



## Dennis J. Campbell

September 24, 1944 - December 21, 2024

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Dennis Joseph Campbell Jr, affectionately known as Dan, who left us on December 21, 2024, at the age of 80. Born on September 24, 1944, in Tallahassee, Florida, Dan spent his formative years in New Orleans, Louisiana, before moving to Detroit to pursue a successful career with General Motors. He was the beloved son of Dennis and Angela (née Barron) Campbell.

After graduating from high school, Dan enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard, where he served as an aviation storekeeper stationed overseas. Following his honorable discharge, he continued his commitment to service as a patrolman with the Slidell Police Department in Louisiana. Eager for a new career opportunity, Dan relocated to Michigan and began his journey at the Detroit Diesel Allison Division of General Motors, where he supervised a team dedicated to producing quality parts. He later transitioned to the Hydra-matic Division, serving as a Quality Control Supervisor before advancing to the role of Reliability Engineer.

Dan's life was profoundly enriched by his first marriage to Rosemary, with whom he built a loving family that included their three daughters: Lisa, Julie, and Sharon. The bond they shared was a cornerstone of his life until Rosemary's passing. In 1999, Dan found love again when he married Bonnie (née Berzac), who brought him renewed joy and companionship in his later

years.

He leaves behind his devoted wife, Bonnie, and his cherished daughters: Lisa Schley (Randy), Julie Gramps (Bret), and Sharon Grundman (Tom), along with his son, Dennis (Madeline). Dan is also survived by his sister, Sharon Sequina, and his stepsons Curt (Carleen) Kopko, Geoff (Jana) Kopko, and Randy Kopko.

As a proud grandfather to 22 grandchildren, whom he affectionately referred to as his "Rascals"-each with a nickname reflecting his Cajun heritage-and 11 great-grandchildren, Dan treasured every moment spent with his family. He was also a beloved uncle to many nieces and nephews, who held him dear in their hearts.

Although Dan is no longer with us, his spirit and the cherished memories we created together will forever remain in our hearts. He will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

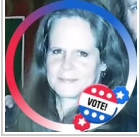
A graveside service for family will be held on December 27. A celebration of life luncheon will be announced at a later date.

# Cemetery Details

## **Mt. Hope Cemetery**

17840 Middlebelt Rd.  
Livonia, MI 48152

# Tribute Wall



“ *Papa Dan we called him here in Slidell, Louisiana. I am Madeline B Campbell, his daughter in law. Dennis Joseph Campbell, III is my husband. Dennis is named after his father. Dennis is Dan Campbell's ONLY son. Dan had one other daughter, Sharon. The others in his life were adopted.*

*We saw him at times, when he visited Louisiana. It was always a short visit. He said some of his early life here did not bring pleasant memories. I never knew exactly what he meant by that. Dennis, his son, grew up without Dan in his life because of those memories.*

*BUT, Dan Campbell, Papa Dan, did make up for that in his own way.*

*When his father, Dennis J Campbell, Sr was dying, Dan came to Louisiana and stayed with us. Hospice put 'Gramps' in our home so his last days would be with family.*

*When his third wife, Rosemary was battling cancer, Dan took care of her. He also brought her to Louisiana to meet his ONLY son, Dennis' new wife, me. Rosemary told me how she prayed for Denny (that's what they called my Dennis) often, and how happy she was to meet me. I still tear up remembering that she believed I was God's answer to her prayers.*

*Many, many days I heard Dennis and his dad talking on the phone. They spoke almost every day from the year Dennis and I got married, 1993 on.*

*Papa Dan's grand children here in Louisiana numbered 7 until we lost our precious Sarah Marie in 2020. He sent birthday cards to all of us EVERY year without fail. He also sent holiday cards for all to enjoy; and not just for Christmas: the kids got Easter and Halloween cards too!*

*Dan found ways to with his grand children as they grew up.  
- With our oldest son, Wesley because Wes manages a local*

*McDonald's (Rosemary, Lisa and Julie's mom was a manager of one too).*

*- With our second son, Dennis J, IV who like his father, Dennis J, III got a*

*certification in automobile mechanics.*

*- With our middle child, Annebelle, who is currently serving in the U.S. Coast Guard as an MK on the Edgar Culbertson Cutter in Galveston, TX. (Dan served in the Coast Guard, and his father served in the US Navy).*

*- With our oldest daughter, Victoria. who flew up to Michigan and stayed with him and Gramma Bonnie. They took her to a baseball game while she was there; she flew home alone at 7yrs old, and still remembers that week. She gave him two great grand sons: Isaiah and Kameron Campbell.*

*- With our gentle, Emily, who is an exceptional artist! She drew on a balloon for his birthday one year; he took it home and it stayed floating for a very long time.*

*- With our baby, Kelly, because she was the last one and he regularly had to send her card late - her birthday is one week after Wesley's.*

*It was a precious visit the last time he came to Louisiana. He and Bonnie came to see us specifically because he knew it would be the last time he came here. He said some things in his gentle way that I still hold dear.*

*"No wonder you guys love to be home, and do things at home - this place is like a private sanctuary, vacation spot!"*

*"We all have quirks, you just accept those quirks and love each other"*

*"You have such a precious family, you all work together with such energy"*

*I am sad that the Michigan family seems to forget that Dennis J Campbell (Papa Dan) has a son and a family here in Louisiana..... Papa Dan most certainly did not!!*

*You have gone home, Dan, and are glorified with our Heavenly*

*Father and our Lord Jesus Christ! We will miss you until we meet again!*

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**Madeline Campbell** - January 30, 2025 at 11:25 PM