



## Gordon J. Bibby

February 17, 1927 - June 9, 2018

Bibby, Gordon James, age 91, passed away June 9, 2018.

Gordon James Bibby was born on February 17, 1927 in Minneapolis, MN to the late Chester and Melvina Bibby. He was the loving husband of 65 years to the late Juanita, who passed in 2016. Together they had 5 children: Karen Bibby (James Searfino), Mark (Sue) Bibby, James (Stacy) Bibby, Dawn (Chris) Guida, and Heather (Craig) Owen. He was the loving and proud grandfather of Jessica (Phil) Reinartz, Rebecca Bibby (fiancé Donnie Thompson), Kyle (Missy) Bibby, Kevin Bibby, Andrea (Zachary) Shultis, Erin Guida, Sarah Guida, and Makenzie Owen (fiancé TJ Davis). Gordon was also the proud great-grandfather of 2: Winston Gordon Reinartz and Colton James Shultis.

Gordon was a WWII veteran of the United States Navy, where he served from 1944-1946 as a Signalman 2nd class, in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater on 4 ships. He was active in the American Legion serving as post commander for American Legion Berkley Post #374 from 1952-1954. Gordon worked as a Quality Control Specialist for the Chrysler Tank Division, retiring after 42 years. During his early years he owned and flew a Stearman plane, and loved racing 1/4 mile Mudracers. He was also a founding member of the StageCrafters community theater group along with his wife Juanita.

He had a strong commitment to family and community. During retirement he

was very active in the Royal Oak community: he was a graduate of the Royal Oak Police Department Citizen Police Academy, and served on the Royal Oak Crime Prevention Council, where he was president for 5 years. One of Gordon's favorite volunteer jobs was putting on the "McGruff the Crime Dog" costume for 14 years, and marching in the Royal Oak parades, visiting the local schools and working with the D.A.R.E. programs. He was president of the South Point Neighborhood Association. He could be seen under the Royal Oak police department tent during Dream Cruise. Gordon was honored to receive the Royal Oak Citizen of the Year in 1999.

Gordon traveled all over the world for work, but it was safe to say his favorite recent memory was traveling on the 19th Michigan Honor Flight to Washington D.C. in 2008. He spoke often about spending the day with other WWII veterans while visiting the World War II Memorial and Arlington cemetery.

His children and grandchildren appreciated this wonderful man for his love and dedication to his family and community. He will be greatly missed, but not forgotten.

Visitation will be held Wednesday, June 20, from 3-8 pm with Funeral Thursday, June 21, at 11 am at the Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Rd. (4 blocks E. of Woodward), Royal Oak, MI 48067. Burial will follow at Oakview Cemetery, Royal Oak.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Honor Flight Michigan ([www.honorflightmichigan.com](http://www.honorflightmichigan.com)) or the American Legion Berkley Post #374 ([www.berkleypost374.org](http://www.berkleypost374.org)) in honor of Gordon's service and love for his nation and for his fellow veterans.

# Cemetery Details

## Oakview Cemetery

1032 N. Main Street  
(south of 12 Mile Road)  
Royal Oak, MI 48067

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 20. 3:00 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

JUN 21. 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  
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gordon J. Bibby.*



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June 20, 2018 at 10:33 AM



“ *I am a friend of Gordon's youngest daughter Heather, who I met at Jane Adams middle school in 1982. Mr and Mrs Bibby kindly took me in for many weekends and entire summers during my teenage years, while things were turbulent at home. I always felt welcomed, safe and excepted.and will always cherish those memories at the Bibby home.*

*a few that come to mind are: sleeping on the back porch with the ancient cat, jumping into the pool from the garage (Mr. B "loved" that), playing with the sheep dog, and especially the long talks at the kitchen table over breakfast, dinner, or nothing at all.*

*Thank you Mr. Bibby, for being my family when I needed it most.*

*Respectfully,*

*Lynda Fleek*

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**Lynda Fleek** - June 19, 2018 at 04:29 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Gordon J. Bibby.*



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June 19, 2018 at 12:50 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gordon J. Bibby.*



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June 17, 2018 at 04:37 PM

JW

“ To the Bibby family.

*I was going to send this to your dad about one year after your mom passed away. I never did send it, but I was fortunate to visit him a couple of times before he left this world for a better one. I decided to send it to all of you just to know how much I enjoyed and respected him.*

*Our prayers are with you all.*

*John and Jodi Wunch*

*Dear Mr. Bibby,*

*I have waited to send this on purpose.*

*Now that all the cards and letters have been sent and life has permanently changed I just wanted to send you a note to hopefully brighten your day. I met you and Mrs. Bibby when I was 18 (1971). I had the fortunate opportunity to date Karen for a couple of years when we both attended Oakland Community College. I was just as fortunate to get to know you and all of your family. Little did I know at the time how much you and Mrs. Bibby would influence my life. At that time I didn't know a lot about family and the close bond that there should be between husband and wife along with all of the children. In my family as I grew up we did not have that. I know that there were a lot of struggles along the way, but what made you special is that no matter how hard it got you stayed together. That alone is one very important lesson to learn. You can see how that has paid off just by looking at your son Mark. He and Susie struggled when they first got married, but they stuck it out. What a fine son Mark has turned out to be. That is a tribute to you and Mrs. Bibby. As for the rest of the kids, well they were pretty young back in the early 70's so I don't know how each one has turned out. But I do know that several times when Jodi and I have come to visit, their kids were in your pool having a great time.*

*And before the pool there were the winters that you made the ice rink in your back yard. What a great thing to do for all of your kids and their friends.*

*I guess what really sticks out is when you and Mark sold Christmas trees. I talked to you once about that and you said that you really don't make any money, but it was something that you could do with Mark. I admired that.*

*Mr. Bibby,*

*You showed me that struggles in a relationship builds a stronger relationship provided the two have the desire to work on it. You showed me that putting the family first is more important than me first. It took me awhile to understand it but your influence on me has been a positive one.*

*So, thank you for being the man, the husband, the father that you are.*

*John Wunch*

*And we will come to visit this summer. We pray that the Holy Spirit surround you.*

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**John Wunch** - June 16, 2018 at 09:30 PM