



Alfred Richards

March 26, 1935 - August 19, 2022

Alfred Frederick Richards, age 87, passed away on August 19, 2022 in Berkley. He was born March 26th, 1935 in Detroit, MI to Alfred and Rose Richards. Al married his beloved Dora on March 6th, 1954 at St. John the Evangelist in Detroit. They celebrated 66 years of marriage prior to Dora's passing in March of 2020. Al and Dora adored one another and their love is eternal.

Loving father to Ann Venier, Tom Richards (Anne Graziana), the late Alfred "Butch" Richards and Tim (Tina) Richards.

Proud grandfather of Amy (Barry) Webb, Holly (James) Matson, David (Kristin) Venier, Andrew Venier (Nick Board), Tabitha (Steve) Sherphorn, Tiffany Richards (Zack Chase), Timothy Richards, Melissa (Justin) Niemi, Jennifer (Don) Bussa, Siobion Richards, Thomas Richards and Peadar Richards.

Adored great-grandfather of Eleanor Forrester, Madalynn Matson, Abigail Matson, Jack Venier, Harper Venier, Samuel Sherphorn, Kalista Sherphorn, Annabelle Sherphorn, Hunter Niemi, Isabellla Bussa, Landon Bussa and Declan Bussa.

Dear brother of Ronald (Linda) Richards, Charles (Magdolna) Richards,

Robert (Louise) Richards, Theodore (Diane) Richards and was preceded in death by brothers Mike Richards, Louis (Patsy) Richards and Lawrence Richards.

Al is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Al lived a full life surrounded by his family. He was an outdoorsman and a conservationist and loved being in nature. A native of Ferndale, he retired from UPS in 1991. Al served as a Boy Scout leader for many years and took much pride in teaching his scouts how to camp, fish, and woodwork, and was known to make a winning pinewood derby car. He loved wood-working and his children and grandchildren often received handmade gifts they counted as their favorites. His favorite place was his cabin in the Northwoods of the Upper Peninsula that he built with his own two hands. He loved being around a campfire (often picking his guitar), sharing stories with his family or in the boat with Dora. His laughter and wisdom will be missed by all he knew.

Visitation will take place on Tuesday, August 23, from 2 - 8 p.m. (Scripture Service at 7:00 p.m.) at William Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Rd. (four blocks east of Woodward), Royal Oak. Funeral Mass will be held Wednesday, August 24 at 10:00 a.m. (9:30 visitation) at St. Mary Catholic Church, 730 S. Lafayette Ave., Royal Oak.

Share a memory at www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **23**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak
705 W. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067
(248) 541-7000
royal@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

Scripture Service

AUG **23**. 7:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak
705 W. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067
(248) 541-7000
royal@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

Funeral Mass

AUG **24**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary Catholic Church
730 S. Lafayette Avenue
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Tribute Wall

FC

“ *From Cousins purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Alfred Richards.*



From Cousins - August 23, 2022 at 10:39 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Alfred Richards.*



August 23, 2022 at 08:49 AM

SH

“ *To the Richard's Family. Steve and I are so sad to hear of the passing of AL our cousin. We loved him so much. Our thoughts and prayers from our family will be with you. He will now be with his loving wife*

Sharon - August 22, 2022 at 07:47 PM

RI

“ *Rick and I are both very sorry to hear about the passing of Al. Thoughts and Prayers from our family go out to all of you. Hope there's comfort in knowing that Al is now reunited with Dora. Love to all, Florence and Rick Perkins.*

Rick - August 22, 2022 at 07:44 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Alfred Richards.*



August 22, 2022 at 03:14 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Alfred Richards.*



August 22, 2022 at 02:56 PM

CA

“ To all of the Richards family.....

Mike and I were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of our dear cousin Al. He and Dora were always a staple in our extended family, the patriarch and matriarch of yours. To us Al was always a welcoming person, a true family man, a compassionate and gentle soul. From the time I was a little girl there were very few occasions that I saw Al without Dora or Dora without Al, the love they had for one another and their family was very special indeed and I'm sure obvious to everyone they met. They were always an inspiration to Mike and I. The passing of Al for us truly marks the passing of an era that we don't think future generations will ever be able to fully experience and appreciate. It was a simpler time where parents, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, and cousins were all cherished and held in high regard. It was an era where love surpassed everything and nothing was more important than family.

We are deeply sorry for your loss. As you go through these very difficult days ahead please know that Mike and I send all of our love to you. Please know that we are with all of you in spirit and as always we continue to keep all of you in our prayers.

Carol - August 22, 2022 at 02:46 PM

LR

“ *I was 17 yrs old and married to Al's brother Ron. That was 60 ago. Since then, I l've not met a more close and loving family. So many good times, so many laughs and so many tears. Playing cards, family parties, canoeing down the Ausable, and camping! He will be missed.*

Linda Richards - August 22, 2022 at 01:28 PM

SU

“ Suzy purchased the *Fairest of All* for the family of Alfred Richards.



Suzy - August 22, 2022 at 12:51 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Alfred Richards.



August 22, 2022 at 12:28 PM

CP

“ Continental Automotive - PSS purchased the *Guiding Light Bouquet* for the family of Alfred Richards.



Continental Automotive - PSS - August 22, 2022 at 09:28 AM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Alfred Richards.



August 22, 2022 at 08:47 AM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Alfred Richards.*



August 22, 2022 at 08:34 AM



“ *My whole life I heard stories of Bam from my mom, Genevieve (Richard) Whitman. I was always intrigued by the nickname (because I loved Pebbles and BamBam) but Al got the nickname long before the Flintstones. Bam was one of the oldest of Aldolf and Hattie’s grandchildren and I was one of the youngest. I got to see him a few years back at a wedding and it was a pleasure remembering his Aunt Gen with him. God’s Peace and Love to his family.*

Rita Dambrun - August 22, 2022 at 08:04 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Alfred Richards.*



August 21, 2022 at 09:37 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Alfred Richards.*



August 21, 2022 at 09:08 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Alfred Richards.*



August 21, 2022 at 08:20 PM



“ *I have so many wonderful memories of Uncle Al. But one stands out from when we were very young.*

I remember that Lori, Suzanne, and I were already in bed for the night, so it was probably about 8 pm. (Jamie was still a twinkle in mom and dad's eyes.)

We heard the phone ring, and some talking from the kitchen. Then mom and dad came in and said, "Come on, kids. We're going to go over Aunt Dora's and Uncle Al's." We got to stay in our pajamas which we thought was SO COOL! So the adults played pinochle late into the night while the kids all played.

I always loved hearing Dad tell a story about when he and Uncle Al went to Missouri to visit Aunt Dora's family. Ask him about Rocky Mountain oysters!

Camping and fishing at Little Lake Brevort. Campfires late into the night. Sledding and ice skating with thermoses of hot cocoa. Uncle Al ALWAYS had his thermos full of coffee when he went to work, and I remember Aunt Dora trying to wake him up for work. 🍷 So many wonderful memories!

Lynne Durham - August 21, 2022 at 08:20 PM

CR

“ *Bam took me to my first day of kindergarten holding my hand all the way, when he took me to my room and I seen the nun I lost it and screamed for my mother, Al knelt down and hugged me and calmed me down he made my fears go away. He is a great big brother.* ”

charles richards - August 21, 2022 at 07:29 PM

CR

“ *Charles T Richards purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Alfred Richards.* ”



Charles T Richards - August 21, 2022 at 07:17 PM