



## Frederic Young

April 21, 1943 - July 17, 2023

Frederic Marlin Young, 80, of Roscoe passed away holding the hands of his daughters and grandson on July 17, 2023. Born April 21, 1943 in Chicago, IL; son of Stetler and Evelyn (Joelson) Young. Graduate of Harlem High School, class of 1961. Fred obtained his BA in English Literature from Rockford University, class of 1965 and went on to spend a year in the Navy Reserves. After spending nearly 40 years as an adventuring bachelor outdoorsman, he met the love of his life, Wendy Nutter, marrying her on the banks of the Wolf River on June 6, 1981. Fred's greatest joys were his three daughters, whom he taught to always seek adventure, always bestow kindness and generosity, to treasure friendship and to work hard and play hard. Fred took over the family business, Forest City Gear, in 1967. Founded by his parents in 1955, Fred took the small 'mom and pop' shop to a global level, leading the company to manufacture some of the world's most difficult gearing for amazing end uses from NASA's Martian rovers and space station to robotic arms and racing yachts. He was truly elated to see middle daughter, Kika, take the reins of the family business last year. He was a treasured and devoted Poppa to his many grandchildren, never missing an opportunity to read a story or buy a round of ice cream. Fred was involved in many community organizations including his temple, Temple Beth-el, Trout Unlimited, the American Gear Manufacturers Association (AGMA), the board of his alma mater, Rockford University and many more. Fred received dozens of awards over the years including the Award of Distinction from Rockford University, the Rockford Chamber of Commerce Manufacturer of the Year in 2006, and the 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award for the AGMA. Fred had many hobbies he took on with gusto including fly fishing and hunting as well as whitewater boating and kayaking in his younger years. He was able to take dozens of trips to New Zealand as an avid catch and release fly fisherman, taking his youngest daughter, Mindy, on many of these special trips. He loved eating an excellent meal with friends and family at his favorite restaurant, Greenfire, hosting friends (local and international) in his home, and throwing a good party with wife, Wendy. He felt incredibly blessed to have eldest daughter, Appy, and her family move in with him last year after his wife's death. Fred is survived by his devoted daughters, Appy (Rustin) Mikel, Kika (Anthony) Risa, Mindy (Ryan Davis) Young, grandchildren Joey, Kysa, Levi, Addy, AJ, Nollie, Clementine, Charley, Evie, Wilder, Stetler; step-grandson, Felix

Davis; sister-in-law Lori (Roger) Brandel, brother-in-law Todd Nutter, many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews, god mother to his girls, Becca Ivancich, "fishing son" Dan Ivancich, "gear son" Jared Lyford, and a large circle of treasured friends too many to name. Preceded in death by his parents, and his beloved wife, Wendy. Visitation Sunday, July 23, 2023 from 11 am to 2:45 p.m., followed by a funeral service at 3 p.m. at Grace Funeral & Cremation Services, 4301 N. Main St. Rockford. Live stream of the service can be viewed here: <https://my.gather.app/remember/frederic-young> Immediately following the funeral, Fred's family and friends will gather for a picnic, yard games and family friendly activities at the funeral home on the back lawn. Private family interment in Pinnacle Hill Cemetery, Roscoe In lieu of flowers, donation may be made in Fred's memory to Trout Unlimited, Blackhawk Chapter #390: <https://blackhawk.tu.org/donate-to-our-chapter> Share a memory or condolence at [www.graceFH.com](http://www.graceFH.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL **23**. 11:00 AM - 2:45 PM (CT)

Grace Funeral & Cremation Services  
4301 N. Main St.  
Rockford, IL 61103

## Funeral Service

JUL **23**. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Grace Funeral & Cremation Services  
4301 N. Main St.  
Rockford, IL 61103

# Tribute Wall



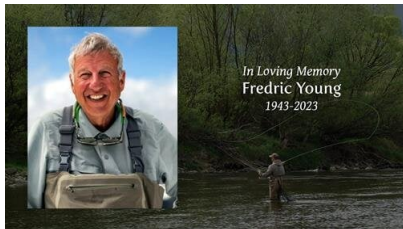
“ Grace Funeral & Cremation Services created a Webcast in memory of Frederic Young



Grace Funeral & Cremation Services - July 27, 2023 at 11:43 AM



“ Grace Funeral & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Frederic Young



Grace Funeral & Cremation Services - July 27, 2023 at 11:43 AM

JE

“ Dear daughters of Fred Young, Wishing you deepest condolences on your dad's passing. Our son, Ben attended school with Kika and knew the family through school and their gracious hospitality during prom and other events. We appreciate his generosity to the Jewish Federation, Temple Beth El and so many other endeavors such as the sponsorship of RSO programing. We know he was a kind, generous, welcoming and talented man. We have all lost of lovely person and his memory will be for a blessing. Jean & Steve Geller

Jean - August 14, 2023 at 05:11 AM

LW

“ To the beautiful Young girls, I was so sorry to hear of your dad's passing. I remember him as a proud and supportive dad during your high school years at Keith. He never missed one of your events and, along with your mom, was your greatest cheerleader. I am wishing all of you peace and my very best wishes. Lori Walsh

Lori Walsh - July 28, 2023 at 04:02 PM

GA

“ Gloria A. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Frederic Young.

Gloria A. - July 23, 2023 at 11:09 PM

IG

“ Fred was one of a kind and will be missed. He was a great business man and even better Family man; always including his family in his everyday life. We watched the children grow up at every AGMA meeting each spring. He and his family were an integral party of the gear manufacturing community. We send the family our love and sincerest condolences.  
Iolanda and David Goodfellow

Iolanda Goodfellow - July 23, 2023 at 08:56 PM

MB

“ We are saddened about Fred's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with his girls and their families. We always enjoyed being with Fred and Wendy at the AGMA meetings and also their visit to Virginia during their anniversary. We made a donation to Trout Unlimited Blackhawk Chapter 390 in honor of Fred.  
Mel & Mary Belcher

Melvin Belcher - July 23, 2023 at 05:54 PM

MR

“ Fred was one of the regulars at Temple Beth-El's Friday evening services, except when he was on a fishing trip, and usually sat in front of Sterne and I. Always gracious and caring. My son, Jacob, said that Fred was one of Sterne's favorite people at Temple. The last time I had the chance to visit with Fred was during the second year of the pandemic when I delivered a Break the Fast bag to his lovely home. He was sitting outside and we chatted for a while. Fred was dismayed that he would not be attending High Holyday services that year, but understood the need to stay back. He will be missed. Mary Roufa

Mary Roufa - July 23, 2023 at 01:40 PM

“ Dear April, Krysta, Mindy and families,

*We are deeply saddened by the news of Fred's passing. Our hearts, thoughts, and prayers are with you all at this difficult time.*

*It was such a privilege and honor to have worked for Fred at Forest City Gear for many years. I owe a great debt to this man. Fred was the best mentor, boss and true friend that anyone could have and I am and will forever be thankful and grateful for him.*

*I never could figure out how Fred had so much energy. I could never keep up with him especially on the floor at Gear Expo or when going fishing in a trout stream. I never really liked to ride in the car or truck with Fred as he was always in a hurry and a bit erratic driver but I did feel safe in the airplane with him as he was an excellent pilot 😊. Once Fred picked me up at home during a blizzard to take me to work. Having moved up from the south I thought maybe we would get a snow day! But no - Fred had a snowplow on front of his Toyota pickup and called me at home and said he would pick me up and take me to work. So when we pulled into the FCG parking lot he made several passes to clear the snow. On one pass he was pushing the snow a bit too fast and went to stop but slid the snow plow right into the wall of the gear inspection room cracking the brick wall! You just couldn't help but love Fred. He usually had a pretty cluttered desk (understatement) but he knew where everything was at so I learned not to arrange anything for him or he could get upset.*

*Also I don't know of anyone that had a more open and welcome business and home. He always welcomed everyone "including his competitors in the gear industry". He enjoyed giving tours through the shop and showing all the gear equipment and how FCG utilized the equipment with automation. He held back no secrets even willing to show anyone his profit and loss statements. He wanted the USA to be competitive and not have gears be outsourced overseas.*

*Fred had a love for all his family and friends and employees - such a big heart for everyone - truly a heart of gold. I don't think he ever met a stranger. Fred will for sure be missed but never forgotten.*

*May the God of all comfort be with you all during this most difficult time and in the days ahead.*

*With our love and care,  
Mike & Denise Goza*

CR

“ Charlotte & Rufus planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Frederic Young.

Charlotte & Rufus - July 22, 2023 at 12:50 PM

FS

“ Fred & Kathy Schomaker purchased the Simply Elegant Spathi phyllum for the family of Frederic Young.



Fred & Kathy Schomaker - July 22, 2023 at 11:46 AM

CW

“ Charlie Walbridge purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Frederic Young.



Charlie Walbridge - July 22, 2023 at 07:51 AM

CW

“ Charlie Walbridge planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Frederic Young.

Charlie Walbridge - July 22, 2023 at 07:51 AM

TK

“ Thomas Koepfer purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Frederic Young.



Thomas Koepfer - July 21, 2023 at 05:06 PM

LA

“ Dear Appy, Kika and Risa,  
We are so sorry to hear that your father has passed away. Many of us at EMAG Koepfer and the EMAG Group worked with him over the years either in the capacity as a vendor for Forest City Gear or through AGMA and AMT and various gear-related trade shows. I first met your father back in the early 1980s when he and your mother married. She and I were part of the coffee circle in college known as the “Untraditional Students,” who met every morning before classes. We crossed paths again when I worked with David Goodfellow at American Pfauter and later at Star SU. I’ll always remember him for his expertise that he generously shared with the gear manufacturing community as well as his love for trout fishing. He, like your mother, will be missed. Take care.  
Laurie Applegate and the folks at EMAG Koepfer and the EMAG Group

Laurie Applegate - July 21, 2023 at 04:02 PM

YB

“ Yours Truly, Uncle Ralph Boarts purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Frederic Young.



Yours Truly, Uncle Ralph Boarts - July 21, 2023 at 03:25 PM

ER

“ Eric Van Rens purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Frederic Young.



Eric Van Rens - July 21, 2023 at 03:13 PM

ER

“ Eric Van Rens planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Frederic Young.

Eric Van Rens - July 21, 2023 at 03:13 PM

CL

“ Sincerest condolences from German Machine Tools of America. A great loss to the Gear industry and more importantly to a family and community.



Claudia - July 21, 2023 at 02:56 PM

TF

“ The Brad Foote Gearing Family purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Frederic Young.



The Brad Foote Gearing Family - July 21, 2023 at 02:13 PM

TF

“ The Brad Foote Gearing Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Frederic Young.

The Brad Foote Gearing Family - July 21, 2023 at 02:13 PM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.



July 21, 2023 at 12:56 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Frederic Young.

July 21, 2023 at 12:56 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.



July 21, 2023 at 11:42 AM

RL

“ Roscoe L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Frederic Young.

Roscoe L. - July 21, 2023 at 11:34 AM

RM

“ To the entire Young Family and extended Forest City Gear Family, my wife Elizabeth and I want to offer you our deepest condolences on Fred's passing. Several years ago, we had the pleasure of meeting Kika and Anthony through our kids and their activities. At the same time, my professional life brought me into contact with Forest City Gear. We suddenly had multiple connections to the Young Family, as well as Forest City Gear. I've never met warmer people who are more caring and compassionate (and really fun to hang around with). We've made some great friends at FCG and are eternally grateful for the opportunity. It was a pleasure getting the opportunity to be around Fred. Fred was a manufacturing legend and icon. He had a profound affect on the local manufacturing community, setting a wonderful example for up and coming businesses. He will be dearly missed. We are so sorry for your loss.

Ryan & Liz Monahan

Ryan Monahan - July 21, 2023 at 11:30 AM

BL

“ The Seiler Precision Manufacturing family is deeply saddened at this news. Fred was always eager to support our needs & showed he truly cared. He was always smiling & charismatic, a real joy & honor to have worked with him over the years. He will be missed.

Brad Leise - July 21, 2023 at 10:52 AM

TF

“ The Excel Gear Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Frederic Young.



The Excel Gear Family - July 21, 2023 at 10:38 AM

BJ

“ Bob, Pat, Maggie, Eric, Molly, and Jameson planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Frederic Young.

Bob, Pat, Maggie, Eric, Molly, and Jameson - July 20, 2023 at 08:03 PM

JB

“ Fred my heart is sad today for.it was the first time Charlie was in for a haircut without you. I really enjoyed watching your eyes light up when you both were in together and you would glance over at him and say "Charlie" and when he looked you would just give him a big smile. I could see how you truly.loves your family, your girls, charlie t- they always made you smile. I enjoyed the time we had together as your barber and only wish there were years more of it and more birthday haircuts. Be sure me and the guys will make sure Charlie is always taken care of, looking his best and hopefully one day as he grows into a young man we will be able to tell him stories about you guys and your special grandpa-grandson times here Black Hawk Barber Shop....From one Veteran to another God Speed my friend. Joshua Berryhill (The Barber)

Joshua Berryhill - July 20, 2023 at 07:40 PM

BD

“ The employees of Sunnen Products Company are saddened by the loss of a true legend in the industry, and friend, Fred Young. Fred was a joy to work with and his high expectations of our honing systems made us a better company for it. He will be missed!

Bob Davis - July 20, 2023 at 05:24 PM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.



July 20, 2023 at 04:07 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Frederic Young.

July 20, 2023 at 04:07 PM

DD

“ Dennis Regan aka Denska purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Frederic Young.



Dennis Regan aka Denska - July 20, 2023 at 12:35 PM

DD

“ Dennis Regan aka Denska planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Frederic Young.

Dennis Regan aka Denska - July 20, 2023 at 12:35 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.



July 20, 2023 at 11:07 AM

SL

“ To the Young family, I am heartbroken to hear of Fred's death. Many years ago, in Rockford, Fred and I were teenage buddies both in BBYO and at the JCC. He spent many hours at our house laughing and figuring out where our next water adventure would be. Truth be told, Fred had a very old car in which three of the four doors opened. Fred took a huge rope and wrapped the rope around the door and around the car so the door would not fly open!!! I must admit it was a bit embarrassing but Fred thought it was terrific! (Yes, indeed, your dad was wild and crazy). I was an East High grad and Fred was very much a part of our group. Please know he will be missed by many. There are so many memories, may you be comforted by knowledge that he was loved. Fondly, Sue Verson Levich

Sue Levich - July 20, 2023 at 09:59 AM

DG

“ Dennis and Tari Gimpert purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Frederic Young.



Dennis and Tari Gimpert - July 20, 2023 at 09:31 AM

DG

“ Dennis and Tari Gimpert planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Frederic Young.

Dennis and Tari Gimpert - July 20, 2023 at 09:31 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.



July 20, 2023 at 09:16 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.



July 20, 2023 at 09:11 AM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.



July 20, 2023 at 08:46 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Frederic Young.

July 20, 2023 at 08:46 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.*



July 19, 2023 at 10:32 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Frederic Young.

July 19, 2023 at 10:32 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.*



July 19, 2023 at 10:20 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.*



July 19, 2023 at 10:11 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.*



July 19, 2023 at 05:12 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Frederic Young.

July 19, 2023 at 05:12 PM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.*



July 19, 2023 at 04:03 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.*



July 19, 2023 at 03:55 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Frederic Young.*

July 19, 2023 at 03:55 PM

RE

“ *Reishauer purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Frederic Young.*



Reishauer - July 19, 2023 at 03:44 PM

RE

“ *Reishauer planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Frederic Young.*

Reishauer - July 19, 2023 at 03:44 PM

BM

“ *Broach Masters planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Frederic Young.*

Broach Masters - July 19, 2023 at 03:40 PM

TH

“ I met Fred as a Trustee at Rockford University and we both had a love for manufacturing, one thing that was missed is his great mentorship. I will always treasure my friendship with Fred and his mentorship when I was a much younger man myself. Rest in peace Fred you will be missed down here, but welcomed in the afterlife for that infectious smile and KIND heart.

Tom Heiser - July 19, 2023 at 02:48 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.



July 19, 2023 at 01:36 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.



July 19, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.



July 19, 2023 at 10:05 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Frederic Young.

July 19, 2023 at 10:05 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.*



July 19, 2023 at 08:04 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.*



July 18, 2023 at 10:02 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Frederic Young.*

July 18, 2023 at 10:02 PM

BL

“ *One of the kindest and most unselfish men I ever met. I cherished our time on the stream and with TU.*

**Billy Lazor** - July 18, 2023 at 09:29 PM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.*



July 18, 2023 at 08:54 PM



“ *Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Frederic Young.*



July 18, 2023 at 08:42 PM