrill

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**Muriel and Merrill** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ We wish to add our condolences to the family. Don was an excellent teacher and band director in Portville. The Harrisons

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**Mary Lou and Ike harrison** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BJ

“ Dear Marion & family, We are so very sorry for your loss. Don will be sorely missed by those he touched through his work, church, and friendship. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Please let us know if there is anything we can do. Barb & Jeff

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**Barb & Jeff** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ Mrs. McClarin, I am so so sorry for your loss. You and Mr. McClarin were so kind to me - you opened your home & your hearts and made me feel like a member of your wonderful family. I will never, ever forget either of you, or your kindness. I will keep you all in my prayers Mrs. McClarin. From the bottom of my heart i thank you for everything you both did to help me become the man I am. Jon

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**Jon Kranock** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DO

“ I was very sad to hear of Don's passing at such a young age. I have many wonderful memories of spending hours playing duets on the trumpet at Fredonia. We also had a lot of fun double dating. He was a great friend. Dave and Cindy Osika

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**Dave Osika** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CN

“ Dear Mrs. McClarin - I wanted to send my love, sympathies and prayers...to you and your family. I was deeply saddened to hear of Mr. McClarin's passing. You has been on my heart. Mr. McClarin had a tremendous impact on my life. Honestly, I'm guessing my love and passion for music...could have even started with YOU...in elementary school. Thank you...for touching my life - in such a positive way! Mr. McClarin was an incredible encourager...and...he expected great things and hard work. I am thankful for that. I have numerous memories, too many to share. Sending BIG HUGS to you! Charity

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**Charity Norton-Curtis** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

ER

“ Ms. McClarin, Don, Jr., Ron, & Bonnie - I was deeply saddened by this news. My prayers are with all of you and your families. He was truly inspiring and the best teacher any high school student could wish to have. He filled our years with alot of great memories. I am truly sorry I never got the chance to tell him how much of an impact he had on my life, musically and otherwise. Thanks for sharing him with us.

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**Eric Reynolds** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RN

“ My love of music will be forever remembered because of the kindness and patience of Mr McClarin. His tributes and talents through the success of countless musicians will continue on in his memory everyday...

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**Rachelle Norton-Jordan** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

NS

“ Marion, Please know that you are in our prayers. If there is anything we can do to help you, please let us know. Sincerely, Nancy and Walt

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**Nancy and Walt Scott** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ Marion & family, We are so sorry to learn of Don's passing. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you. We know an awesome God, and know with certainty that the resurrection is coming! Heaven got another musician this week! Blessings to you and know that you are loved. Ray & Ruth

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**Ray & Ruth Sprout** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ So sorry for your loss. Don was a well respected person in the portville community. He will be missed. Anthony Hatzell pcs class of 2003

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**Anthony Hatzell** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ We send our deepest sympathy to all of you with the loss of Don. We have lots of great memories that we have been able to share with all of you. We lift you all up to the Lord for comfort and healing. Our prayers and thoughts are with all of you each and every day. Love in Christ, Rick Nannette Skip Troy

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**Rick Giberson Family** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ Mrs. McClarion and family, I was very sad to hear of Mr. McClarin's passing. He was a great teacher and I enjoyed being a part of his Marching Band. I stayed with it for five years. I know he is with the Lord and will continue to look down on us.

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**Larry Johnson** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Marion, what a rich and wonderful life you and Don had together! We are saddened by his passing but we know he is in a better place with no pain and suffering. We pray for your strength and peace. Blessings to you and your family during this difficult time.

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**John & Mary Linda Williams** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ Don We will miss you. Hold a spot for us up there.

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**Tim and Deanie Barton** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

FK

“ Don was a longtime friend and a dear and special person. He blessed our lives and made the world a better place. Fran and Bill Kochan

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**Fran and Bill Kochan** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ I was so sorry to hear this news. Both of you - Don and Marion - were such an integral part of my life growing up. My love of music was fostered by both of you, and my heart is full of sadness at the news of this loss. I will be thinking of all of you and keeping you in my prayers.

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**Kelli Corasanti** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Dear Marion, Please accept my sincere condolences for the loss of Don. We grieve together today for Don and Mac. But, a thousand years on earth is but a minute in heaven and we will see them again before they have time to miss us. Sincerely, Barb

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**Barb Sue** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Sorry for your lost. I talked about him alot as I was a band student of his at Portville for all my high school years. He was a big inspiration for me, always encouraging and making me be a better musician. He was my favorite teacher. Mr. Mcclarin will be deeply missed.

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**Rhea Ferrington-Childs** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ Sorry for your loss. I was a student of his at Porville Central School throughout my high school years. I talk about Mr. McClarin all the time. He was very insperational and formed me into the musician I am today. Mr. McClarin will be greatly missed.

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**Rhea Ferrington Childs** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ Marion, so sorry for your loss. Don was a wonderful man. Jon and I have fond memories of high school band and marching band. And it was wonderful knowing him as adults during so many years at Bethel. Please send condolences to the rest of your family and know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. Jon, Amy, Heidi and Laura

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**Jon, Amy, Heidi, and Laura Giberson** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ Marion, I am so glad we came to see Don a few weeks ago. I want to call you but will wait a couple more days. Please know we are thinking of you and the kids.

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**Deanie** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ Dear Marion & Family, My deepest sympathy for your loss. As we travel down the road in life, there are people that come into our lives that influence us in very special ways. Mr. McClarin was one of those individuals that touched my life; he enhanced my joy and love for music. When I think back to my years at Portville Central, my fondest memories include Mr. McClarin and the music program he managed at PCS. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Kind Regards, Suzie Gronet Ray PCS Class of '78

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**Suzie Gronet Ray** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ Mrs. McClarin, Don, Ron, and Bonnie, Just to let you know that I am thinking of all of you and you are in my thoughts and prayers. Mr. McClarin meant so much to all of us in the Portville music programs, and to you as a family. Best regards, Julie Anderson Rakestraw

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**Julie Anderson Rakestraw** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ Marion and family, Our thoughts and prayers have been with you during Don's courageous struggle. Don was an awesome person. May the Lord, our God, give you strength and guidance.

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**Rick & Kathy Lang** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ Don was a good man, he taught my boys so much about music. He will be missed by so many people, I know our family mentions him often.

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**Sari and Larry Johnson** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BE

“ Dear Marion and Family, We feel so blessed that we had the opportunity to know Don in the past couple of years. Though our time was short, it was a gift to have had him in our lives. We will miss him and thankfully know that he is in a better place. Our prayers are with the family during this time. We will continue to rejoice Don's life for he was a gift to all of us. God is Good.

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**Bev and Larry Van Den Einde** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CO

“ To all of the McClarins, I could never write enough words that would say all the things that your family means to me and how sorry I am for your loss. May you find peace knowing he is with the Lord and laughing and visiting with Gram! He was a wonderful father, teacher, mentor and friend but ultimately he was a man of his faith and is at peace. You are all in my prayers. Love Corinna

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**Corinna** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SE

*“ I was so sorry to hear of Don's passing. He was such an integral and important part of so many "PCS'ers" growing up - just think how many lives he's touched! Our music program and marching band were amazing...such wonderful memories. May you all find peace in his memories....he will surely be missed.*

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**Syd (Snyder) Evans** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LG

*“ We gathered at Bethel this morning with a sense of profound loss and mourn the passing of our brother in Christ, Don. All of our prayers go out to you and your family. Don will be greatly missed. He made a huge impact on all of our lives and we were blessed to have known him. God be with you all.*

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**Linda Giberson** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TP

*“ To the McClarin Family. I am deeply sorry for your loss. Mr. McClarin was a truly gifted man and will be sadly missed. Now he is sharing those wonderful gifts in heaven. God Bless all of you. Sincere condolences, Ms. Teresa Piccirillo*

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**Teresa Piccirillo** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CH

*“ My sincerest sympathies to you all. Don shared his gift of music and life with so many. It was a pleasure to have known him. I hope that the wonderful memories that you shared with him will help to keep you thru the sad days ahead. May you know that many are sharing in your sorrow and supporting you in our prayers. Craig Hinman*

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**Craig Hinman** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ Mrs. McClarin and family, I am sorry for your loss! He was a awesome person and music teacher! He will be greatly missed! My thoughts and prayers are with you!

Kelly Cannon - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Dear Marion and Family, I was so saddened to hear of Don passing and will have you in our thoughts and prayers. We visited Tom's brother in The Villages last year and I had no idea you were there. Don was a great person in all that he did and will be sadly missed. Sherry and Tom

Sherry and Tom Fitzsimmons - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ Marian and Family, Don will never be gone because he has left wonderful music and joy in so many hearts. I am thinking of you and all your family in this time of sorrow. JoAnn Holcomb

JoAnn Holcomb Thropp - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ Our prayers are with you. We hope your wonderful memories sustain you during this time of loss. May God bless.

Ted and Linda Scott - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you. We hope your wonderful memories will be a great comfort to you in the days to come. May God bless and comfort you.

Ted and Linda Scott - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the McClarin family. Mr. McClarin was always one of my favorite teachers. I adored concert and marching band at Portville because of him. He instilled in me a love for music and I am forever grateful to have been one of his students. He will be missed by many.

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**Michele Mesler** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Dear Marion & family, Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. Don was a wonderful man! We have many great memories of Portville's music program, especially the awesome marching band. I know my parents, Don, and the many others who have gone before him, are up in heaven talking about all the special times they had together with Portville's marching band & the many trips, parades, awards, trophies, etc. God Bless your family!

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**Rick & Marcia Wray & family** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AA

“ McClarin Family - My heart was saddened to hear of the death of such a wonderful man. As others have stated, he was a favorite and influenced me in many ways. Namely, he helped cultivate my passion for music that I value and appreciate every day. I remember him fondly for his smile, humor and the respect he generated. In learning of his numerous activities and acts of kindness and unselfishness in recent years, I respect him all the more. May your hearts find peace as you grieve. In loving thoughts... Allison (Palmer) Ayers Class of '88 PCS

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**Allison Ayers** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ To the family of Don, What a wonderful guy, full of life, and accomplished musician and school administrator. I feel honored to have taught in the same school as Don. Beyond that, you were so blessed to have Don be your husband and father. I will remember Don with fond memories and remember his as the first one to mention the word pickleball. Had no idea what he was talking about! You are in our thoughts and prayers. God Bless, Mary and Tom

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**Mary and Tom** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TJ

“ So sorry for your lost. He was a great man. He always seemed to have a smile on his face. Portville thought the world of him. God Bless

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**The Haughts(Denny,Sue, Jen and Jacob)** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

Jl

“ Our prayers go out to your family. We have many fond memories of band and marching band and sorting music after school in the band room. Love to all, Jill Chadwick Ivanich, Todd Chadwick, Jean Chadwick Torrey

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**Jill Chadwick Ivanich** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM