



Daniel C. Neal

November 28, 1943 - June 6, 2026

Daniel Clinton Neal (82) died peacefully in his sleep after multiple strokes and an ongoing battle with Alzheimer's disease on Saturday, June 6, 2026 surrounded by family and friends during the weeks leading to his passing.

Dan was born in Herkimer, New York, a small town in the foothills of the Adirondack Mountains, on November 28, 1943. His childhood was filled with outdoor fun such as little league, basketball, sledding, camping and more! He went off to Rider College in New Jersey in the fall of 1961, and then transferred to Siena Catholic College the next year. He graduated college in 1965 with a degree in Economics.

After graduation, Dan joined the Catholic Extension Lay Volunteer program, where he was trained by the Catholic Extension Society to do volunteer work. He was assigned to Saint Agnes Catholic Church in Detroit and Baxter Community Center among other places. In fact, Dan met Rita McEachen, his wife and love of his life, at Saint Agnes as she was on the Parish Council there. Dan and Rita married on June 23, 1967; they had four children.

Soon after, Dan earned his master's degree in Library Science from The University of Michigan. He had a career as a librarian for 36 years in Detroit. The library that he most loved and at which he worked the longest was the Main library; he worked in The Business and Finance Department and The

Philosophy, Religion and Education Department at Main. He loved reading and learning and passed that on to the many people that he met. Being around Dan meant having a conversation about a book, a play, history, or a political issue.

In his time, he was a community activist and leader who worked for equality for all. He also volunteered in his own community of Grandmont, on the Northwest side of Detroit, where he and Rita lived for over 50 years. Over the years, he played many roles in the Grandmont Community Organization: President, Historian, Grandmont Art Fair Director, Committee Leader to make Grandmont a Nuclear Free Zone, Art Fair Information Desk Leader (40 years +), Patrol Member, Halloween Party Host, etc...

Let's not forget to mention Dan's love of socializing through music, singing, laughing, dancing, traveling, and nature. When you were with Dan, you laughed! He wasn't superficial, he could connect with others deeply during a conversation. Dan helped people feel smart, valued and special.

Dan is survived by his three children: Timothy Neal (Carol), Meghan Neal-Sienko (Grant), and Mary Rita Neal; his grandchildren: Helena Grace Sienko, Brady Griffin Neal, and Grant Joseph Sienko; His brothers and sisters-in-law: Gary Evans, Dennis McEachen (Rosanne), Lawrence McEachen (Avis), Patricia McAskin nee McEachen, James McEachen (Paula), Donald McEachen (Shelia), John McEachen (Kari), Joan McEachen, James Karagon (Beverly Green), and many nieces and nephews whom he loved dearly.

Dan is predeceased by his wife, Rita McEachen Neal; his father, LeRoy Neal; his mother, Doris Neal nee Griffin; his sister, Donna Evans nee Neal; his son, Paul Daniel Neal; his mother-in-law, Helen McEachen nee McHale; his father-in-law, Angus McEachen; his sister-in-law, Mary Karagon; his brothers-in-law: Ronald McEachen (Maureen), and Michael McAskin.

Dan's family will receive friends for visitation on Wednesday, June 10, 2026 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. with a sharing of memories service at 6:30 p.m. at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Road, Royal Oak. Dan will lie in state on Thursday, June 11, from 10:00 a.m. until the time of his funeral mass at 11:00 a.m. at Christ the King Catholic Church, 20800 Grand River Avenue, Detroit. Interment at Mt. Carmel, Wyandotte. Please share a story or leave a tribute at www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com

Cemetery Details

Mt. Carmel Cemetery - Wyandotte

900 Ford Avenue
Wyandotte, MI 48192

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 10. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak
705 W. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Sharing of Memories

JUN 10. 6:30 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak
705 W. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Instate At Church

JUN 11. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Christ the King Catholic Church
20800 Grand River Avenue
Detroit, MI 48219

Funeral Mass

JUN 11. 11:00 AM (ET)

Christ the King Catholic Church
20800 Grand River Avenue
Detroit, MI 48219

Tribute Wall

EH

“ Blessings on Dan for all the good he has wrought, his creative thinking, and the delight he has sprinkled in so many ways. May he and Rita enjoy God’s delight in them. Ed and Mary Haggerty

Edward Haggerty - June 12 at 01:27 PM

SB

“ I would like to share my husband's journey with Alzheimer's disease. He received his diagnosis two years ago at the age of 57, presenting with symptoms such as memory loss, difficulty finding words, and a pulsating sensation throughout his body. Initially, he was prescribed donepezil for six months, which was subsequently replaced with memantine. During this period, he was also diagnosed with dementia and began experiencing hallucinations and a diminished connection to reality. Suspecting that the medication might be contributing to his symptoms, and with the knowledge of his physician, I discontinued the memantine and commenced a natural herbal formula for Alzheimer's from AKNNI HERBAL CENTRE. Within three weeks of using the AKANNI HERBAL Alzheimer's disease natural herbal formula, his symptoms significantly declined. My husband, who is now almost 61, is doing exceptionally well, with the disease appearing to be entirely reversed. (Visit [www.aknniherbscentre .com](http://www.aknniherbscentre.com))

Susan Baker - June 11 at 04:06 AM

PW

“ Patricia W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Daniel C. Neal.

Patricia W. - June 10 at 11:23 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Patrick McAskin - June 10 at 04:56 PM

SA

Love this photo. Remember them well.

Sharon Kozminske Armstrong - June 10 at 05:21 PM



thanks for posting this picture of the family.

Mary Ellen Robertson - June 22 at 05:13 AM

LS

“ Lauren S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Daniel C. Neal.

Lauren S. - June 10 at 12:16 PM



“ Dan and Rita were wonderful neighbors and pillars of our Grandmont Community. They exemplified our community slogan “Detroit’s Home of Good Neighbors”. Dan was the historian and keeper of Grandmont history. Even though we were close in age, I felt like a kid sitting by his side listening as he shared stories of Grandmont, the naming of streets and the people behind the names. Dan left an impact on all our hearts. I feel blessed to have known a neighbor like Dan.

Curtis & Debra Parnell

Debra Rhodes - June 10 at 11:39 AM

TF

“ *The Witt Family purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Daniel C. Neal.*



The Witt Family - June 10 at 08:39 AM

MM

“ *Dan grew up in a smallish town, Herkimer, NY, near his grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. His only sibling was 10 years older than him. So he loved being able to socialize with the other kids and cousins. He was always most excited when my parents (his Mom and my Mom were sisters) stopped at their house to visit with us 8 kids. His Mom not so excited. But we all had fun!! Danny was thrilled with Rita's great big family and all of the excitement it generated. He was so happy to share Rita's sisters and brothers and cousins. It made me happy to know he had this great big family in Detroit who loved him, too. We will all miss Dan. He loved us all and it felt so good. Mary Catherine Thomas Mellum*

Mary Catherine Thomas Mellum - June 09 at 09:13 PM

AS

“ Dear Tim, Meghan and Mary Rita and all the Neal/McEachen families:

My sincerest sympathies in the passing of your wonderful Dad, brother and uncle. Dan's big heart and love for his family and really, all whom he encountered in life have left us with an indelible mark. Dan & Rita travelled to meet the Mac Eachen cousins in Nova Scotia in 1999. He caught fish, he laughed, he danced, he sang.. He left another good mark on all of us. On this last journey, may he rest in peace in the company of wonderful Rita and in the loving arms of our Lord.

*Love,
Anne Marie (Mac Eachen) Sime
Nova Scotia*

Anne Marie Sime - June 09 at 08:38 PM

DE

“ Dorothy E. purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Daniel C. Neal.



Dorothy E. - June 09 at 06:22 PM

KC

“ Uncle Danny - loved having you as my uncle who loved a midnight snack, a good story and song, a cigar and a laugh ❤️ You loved your family and we were lucky to have you. We are praying for a joyful reunion with Aunt Rita and give my dad a great big bear hug up there. Love you, Katie



Katie Courtney - June 09 at 05:34 PM

KD

Great Happy crew. Dan was always so kind and had a fun story to tell. God bless you and give Rita a kiss!

Kathy Mac Donald - June 09 at 08:30 PM

LP

“ Love Parul Patel purchased the Lavender Love Bouquet for the family of Daniel C. Neal.



Love Parul Patel - June 09 at 05:28 PM

LP

“ Love Parul Patel planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Daniel C. Neal.

Love Parul Patel - June 09 at 05:28 PM

FF

“ from The Lerman Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Daniel C. Neal.



from The Lerman Family - June 09 at 04:50 PM

FF

“ from The Lerman Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Daniel C. Neal.

from The Lerman Family - June 09 at 04:50 PM

CB

“ Deepest sympathy to Tim, Megan and Mary and other family members.
Sorry for your loss-- we shared many wonderful and fond memories living in Grandmont.
Keeping all of you in our prayers.
Love Always,
Charlotte & Tony Battle

Charlotte Battle - June 09 at 04:48 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Daniel C. Neal.



June 09 at 04:39 PM



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

June 09 at 04:39 PM



“ Love Karla E. Lockard purchased the Lavender Love Bouquet for the family of Daniel C. Neal.



Love Karla E. Lockard - June 09 at 04:24 PM



“ Uncle Dan was a wonderful man and will be missed deeply by all those who knew him.



Patrick McAskin - June 09 at 04:21 PM



“ Megan Carson purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Daniel C. Neal.



Megan Carson - June 09 at 04:15 PM



“ *Lavender Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Daniel C. Neal.*



June 09 at 04:06 PM



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

June 09 at 04:06 PM



“ *Kevin, Sonja and Grant Johnson-Grandmont purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Daniel C. Neal.*



Kevin, Sonja and Grant Johnson-Grandmont - June 09 at 04:05 PM



“ *Kevin, Sonja and Grant Johnson-Grandmont planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Daniel C. Neal.*

Kevin, Sonja and Grant Johnson-Grandmont - June 09 at 04:05 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Daniel C. Neal.*



June 09 at 03:36 PM



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

June 09 at 03:36 PM



“ *It wasn't often that I was able to spend time with Dan. However, when I did, and he would ask how you and your family were doing, you could tell that he genuinely cared. My prayers are with Danny and the entire family. Love from Cousin Pete Thomas.*

Peter J. Thomas - June 09 at 02:54 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Daniel C. Neal.*



June 09 at 01:10 PM