



## Donna Harms

January 15, 1958 - July 21, 2022

Donna Jo Harms (Melchert) passed away on July 21st, 2022 near her home in Sterling Heights, Michigan, at the age of 64. She was the daughter of Roland Melchert and Edith Bradin, and was born on January 15th, 1958.

Donna Jo was a beloved wife, mother, and sister, with many other beloved family and friend relations. She was also an artist, a baker, a tutor, a coach, a catechist, a crafter, a biker, a camper, and so on, as the list is exhaustive. Donna put her all into every one of her pursuits and passions, sharing them with those around her and enriching their lives.

Donna Jo's life will be celebrated with a memorial on Friday, July 29th, 2022, from 4pm to 8pm at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 8459 Hall Rd (3Blks east of Van Dyke) Utica, with a Knights of Columbus Rosary taking place at 7pm. The memorial gathering will continue on Saturday, July 30, 2022 at St. Ephrem Catholic Church 38900 Dodge Park Rd. Sterling Heights at 10am until the time of Mass at 11am.

In honor of Donna Jo the family asks donations be made to The Parkinson's Foundation, [www.parkinson.org/ways-to-give](http://www.parkinson.org/ways-to-give) -or- St. Ephrem Catholic Church [saintephremchurch.org/donate](http://saintephremchurch.org/donate)

Please feel free to leave a memory of Donna Jo on the Tribute Wall. The

family thanks everyone, both prior and in advance for any and all thoughtful wishes.

# Cemetery Details

## Christian Memorial Gardens West

521 E. Hamlin Road  
Rochester Hills, MI 48307

# Previous Events

## Memorial Gathering

JUL **29**. 4:00 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/>

## Rosary

JUL **29**. 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 Mass

---

JUL **30**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Ephrem Catholic Church  
38900 Dodge Park  
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

# Tribute Wall

RC

“ Rose Curry lit a candle in memory of Donna Harms



Rose Curry - August 04, 2022 at 02:28 AM

RC

What do you say about your sister? We haven't been close for years but I always knew we loved each other. I had a great time when we went to Arizona to spread Lee's ashes tough time for me. You thought of things to occupy my time. Love you my sister. ❤️

Rose Curry - August 06, 2022 at 03:53 PM

TR

“ My heart breaks for your family, having to be without you. You will be missed! Love and prayers to the family and friends.

Tammy Washburn, sister of Rich. - July 31, 2022 at 02:31 PM

TR

“ I could not have picked a better wife for my brother Rich! Donna was awesome! She fit right into our family from day one! I remember my mother helping her with a white cape, to wear to prom with my brother. She was so comfortable and easy to be around. I can still hear her hearty laugh and see that beautiful smile! She always had a way to comment on something, or a comeback, that always made you laugh! She was witty! She raised three awesome young ladies, along with my brother, who carry alot of her traits. She will surely be missed. All of my love and prayers to our families. I am here for you if you need me.

Tammy Washburn, sister of Rich. - July 31, 2022 at 02:28 PM

TH

“ I had been trying for quite some time to find a worthy way to express to Donna all that she meant to me and how much I really appreciated her. I’m so sorry not to have shared my with her when I had the chance.

*At a time in my life when I felt I was infallible my dad threw me out and even with six siblings I felt I had nowhere to go. Rich and Donna opened their home to me and I spent most of my senior year of high school there, and I never once felt out of place.*

*Though I had a hard time getting close to anyone at that time, Donna went way out of her way to do whatever she could to make me feel comfortable there.*

*Waking up early to drive me to school, discussing music and art, teaching me art techniques, even taking me to concerts and really anywhere I had a desire to go, she was honestly a better sister, really a better friend that I could ever had imagined I could have had in anyone. Though time and physical distance eventually pulled us apart, I’ve never forgotten what an incredible, influential person she had been to me. My only regret is not sharing it more with her.*

*Thank you Donna, I know you’re listening, for being the incredibly kind, always altruistic woman you were. I love you and You’ll be deeply missed.*

---

**Todd Harms** - July 29, 2022 at 04:30 AM

GH

“ Coming from a family of four sisters I felt like the last thing I needed was another sister, but when Donna and Rich got together Donna became much more than a sister. I truly got to know her when I needed hours on the road for drivers training. Every time I wanted to drive she was there for me, with her patience, guidance, wisdom, love and more patience. Through the early stages of my life Donna bailed me out of more situations than I care to mention. Rich took me everywhere he went, and Donna not only accepted me, but welcomed me. I could write many novels about the good times I shared with her. I am truly a better man, and very blessed to have her in my life.

Gary Harms

---

Gary Harms - July 26, 2022 at 01:54 PM