



## Erna R. Francis

March 23, 1935 - August 29, 2021

Erna Ruth Francis (nee Brietzke), a resident of Canton, passed away on August 29, 2021 at the age of 86. A daughter of Herman and Olga, she was born on March 23, 1935 in Detroit. Erna attended Berkley High School. She married the love of her life, Martin, on April 6, 1957 at Ebenezer Baptist Church.

As Erna's family grew up, she would throw get-togethers every weekend. She loved to nurture and dote on her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Erna's generosity shone on her favorite holiday, Christmas. She cherished every moment she could spend with her family. Spirited and exacting, Erna didn't miss an opportunity to cheer and sometimes chastise the Detroit Tigers. She attended Opening Day every chance she could and carefully followed her favorite player, Al Kaline. When not watching baseball, Erna enjoyed the show Wheel of Fortune and playing dominos, Mexican train, pinochle, and solitaire. She was an active member of Faith Baptist Church in Royal Oak.

Beloved wife of Martin, joined in love for 64 years. Loving mother of Mike (Cindy), Cheryl (Steve) Woroniec, Janice (Tim) Taylor. Cherished grandmother of John (Molly Pim) Francis, Diana (Tony) Regan, Daniel Francis, Joel (Dana) Francis, Kristin (Neil) Myers, and Scott (Dalia) Woroniec. Treasured great-grandmother of Nolan, Liam, and Ava Myers. Dear sister of the late Elfrieda,

Kurt, Ethel, and the late Herb Brietzke.

A visitation for Erna will be held on Monday, September 13th, from 4:00 until 8:00 pm at Wm. Sullivan and Son, 705 W. Eleven Mile Rd. (4 blocks E. of Woodward), Royal Oak, 48067. Erna will lie in state on Tuesday, September 14th, from 10:00 am until time of funeral service at 11:00 am at the funeral home. Erna will be laid to rest at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the National Kidney Foundation, 1169 Oak Valley Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108 or to the American Heart Association, 7272 Greenville Avenue, Dallas, TX 75231.

# Cemetery Details

## Great Lakes National Cemetery

4200 Belford Road  
Holly Township, MI 48442

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **13**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak  
705 W. Eleven Mile Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48067  
(248) 541-7000  
royal@sullivanfh.com  
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

## Funeral Service

SEP **14**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak  
705 W. Eleven Mile Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48067  
(248) 541-7000  
royal@sullivanfh.com  
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# Tribute Wall

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“ One of my many favorite memories of Erna was the Christmas night gatherings at her home. Marty had the train running around the Christmas tree and Erna supplied many of her homemade goodies along with her gracious, loving spirit, and superior hospitality. Our entire family, including our kids and grandkids, trooped over there in the evening. To this day, they all still speak enthusiastically about those times.

*It is quite a tribute to Erna and Marty to watch the way their children have cared for them during these past difficult days.*

*Deanna Francis*

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**Deanna Francis** - September 07, 2021 at 03:37 PM



“ *Your Light Shines* was purchased for the family of Erna R. Francis.



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September 06, 2021 at 01:19 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Erna R. Francis.



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September 03, 2021 at 02:26 PM