



## Howard "Buzz" Holmes Jr.

April 24, 1942 - April 30, 2021

Howard Grey "Buzz" Holmes, Jr., age 79, of Huntington Woods, passed away on April 30, 2021.

Howard was the beloved husband of Martha (married: October 1966). Loving father of Howard "Chip" Holmes, III, Cheryl Holmes, Julie (Gregory) Gnatek, and Cynthia (Chris) Jewett. Proud grandfather of Graeme Holmes, Benjamin Gnatek, Lillian Gnatek, Jakob Jewett, Joshua Jewett; and great-grandfather of Wren Holmes. Predeceased by his brother, Charles Holmes.

Howard attended St. Mary Catholic Schools from grade one, all the way through high school. He then graduated from Ferris State College in 1965 and joined General Motors. Within a couple years he had been drafted into the Army and then spent two years at Ft. Campbell, KY. He then rejoined GM and was assigned to Focus Hope as an accountant in a transmission remanufacturing operation, ultimately completing a 30+ year career with GM. He then embarked upon a second career as a consultant with Dynamic Manufacturing in Hillside, IL for thirteen years.

Over the years, Howard greatly enjoyed traveling to Hawaii with Martha for their yearly two-week trips. And without a doubt his favorite baby was his 1964 Pontiac Lemans convertible, red with black top, that he restored himself.

Visitation will take place on Monday, May 3, from 3 - 8 p.m. (Scripture Service at 7 p.m.) at Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Rd., (4 blocks east of Woodward), Royal Oak. Funeral Mass will take place on Tuesday, May 4, at 12:30 p.m. (visitation 12:00) at St. Mary Catholic Church, 730 S. Lafayette Ave., Royal Oak. Interment to follow at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield, MI.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to the Alzheimers Association or St. Mary Catholic Church in Royal Oak are appreciated.

Share a memory at [www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com](http://www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Holy Sepulchre Cemetery

25800 W. 10 Mile Road  
10 Mile Road @ Beech Road  
Southfield, MI 48033

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 3.** 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/>

## Scripture Service

**MAY 3.** 7:00 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 Mass

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MAY 4. 12:30 PM (ET)

St. Mary Catholic Church  
730 S. Lafayette Avenue  
Royal Oak, MI 48067

# Tribute Wall

JN

“ Howard was a great mentor. I'm thankful for the skills he taught me. What a great man. He will be missed, God bless Howard!

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**John Noel** - May 08, 2021 at 08:37 AM

GN

“ I worked with Howard at General Motors in the Remanufacturing department and then again at Dynamic Manufacturing. Howard was an incredibly sweet and gentle person. He was always eager to share his expertise and was patient and methodical in his explanations that made him a great teacher. Howard's uproarious laugh was entertaining and infectious. Howard loved his family and was proud of all of them. Howard was truly a good person and good friend.

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**Gary Noel** - May 07, 2021 at 05:12 PM

BB

“ Dear Marti and family,  
I am sorry not to be in town to see you all personally. Cousin Buzz was such a nice and good person and I always loved how he smiled so much! I love this photo you posted. My thoughts are with you all, sending the healing love.  
Barbara Boylan

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**Barbara Boylan** - May 04, 2021 at 11:29 AM

BL

“ Dear Marti and family,

*I so sorry for your loss. I worked for Howard at GM and always enjoyed our time together. He wasn't just my boss, he was also my friend. He was a great man. He treated everyone with respect. He always spoke highly of his family. Due to health reasons, I am unable to attend the service. Howard, may you rest in peace.*

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**Betty Lang** - May 03, 2021 at 07:45 AM

BH

“ Uncle Buzz will be missed dearly by the Huettel family. We have so many memories of wonderful times we spent with him - from the times he and Aunt Marti and all the kids drove down to visit us in Texas and the family vacations at the Grandma and Granddad's house on the river, to the visits to Skip and Barb's house in Bradenton and our more recent visits up north to see you all. His infectious laugh and joyful personality will be forever remembered and treasured by all of us. Our thoughts are with you during this difficult time.

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**Beth Huettel** - May 02, 2021 at 01:57 PM

LF

“ Love, Charles & Karen Brzezinski and Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Howard "Buzz" Holmes Jr..



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**Love, Charles & Karen Brzezinski and Family** - May 01, 2021 at 11:33 PM

AL

“ I am praying for the Holmes family. I have many wonderful memories of Buzz from our many camping adventures and Christmas parties. He loved to joke around and have fun! I remember singing and cooking together around the campfire. He was very supportive of my family when my father died. He was thoughtful and caring... he was one of the few people that called me Annie (I didn't correct him 😊). Heaven has gained another angel. I can only imagine what is going on in heaven as my dad is reunited with his friend, Buzz! 🙏😊❤️

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**Ann Lachmann** - May 01, 2021 at 05:12 PM