



## Daniel L. Laux

May 11, 1955 - April 26, 2023

But he knows where I am going. And when he has tested me, I will be refined as pure gold - Job 23:10. It has been our privilege to witness Dan's earthly life and see how God used all circumstances, both the good and the bad, to refine his life.

God orders our lives and determines the days before we are born. On May 11, 1955 Daniel Loren Laux was born in Belding, Michigan to David & Ida Mae (Sis) Laux 11 minutes after his twin Diana. The joke is that Dan, who was born breech, pushed Diana out of the womb. Dan and Diana soon had other siblings to help plan mischief on the working family farm: David (Mike), Dennis, GERALYN (Tootie), and Timothy.

On the coldest day of the year, February 17, 1979, Dan was married to his college sweetheart Kathy Marie Schmidt. They were happily married for 44 years and were blessed with three daughters: Jessica Lauren, Carley Evangeline, and Kirsten Claudine. When his girls were young, people would ask "Do you wish you had a son?" And Dan would reply "Someday, I will have three." He gained three sons through his daughters' marriages: Christopher Michael Koehler, Andrew Alan Rivard, and Matt Ryan Brady. On his deathbed, he affirmed that these three men are truly his sons and rested in the confidence that they are loving husbands to his daughters and wonderful, ever-present fathers to his grandchildren: The Koehlers - Matthias Edward

(Ty), Maddox Augustus, and Mitchell Kenneth; The Rivards - Adelaide Liliana, Clark Alan, Evangeline Noelle, and Bruce Christian; The Bradys - Georgia Marie, and little baby girl who is due to be born in one month's time.

Dan & Kathy started their marriage in Charlotte, Michigan where Dan began work in the title insurance industry and they attended First Lutheran Church. A job change relocated the family to Rochester Hills, Michigan where Shepherd's Gate Lutheran Church became their church home. Dan enjoyed a lot of football, a little golf, biking & hiking on the trails Up North, sunsets on Lake Michigan, maintaining his yard, woodworking, and teaching the grandkids how to play euchre, cribbage, and backgammon. Dan's deepest desire for himself, and all those whom he loved, was to live a life that would step forward into closer relationship with God and that through the gospel message we would influence in a positive way the relationships we have...the relationships we need to repair...and the relationships we have yet to experience.

Dan passed away on Wednesday, April 26, 2023. During his short hospital stay, he told his family that his desire was to live for Christ by being a light for his wife, children, and grandchildren. But his other option was going home to Jesus. In his own words, "He only had two good options." Dan's passing was both sudden and not. He had battled a new bout of cancer this past fall and intermittently for the past 25 years. However, he had finished his most recent cancer treatments and was enjoying time with family, looking forward to his retirement, and making travel plans with his wife Kathy.

God's ways are higher than ours and God's plans are deeper than our understanding. While we do not understand God's timing, we have no doubt that God worked through Dan's life, is working now through his death, and that He is saying "Well done, good and faithful servant" to Dan right now. He will be deeply missed by his wife Kathy, daughters Jessie (Chris) Koehler, Carley

(Andrew) Rivard, Kirsten (Matt) Brady and his grandchildren. He leaves behind his siblings: Diana (Steve) Whitford, Mike (Patty) Laux, Dennis (Petra) Laux, GERALYN (Rick) Barker, Timothy Laux, and his siblings through marriage: Audrey (Brian) Marsh, and Glenn (Kim) Schmidt. He was also a favorite uncle to many nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his parents David and Ida Mae Laux, his in-laws Kenneth and Adelaide Schmidt, and his sister-in-law Connie Schmidt.

A celebration of Daniel's life will be held on Friday, May 12, 2023 at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home 8459 Hall Road (3 Blks. E. of Van Dyke) Utica from 5-7pm.

A memorial gathering and service will be held on Saturday, May 13, 2023 at Shepherd's Gate Church 12400 23 Mile Rd. (Btwn Schoenherr and Van Dyke) Shelby Township from 10am until time of service at 11am.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you send a donation to the Faith Forward campaign at Shepherd's Gate Church, where Dan was a long-time member.

Below is a direct link to give.

<https://sgatechurch.churchcenter.com/giving/to/faith-forward-building-memoria>  
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# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life gathering

MAY 12. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Wm Sullivan and Son Funeral Home  
8459 Hall Road  
Utica, MI 48317  
(586) 731-2411  
utica@sullivanfh.com  
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

## Memorial Gathering

MAY 13. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Shepherd's Gate Church  
12400 23 Mile Rd.  
Shelby Twp., MI 48315

## Memorial Service

MAY 13. 11:00 AM (ET)

Shepherd's Gate Church  
12400 23 Mile Rd.  
Shelby Twp., MI 48315

# Tribute Wall

TM

“ So very sorry to hear of Dan’s passing. A kind and gentle man with a good sense of humor and quick with a smile. Had the pleasure to work with Dan and he was a great friend to me. Always enjoyed our late afternoon conference calls...with a beverage or two! You will be missed my friend. *Tim Mitchell*

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**Tim Mitchell** - May 12, 2023 at 10:09 PM

GH

“ *Gayle Somers, Bob and Linda Huppert purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Daniel L. Laux.*



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**Gayle Somers, Bob and Linda Huppert** - May 09, 2023 at 08:01 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Daniel L. Laux.*



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May 09, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Daniel L. Laux.*



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May 08, 2023 at 01:28 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Daniel L. Laux.*



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May 08, 2023 at 01:12 PM



“ *Dan you were such a great person. You were always kind to everyone, I don't think that I ever heard you say a bad word about anyone. You were someone we could look up to. We were glad to be considered one of your friends. I remember all the good times with you and Diana at your house and mind. And you were one of the lucky ones, you got to be lectured by my Dad. You will be missed by all.*

*Prayers to your Family, and Diana too. Brenda Schalow one of the gang.*

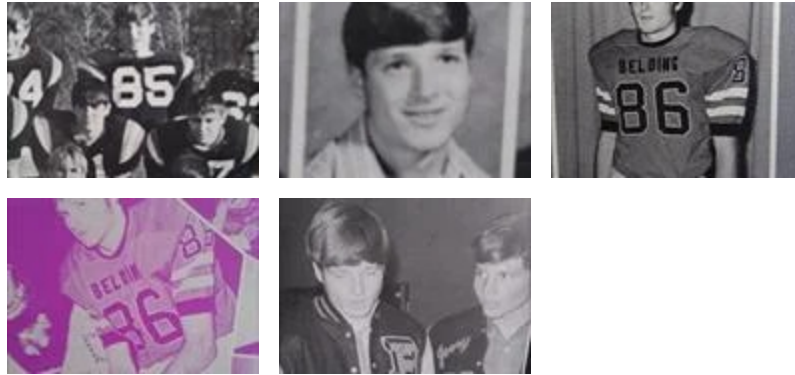
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**Brenda Schalow Wood** - May 07, 2023 at 10:27 AM

BW

“ Dan you were such an awesome person. Even in school you were one of a kind. Always positive, never an unkind word about others, a person we could always count on. You gave us someone to look up to and we were glad to be considered as one of your friends. You will certainly be remembered by all of us.

*Prayers to your family and to you too Diana.*



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**Brenda Schalow Wood** - May 07, 2023 at 10:18 AM

JR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Jan Rygwelski** - May 06, 2023 at 11:56 AM

JR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jan Rygwelski - May 06, 2023 at 11:55 AM

LT

“ Greg and I are praying for all of Dan's family, friends, and Coworkers. Greg always spoke highly of Dan. May God bless you all and keep you as you grieve. Lynette Trammell



Lynette Trammell - May 06, 2023 at 06:53 AM

WJ

“ With Love to you and yours, Jan & Joe purchased the Garden Accent Stone - "Wherever a Beautiful Soul..." for the family of Daniel L. Laux.



With Love to you and yours, Jan & Joe - May 05, 2023 at 09:36 PM

JR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jan Rygwelski - May 05, 2023 at 09:25 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Daniel L. Laux.*



May 05, 2023 at 09:39 AM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Daniel L. Laux.*



May 04, 2023 at 10:25 AM



“ *So very sorry to learn last night of Dan's passing. Many fond memories of growing up with the Laux family in Belding. Sympathies and prayers to all of his family. Kathy Scheid Bannister*

**Kathy Scheid Bannister** - May 04, 2023 at 09:45 AM



“ *Danno you were a friend a co-worker and a mentor. You left us too soon buddy. Your spirit and your laugh will be greatly missed on the conference calls that you disliked. Ha! Come this October I'll start watching the draft boards for your Lions for you. To quote the great Vince Gill "Go rest high on that mountain!" I'm sure you got a real nice cabin up there. Rest in peace my friend*

**Greg Trammell** - May 04, 2023 at 12:37 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Daniel L. Laux.*



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May 03, 2023 at 09:03 PM



“ *Dan will be deeply missed, but his warmth, kindness, and gentle spirit will always be remembered! I'll definitely cherish all the years I was able to work with him. He's an inspiration to us all and left many impacts on our lives. There are some that bring a light so great to the world that even after they have gone, the light remains! Dan is a bright shining light that will remain in our hearts forever. Until we meet again my friend, may you find peace in paradise.*

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**Nicole Vancil** - May 03, 2023 at 05:18 PM



“ *Thank you, Dan. Thank you for the time, the encouragement, the talks. Your work family will deeply miss you. Rest in Peace, friend.*



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**Janessa** - May 03, 2023 at 12:08 PM



*Dan was my Best Man in more ways than one. He was a true and loyal friend of my youth. He will be greatly missed. Have a good rest my friend*

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**Richard Cole** - May 03, 2023 at 05:24 PM