



Freeman Arthur Flynn

July 22, 1920 - June 17, 2016

Flynn, Freeman A., age 95, passed away June 17, 2016.

Freeman was born July 22, 1920 in Worcester, Massachusetts. He was a World War II US Navy Lieutenant, piloting an OS2U "Kingfisher" seaplane off the battleship USS Maryland. After returning from the war, he dedicated his entire career to the Detroit Public Schools. He worked in several capacities including teacher, department head, and assistant principal. One of the most memorable times in his career was when he was Principal for Hutchins Middle School, and he walked his entire school over to hear Martin Luther King Jr. speak in the community in 1964! His commitment only continued during these troubled times as he worked as the Divisional Director for School Community Relations during decentralization and desegregation. Even after retiring in 1983, Freeman still remained active within the schools by developing a chess program at Hutchins Middle School. He volunteered his time and raised money to take the club to regional and national competitions where they were very successful.

Freeman's true passion in life was flying, both single engine planes and gliders. He was a member of the Coalition of Airline Pilots Association (CAPA) and greatly enjoyed attending their breakfast events. He was still flying at the young age of 95 and was a member of the Sandhills Soaring Club.

Freeman loved spending his summers in Cape Cod, especially sailing on Pleasant Bay. He also enjoyed reading, including the poetry of Y.B. Yeats and Rudyard Kipling, keeping up on current events, and discussing civil rights. But most of all, he loved spending time with his family. He was the family patriarch.

Dear husband of Betty Ruth Clapp. Loving father of Susan (Robert Wiser) Flynn Berg, Kevin, Rachel (Scott) Powell and Matthew (Jeanne). Proud grandfather of Corey (Matt) Roberts, Brenna Flynn (Ross Hardaway), Leah (Andy) Brough, Rebecca Powell (Andrew Graumlich), Robert Powell, Sarah Powell, Kevin (Cathy) Flynn, Bridie Flynn, Logan Flynn, Erin (Adrian) Robles, Michael Green, and Jillian Clapp. Great grandfather of Hannah and Norah Brough, Jack Robles, and Logan, Cameron, and Morgan Roberts. He was predeceased by his first wife Frances Elaine (nee Von Roden); parents John and Victoria Flynn; and brother John (Kitty) Flynn.

A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Road (4 blocks E. of Woodward), Royal Oak. The family will receive friends from 1:00 p.m. until the time of the service at 2:30 p.m. Memorials appreciated to the Detroit Public Schools Foundation (www.dpfdn.org). Share your memories at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

JUN 18. 1:00 PM - 2:30 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/>

Celebration of Life

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Tribute Wall

GB

“ We were neighbors at Foxcroft for many years sharing walks throughout the campus, chatting about his school years, weather patterns and the technologies associated with flying. In fact he made me an offer to go flying with him which I felt through the cracks and never happened. One year I put up their Christmas Tree that was a challenge. Taking walks together, chatting and even carrying groceries inside plus lots more are the memories Freeman left for us to treasure. Enjoy your rest my friend and peace in a heavenly spot where walkers aren't allowed or necessary

We are a bit late with this tribute as we weren't aware until recently of his passing

*Greg Blass and Joanie Cascade
Foxcroft Condos*

gregory blass - August 09, 2016 at 10:49 AM



“ Dear Susan, Kevin, Rachel and Matthew,
As you know, your father and your entire family were major influences on my childhood. From the "key-ah-key" Navy whistle of Abington summer evenings to our repeated visits to Cape Cod, the Flynns made a tremendous impression that has lasted a lifetime. Even though he lived a long full life, I want to express my sadness on your Dad's passing. I remember him as if it was 1959, and greatly admired his lifestyle, passions and politics. We appreciate the opportunity to share one of his passions by giving to the Detroit Schools Foundation. My warm greetings to you all and wishes for good memories commensurate with your Dad's wonderful life. With love for you and yours. -Ron (and Cindy) Schnaar

Ronald Schnaar - June 20, 2016 at 03:37 PM

TM

“ accept my expression of sympathy at mr. flynn's passing. he was my social studies teacher in the eighth grade at benjamin nolan intermediate school . i will be eighty this year, but i still remember mr. flynn and his innovative classroom techniques, which formed part of my own as a college teacher years later. he was a fine man. thomas a. mozola, brighton, michigan.

thomas a. mozola - June 19, 2016 at 04:28 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Freeman Arthur Flynn.



June 18, 2016 at 08:37 AM

GA

“ 2 files added to the album New Album Name



George Abrantes - June 17, 2016 at 10:01 PM



“ Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Freeman Arthur Flynn.



June 17, 2016 at 08:52 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Freeman Arthur Flynn.*



June 17, 2016 at 08:04 PM