



## Don Sanborn

August 10, 1933 - July 1, 2024

Donald E. Sanborn, age 90, of Sterling Heights, Michigan, passed away on July 1, 2024. He was born on August 10, 1933 in Detroit to Elwin and Olga (nee Jeschke) Sanborn. In his final years, Don found solace in the company of his wife, Mary Ellen, with whom he shared 71 years of marriage.

After graduating from high school, Don enlisted in the United States Army and spent his time in the service in Kentucky, where the newlyweds started their family. After his years in the service, the family returned to Michigan, where Don began his career as a salesman, retiring after over 45 years of loyal employment.

In his younger years, Don loved golfing with friends and family and also enjoyed bowling. His favorite hobby was spending countless hours playing cards with family. He was a faithful Lutheran, active in his local parish through several leadership roles. In retirement, he found comfort in the Bible verses he studies daily.

Don is the beloved husband of Mary Ellen; loving father of Donald Jr. Russel (Karen), Judy Steele, Paul, Ken, and the late Gary, who preceded Don in death in 2022; the proud grandfather of Stephanie, Nicholas, Alicia, Jake, Jesse, Scott, and Calvin; and the great-grandfather of Alice, Gabriel, Gwendolyn, Chloe, and Tristan. Don was preceded in death by his dear

siblings, Al, Roger, Edward, and Marita Ortmann.

Don will be remembered most for his quick wit, devotion to his faith, and cherishing the time spent with his family.

Don's family will receive friends for visitation on Sunday, July 7, 2024 from 2:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and on Monday, July 8, from 12:00 p.m. until his funeral service at 1:00 p.m. at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 8459 Hall Road (3 blocks East of Van Dyke), Utica. Interment at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly. Please leave a memory or share a story at [www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com](http://www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Great Lakes National Cemetery

4200 Belford Road  
Holly Township, MI 48442

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 7. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

## Visitation

JUL 8. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

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

## Funeral Service

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JUL 8. 1:00 PM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall

JM

“ Jodi Quinlan and James Minor planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Don Sanborn.

Jodi Quinlan and James Minor - July 07, 2024 at 05:48 PM

JM

“ Jodi Quinlan and James Minor purchased the *Celestial Love* for the family of Don Sanborn.



Jodi Quinlan and James Minor - July 07, 2024 at 05:48 PM



“ *Love's Journey* was purchased for the family of Don Sanborn.



July 07, 2024 at 11:01 AM

LT

“ Love Craig, Andi, Cole & Cecelia Toyryla planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Don Sanborn.

Love Craig, Andi, Cole & Cecelia Toyryla - July 06, 2024 at 06:09 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams* was purchased for the family of Don Sanborn.



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July 06, 2024 at 06:09 PM



“ *Susan W. purchased the Arrive in Style* for the family of Don Sanborn.



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**Susan W.** - July 06, 2024 at 12:03 PM



“ *Shelby Comfort Care purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet* for the family of Don Sanborn.



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**Shelby Comfort Care** - July 05, 2024 at 10:15 PM

DB

“ *Uncle Don was such a beautiful vivid memory of my youth. A Warm, funny, loving uncle married to an amazing Aunt that I think I am so much like. We admired this couple enough to go and visit them on our honeymoon, 56 years ago.*

*They inspired us. Although we haven't seen them in a very long time, they will forever be in our hearts.*

*Rest in peace Uncle Don. Our deepest condolences to Aunt MaryEllen and our cousins. Love you. Deb and Larry.*



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**Debra Bradley** - July 05, 2024 at 02:51 PM