



## Bruce M. Weaver

December 18, 1954 - July 13, 2023

Bruce Montgomery Weaver, age 68, of Royal Oak, passed away suddenly of natural causes on July 13, 2023. He was a resident of Royal Oak for more than 40 years, a town he truly called home. Everyone who knew Bruce knew that his life with his late wife Rita was the center of his happiness, his world view, his understanding of a lucky life.

His three children, Shawn Collick, Lee Collick (Sarah) and Julianna Weaver (Andy) have lost a dependable source of wisdom and love – a reliable true north. Bruce was first and foremost a devoted father whose strong heart and quiet humor steadied the ship that was so profoundly rocked by Rita's death in 2018. Bruce will be deeply missed by his grandchildren Veronica, Levi, Austin, and Ava; his sisters Susan Schoenfeld, Patricia Weaver Francisco, and Julie Weaver; his lifelong best friend Pete Anderson (Lisa), his nephews Andre Francisco (Cassandra), Jesse LaVercombe, his great niece Harriet, his in-laws Joan and John Sunne, Mary Evans and Phil DeGabriel, Nancy White, and many more beloved family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents Joseph and Harriet Weaver of Harbor Springs, Michigan.

Calm and patient, Bruce would do anything for his family. He loved spending time with his children: attending softball games, band and orchestra concerts, helping with science projects, setting up the Slip n' Slide, building a replica of Tiger Stadium out of Legos, sharing his love of history, Bruce Springsteen, the

Detroit Thanksgiving Day Parade, and Arlo Guthrie's Alice's Restaurant.

Born in Detroit on December 18, 1954, Bruce attended Groves High School and earned his BS in Economics from the University of Michigan. A lover of astronomy, an astronaut-at-heart, he was known to get up in the middle of the night on cold evenings to view a celestial event. He recently retired as an Economic Manager for the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget – after 43 years to the day of his original hire. (Discovering this fact, his three kids agreed, pleased him as much as catching the odometer turning over to a significant new milage. He loved numbers, statistics, data, and especially significant data. His nephew remembers Bruce teaching him the intricacies of manual scoring at Tiger Games.)

Bruce worked in many capacities as an economist with the State of Michigan. He managed the analysts that compiled, analyzed, and distributed Michigan's labor market statistics and frequently served as spokesperson to the media and a resource for both information and interpretation to the public. He edited and contributed to the Bureau's monthly magazine, offering in-depth analysis of employment data across time, place, and occupation.

In truth, those who knew him best as a father, grandfather, brother, uncle, nephew, cousin, and friend had virtually no idea what he did in his working life, though his responsibilities mattered deeply to him. He loved his career, worked overtime to ensure accuracy and timeliness of data, and cared about his team. Yet he just didn't talk about himself. He talked about you, wanted to know your story, your day, your thoughts. You'd never know that he was so well respected for his work, unless you were his sister Susan, who happened to see the commendation plaque from Governor Whitmer on his mantel.

Bruce was passionate about human rights. He volunteered for Amnesty International, writing letters to help free prisoners of conscience around the

world, and with SORT – Supporters of Regional Transportation – advocating for accessible public busing for the city of Detroit. He was a man of ultimate integrity, soft-spoken but firm in his values, kind, easily charmed by children and the wonders of the world, a life-long learner, a champion of fairness and right action. His sisters called him “The Rock,” and are grateful for having had a lifetime of his irreplaceable company. He was known as “The Wall” in tennis, the sport he most loved to play, from his days on the Groves High School tennis team, teaching tennis at Wequetonsing on Little Traverse Bay in Northern Michigan, and playing fiercely right through the rest of his days.

Oh, how he will be missed. Please add your thoughts and memories here on this site. We, who loved him deeply and already miss him greatly, would love to hear more.

A visitation will be held from 10:30 am-1:30 pm, Saturday, July 22, Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 West Eleven Mile Road, Royal Oak. Interment will follow, 2 pm, Oakview Cemetery, 1032 N Main St, Royal Oak.

In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to Wayne State University’s Hilberry Gateway Theatre, where Bruce and Rita held season tickets for more than 30 years.

<http://giving.wayne.edu/donate/weaver>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL **22**. 10:30 AM - 1:30 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/>

## Burial

JUL **22**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Oakview Cemetery  
1032 N. Main Street  
Royal Oak, MI 48067

# Tribute Wall

LH

“ I am sorry to hear of Bruce’s passing. He sounds like a wonderful, loving and intelligent man. I only have memories of him from childhood as Patty’s little brother. Patty and I were good friends back in our junior high school days. My maiden name is Leslie French. If Patty reads this, please communicate with me by text or call at 309-6962970. I would love to hear from you.

Leslie Hopkins - August 07, 2023 at 04:23 PM

SM

“ My sincere condolences.

Sam Meheidli- DTMB

Sam Meheidli - July 28, 2023 at 08:00 AM

KM

“ We were so sorry to learn of Bruce's passing. Bruce and George worked together for many years in Labor Market Information and shared a passion for data and economic analysis. We extend our sincere condolences to Bruce's family. Kathleen and George Mechem

Kathleen and George Mechem - July 21, 2023 at 10:27 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Bruce M. Weaver.



July 21, 2023 at 07:15 AM

FA

“ I've known Bruce for 40 years, at work and playing tennis (up to a couple of weeks ago). A good guy who will be missed, both on and off the court. I am out of the area and will not be able to attend on Saturday. Our thoughts are with his family.

*Chuck and Fran Alberts*

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**Fran and Chuck Alberts** - July 20, 2023 at 06:57 PM



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

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July 20, 2023 at 10:53 AM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Bruce M. Weaver.



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July 20, 2023 at 10:53 AM

BN

“ I was so sorry to hear of Bruce's passing. It was such a priviledge to work with Bruce for over 20 years in Research & Statistics and Labor Market Information. I remember Bruce as hard-working and thorough with great analytical skills, a desire to get the best job done yet easy-going and just a nice friendly, humble guy.

*My sincerest condolences to his family.*

*Brenda C. Njiwaji,  
Retired Government Administrator*

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**Brenda Njiwaji** - July 19, 2023 at 06:28 PM

VA

“ My condolences to the family of Bruce. LMI's human encyclopedia, thanks Bruce!

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**Valerie** - July 19, 2023 at 02:45 PM

KS

03-30-2025

*Jesus! I have just learned about Bruce's passing! Found out about it from my old-time coworker from the Research & Statistics Unit of the Department of Labor. Recently, at my own retirement, I was spending excessive amount of time overseas in Poland staying with my own aging and living alone mom there. Georgia C. whom I recently bumped into at the Post Office in Fraser, Michigan, told me about Bruce. I am so saddened to hear about it! Bruce was my mentor and most knowledgeable analyst-coworker, when I was first hired and worked at the R&S Unit in the fall of 1988 and was later stationed at the Traverse City MESC field office. Bruce took me there. He was my first teacher and lead advisor on the job. Such a friendly and humble individual. He had a beautiful family! His wife knitted a tiny sweater for my son, when learned about him being born. I have so many heartwarming memories of Bruce Weaver.*

*Rest in Peace, dear friend! May you be rewarded in Heaven for what you did for your family, friends and coworkers ...and the rest of Michigan society, here on our beautiful planet, Earth! ❤️🙏👐*

*I wish to extend my very late, but nevertheless, heartfelt and sincere condolences to the family.*

*Kazimierz (Kaz) Skoczen*

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**KAZIMIERZ A SKOCZEN** - March 30, 2025 at 08:58 AM