



## Francis Cyril Allen

January 10, 1929 - May 24, 2021

Francis Allen, a CYO football champion and (in his mind at least) sandlot hall of fame third baseman, Korean War Veteran, public servant, father of five men he loved beyond any earthly measure, and hero to his 13 adoring grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, joined his wife of 59 years (the girl next-door and his 8th grade crush) in eternal life on May 25th.

Frank bravely served the people of the City of Detroit as a policeman for 41 years, retiring in 1993 as a decorated Deputy Chief. While tough on duty, to his friends and family he had the tenderest and most compassionate heart. His life and his faith taught him that no one was beyond redemption and love didn't need to be rationed because there was always an endless supply left behind to give others. He credited his parents and his church for these values, and those he leaves behind will endeavor to carry them forward. In grateful recognition of the many blessings he found in life, he persevered in his faith and remained devoted to the Blessed Mother always.

His material generosity to his family was legendary. Home Depot had nothing on Frank. There was an endless supply of nuts, bolts and assorted odds and ends in the basement and garage, and the price (free) was always right. Birthday money came months before an actual birthday. (Rumor has it that he slipped up once in 1987, forgot an earlier payment, and paid one lucky celebrant twice. Though suspects abound, the guilty party has never

confessed and was never publicly identified by his benefactor.) Christmas cash reliably showed up not long after Halloween, and generous random payouts were regularly made and gratefully accepted by all. In family parlance, these disbursements came to be known as "dividends from the Bank of Frank". He was in on the joke, and those who made it knew the real "Bank of Frank" traded in love, not cash.

Even as he kept a busy family and professional life, he found or was recruited to various efforts in service to his community.

He was devoted to his parish family at St. Suzanne church. He found fellowship and enjoyed occasional evenings away from home as an active member of the parish Men's Club. Sunday mornings usually found him at the church rectory drinking coffee and helping to make sure that the weekly offerings were sorted, counted and safely deposited in the parish account. Until his dying day he complained about the bad knees that he confidently attributed to the long-ago Lenten season when he and a friend did self-imposed penance by spending every evening stripping and reupholstering the kneelers throughout the church by hand.

For decades he was elected by its members to serve on the board of his beloved credit union, Diversified Members Credit Union. It was a job he took pride in doing because he thoroughly believed in the concept of community-based, member focused banking at the heart of the credit union movement. Though decidedly not a digital native, he recently modeled his ongoing commitment to DMCU by gamely joining the rest of us during the pandemic in adapting to a new normal by learning to attend board meetings via Zoom.

He has now started the next leg of his journey. But for those he loved and who loved him in return, he remains fixed in our hearts and in our memories and we rejoice that he is most definitely and finally at rest. From the beginning to

the end, love prevailed.

Beloved husband of the late Mary Lou for 59 years. Father of Robert (Ann), John (Stephen Orlando), Daniel (Kathleen), David (Colleen), and James. Grandfather of 13. Great-grandfather of 2.

A visitation will be held on Wednesday, May 26, from 4:00 until 8:00 pm at Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Rd. (4 blocks east of Woodward), Royal Oak, 48067. Francis will lie in state on Thursday, May 27, from 9:30 am until time of Funeral Mass at 10:00 am at St. Suzanne Catholic Church, 19321 W. Chicago, Detroit, 48228. Entombment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield.

Donations in Francis' memory may be made to the Autism Alliance of Michigan, 30100 Telegraph Rd., Suite 250, Bingham Farms, MI 48025.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 26.** 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/>

## In State

**MAY 27.** 9:30 AM (ET)

St. Suzanne - Our Lady Gate of Heaven  
19321 W. Chicago Street  
Detroit, MI 48228

## Funeral Mass

**MAY 27.** 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Suzanne - Our Lady Gate of Heaven  
19321 W. Chicago Street  
Detroit, MI 48228

## Entombment

**MAY 27.** 11:30 AM (ET)

Holy Sepulchre Cemetery  
25800 W. 10 Mile Road  
Southfield, MI 48033



# Tribute Wall

CB

“ Recently heard of your father's passing. Couldn't have asked for a better Grandville neighbor and all the fun memories. Our family will keep the entire Allen family in our thoughts and prayers.

*Connie Barkley and family*

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**Connie Barkley** - May 29, 2021 at 08:35 PM

DC

“ DAVID A COLE lit a candle in memory of Francis Cyril Allen



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**DAVID A COLE** - May 27, 2021 at 08:32 AM

LS

“ My deepest sympathies to the entire Allen family. Mr. Allen was one of the greatest without a doubt! Our parents are all reunited again in heaven! Prayers for all, in the difficult days ahead. Sincerely, Laura (Moore) Sommerville



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**Laura Sommerville** - May 26, 2021 at 10:30 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Francis Cyril Allen.*



May 26, 2021 at 03:06 PM



“ *Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Francis Cyril Allen.*



May 26, 2021 at 01:22 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Francis Cyril Allen.*



May 26, 2021 at 12:52 PM



“ *Creighton V Adams lit a candle in memory of Francis Cyril Allen*



**Creighton V Adams** - May 26, 2021 at 11:53 AM

BR

“ *Blaise Repasky purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Francis Cyril Allen.*



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**Blaise Repasky** - May 26, 2021 at 10:59 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Francis Cyril Allen.*



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May 26, 2021 at 10:54 AM

MZ

“ *I read the obituary and I am sorry that I did not personally know this fine man. But I do know his children and they speak volumes about the character and heart of Francis Allen. Peace to you all.*



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**Mary Zatina** - May 26, 2021 at 10:41 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Francis Cyril Allen.*



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May 26, 2021 at 10:01 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Francis Cyril Allen.*



May 26, 2021 at 09:51 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Francis Cyril Allen.*



May 26, 2021 at 09:44 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Francis Cyril Allen.*



May 26, 2021 at 09:13 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Francis Cyril Allen.*



May 26, 2021 at 08:55 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Francis Cyril Allen.



May 26, 2021 at 08:04 AM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Francis Cyril Allen.



May 25, 2021 at 09:36 PM



“ *Written in the Stars* was purchased for the family of Francis Cyril Allen.



May 25, 2021 at 05:30 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Francis Cyril Allen.



May 25, 2021 at 05:18 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Francis Cyril Allen.*



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May 25, 2021 at 04:02 PM



“ *Chief Anthony Holt, Wayne State University Police purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Francis Cyril Allen.*



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**Chief Anthony Holt, Wayne State University Police** - May 25, 2021 at 03:39 PM