



## Robert "Bob" Karla

April 19, 1938 - July 13, 2021

Robert "Bob" Karla, age 83, resident of Shelby Township. On July 13, Robert Karla passed peacefully in his home surrounded by family. Bob was an avid and experienced outdoorsman and participated in numerous activities, most notably fishing, golfing, and ice hockey. Throughout his life, Bob traveled extensively throughout his home state of Michigan and Canada in pursuit of the perfect fishing hole.

Bob was a member of a men's hockey league for many years and shared his enthusiasm and talent for hockey with his great-nephew Ethan and great-niece Maggie. Bob was a member of the Denby High School ('56) swim team. From 1956 to 1962, Bob served in the US Navy with the rank of Petty Officer, assigned to the USS Boston, serving in Atlantic and Mediterranean waters. Post-military, Bob served as a professional fishing guide in eastern Canada before establishing a career in home appliance sales in Macomb County. Throughout his years living in Shelby Township, Bob was a devout member of Trinity Lutheran.

Bob enjoyed a game of chance. For Bob, gambling was not only a hobby, it was an art form. He was notably lucky at Caribbean Stud poker, playing a casual game of Keno, and enjoying his ever-present Lotto and scratcher tickets. The State of Michigan Gaming Commission was grateful to hear of Bob's departure.

Loving father of Jeanne (John) Alspaugh. Dear brother of Barb (Fred) Wirth. Dearest uncle of Lori (Bryan) Poirier, and Heidi (Dan) Stoudt. Great-Uncle of Ethan Stoudt, and Maggie Stoudt.

Instate on Tuesday, July 27 at 10am from Trinity Lutheran Church 45160 Van Dyke Utica until the time of service 11 am. Interment Grand Traverse Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Traverse City.

In lieu of flowers Mr. Karla's family requests donations to:

Hospice of Michigan <https://www.hom.org/donations>

or

LAMP Ministries <https://www.lampministry.org/#/donate-lamp>

Arrangements by Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home-Utica

Please share a memory at <http://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com>

# Cemetery

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## Grand Traverse Memorial Gardens Cemetery

3575 Veterans Drive  
Traverse City, MI, 49684

# Events

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**JUL 27** **Instate At Church** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

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Trinity Lutheran Church  
45160 Van Dyke, Utica, MI, US,  
48317

**JUL 27** **Funeral Service** 11:00AM

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Trinity Lutheran Church  
45160 Van Dyke, Utica, MI, US,  
48317

# Comments

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“ A webcast video has been added.



**Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors** - July 20 at 11:06 AM

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“ Bob was a good man and neighbor. Always a smile and pleasant greeting when we rubbed elbows. Lots of fond memories of leaning on/over the fence together...as we fellowshipped and swapped sea stories...his, from the Navy perspective and mine, from the Marine viewpoint! ha Always a lively...but respectful discussion...ha. He will be sorely missed... and fondly remembered! Calm seas and pleasant winds my friend. Love always, Mike & Kathy Isham

**Mike Isham** - August 05 at 05:44 PM

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“ Bob was a great guy. I had the pleasure of working with Bob for several years. God Bless Bob and his family. He will be missed by all.

**Nick Rine** - July 27 at 09:25 AM

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“ Love and prayers being sent to Bob's family and friends. I just love and adore his daughter, Jeanne, and I know how much he meant to her and John.

**June Kleier** - July 26 at 07:38 PM

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“ So many good memories over 51 years of our friendship - Golfing, Fishing, Hockey, all sports in general - along with multiple visits too the casino's- Bob was a TRUE Friend to me and my family who will always miss him.  
RIP Mr Bob  
Ron Stewart

ronald Stewart - July 17 at 08:30 PM

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“ My deepest condolences to Jeanne and family. He was such a great person, he came to see me after I had my daughter in the hospital, who is now 24. He will be truly missed. Hopefully he found Maggie in heaven he loved that dog. Paula Grube



Paula Grube - July 17 at 09:21 AM