



Julian "Bud" Arthur Visser

April 12, 1934 ~ July 20, 2020 (age 86)

Julian "Bud" Visser, 86, died July 20, 2020 at his home in South Haven. He was born April 12, 1934 in South Haven to John and Grace (Brinks) Visser. Bud graduated from South Haven High School in 1952 while working for the South Haven Tribune as a photographer.

Bud served his country honorably in the U.S. Army. After his service he returned to South Haven and worked for his brother, Steve, at Visser & Son Supply Company at the corner of Phoenix and Pearl streets where he was the business manager and sold bicycles. Hundreds of South Haven children who rode their Schwinns around the neighborhoods and down to the beach bought their bikes from Bud Visser.

He graduated from Western Michigan University with a degree in business and went on to receive his master's degree.

In the mid-70s he became active with the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America (VICA), a career and technical student organization, and implemented many student organizations and was the coordinator for teacher educators in vocational education across the state. In the 80s he worked in career placement and found jobs for many people seeking employment in the technology field.

Bud believed in giving back to his community. He swung a hammer building homes for Habitat for Humanity and rebuilding homes after disasters for World Renew (CRWRC) and swung the mallet on the bass drum with the Casco Band for 25 years. During retirement he also volunteered for the American Red Cross, ready to help at any moment. For decades, Bud was an active member of Hope Reformed Church of South Haven where he sang in the choir, served as Sunday school teacher and youth group leader, and shared his leadership skills as church elder and deacon.

Bud is survived by his wife, Joan (Kilburn) Visser of South Haven; a son, John (Marcia) Visser of Mattawan and a daughter, Patricia Visser, of Albion; three grandchildren, Aaron (Sarah), Hannah and Grace; and six nieces.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his brothers Steve and Edward, and his sister, Wilhelmina Frerich.

A memorial service will take place at Hope Reformed Church with Rev. Steve Smallegan officiating. Service times have yet to be set. Bud will be laid to rest at Lakeview Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hope Reformed Church, 1365 Monroe Blvd. South Haven, MI 49090.