



John B. Goddard

July 6, 1945 - March 3, 2020

Coach John B. Goddard. Age 74. March 3, 2020.

Beloved husband of Gloria. Loving father of Andrea (J.P.) Arens and John (Shawn) Goddard. Proud grandfather of Brady, Sean, Lily, Ava, Ty and Hope. Dear brother of Chris (Merry) Goddard and Debbie (Ken) Schonhoff. Visitation Thursday 2-8 pm with a 7 pm scripture service at the Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 705 W 11 Mile Road (4 blocks E of Woodward), Royal Oak. Funeral Mass Friday 10:30 am at St. Patrick Catholic Church, 711 Rickett Road, Brighton. In lieu of flowers, memorials to the Catholic High School League (CHSL) are appreciated. Share your memories at www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 5. 2:00 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

MAR 5. 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
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Funeral Mass

MAR 6. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Patrick Catholic Church
711 Rickett Road
Brighton, MI 48116

Tribute Wall

TF

“ I had the pleasure and the honor of playing for Coach Goddard at Shrine in 1969 & 1970 when he was just starting out. He was a unique and memorable person who was extremely well liked by the players. He had a great sense of humor and developed an immediate rapport with the team. He was a huge influence on us as we made the transition from Coach Fracassa to Coach Woodcock in 1969. I remember one memorable time when he spoke off the cuff to us for about an hour between practices during double sessions week. It was part Johnny Carson and part Vince Lombardi but it was all Coach Goddard - right from the heart. He won us over that day. Thanks Coach, we will miss you.

Terry Fouchey
SHS 1971

Terry Fouchey - March 06, 2020 at 01:35 PM

FP

John Goddard had a beautiful funeral today.packed with all of us who respected and Loved him❤️His whole family participated in honoring him.gloria your speech was right from the heart❤️cousins Chris and Debbie your brother would have been proud.👍😭god bless all of you kids and grand kids of John and gloria❤️our cousin was the Best❤️ Fran & kirt perry and Theresa & Tim Dan & Sue and Ed morin❤️

fran perry - March 06, 2020 at 02:59 PM

DR

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the Goddard family and with all who knew and loved coach Goddard through his 50 years of coaching.

John Goddard coached 3 of our 4 boys over a period of 9+ years and had a profound impact on their lives both on and off the field. Over those 9+ years it was quite a ride through hard fought victories and the occasional disappointment of defeat, through Football camps and muscle cramps, exhausting practices, skills training, countless hours of film, countless hours of conditioning, weight training, blood sweat and tears. The rivalry games with Lakes and Foley, the many playoff games, and of course the litany of "Goddardisms" will continue to live on in our hearts and memories. I can honestly say that our boys are better men today because Coach Goddard touched their lives.

To Gloria the kids, his family and to all of his coaching staff. Thank you for the years of selfless support and for allowing our family to receive such an amazing gift from you by sacrificing time, sharing of yourselves and supporting Coach Goddard.

If you have not yet seen the tribute video, please search for "The World Lost A Legend Today YouTube" posted by our son Johnathan Robinson who had the honor of serving as a Captain under Coach Goddard. We will truly miss you Coach.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You,

The Robinson Family.

David Bret Robinson SHS '87

Molly K Robinson SHS '90

Billy #76 SHS '13

Johnathan #74 SHS '18

Jeffrey #62 SHS '20

Tommy #11 SHS '23

*Whitney (dedicated fan) SHS '25
Katie (dedicated fan) SHS '28*

David Robinson - March 05, 2020 at 02:58 PM

BS

“ *I have many wonderful memories of John. I was his English teacher at Shrine High back in the late '50's. He was a good student to have in class, always focused, always timely with assignments and comments, always polite and well-mannered. And did I mention lots of fun! What a good role model he was for his friends, followers, and those students whom he coached after high school. God took a truly "good guy" this time.*
Bev Slavsky Smith

Bev Smith - March 05, 2020 at 09:05 AM

DC

“ *my condolences to the Godard family! I did not have the privilege of having John as my coach but I watched him coach my brother Joe and realize what a special coach he was, When he was at Saint Agatha.*

Dave Churches - March 04, 2020 at 04:14 PM

PE

“ *John thanks for effecting young peoples lives in a positive way for many many years !! RIP my friend.*

Pete Tibaldi

Pete - March 04, 2020 at 12:00 PM

RR

“ **GLORIA AND FAMILY**
IT SEEMS LIKE YESTERDAY WHEN JOHN AND I WERE PLAYING FOR COACH FRACASSA AT SHRINE. JOHN WAS ONE OF MY FAVORITE PEOPLE. THE YEARS HAVE GONE BY QUICKLY. HE HAS LEFT A LASTING MARK ON HIS FAMILY, HIS FRIENDS, AND HIS FOOTBALL PLAYERS. WE ALL WILL NEVER FORGET HIM. HE WILL BE MISSED AND NEVER FORGOTTEN.

RON RANIERI

ronald ranieri - March 04, 2020 at 10:12 AM



“ **Coach Goddard was always a hard-working and devoted soul at Shrine Catholic High School. He will certainly be missed. He may now give God the rundown of his favorite games and all the people he inspired.**

James Mio - March 04, 2020 at 06:48 AM

BS

Thanks to your family for sharing such a wonderful man. He touched so many young men through coaching ,John had the wonderful combination of love for the game and a love for kids.He had the balance and his teams and kids understood it.He is gone way too soon,a thank you to the entire Goddard family!

Bill spurgeon - March 04, 2020 at 04:54 PM

DG

“ Our love care and heart felt prayers, may the coveted hands of God take coach into his eternal game and set him free to make more differences in the lives of all the angles waiting for Coaches game plan.

To Gloria the kids, siblings, family and his coaching family.

Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your journey, our family is much better for it.

Dale GoodCourage

dale goodcourage - March 03, 2020 at 07:08 PM

JC

Thank you coach! John j cibrario, Detroit Catholic Central 1975

john j cibrario - March 04, 2020 at 07:39 PM

PW

David and John probably have their (spirits) together enjoying the win in the boys bowl. What a ride our families had those years such great memories. It's a sad loss for many.

Parm Woodcock and family

Parmelia Woodcock - March 07, 2020 at 11:52 AM

M.

Coach Goddard coached me between 1980-1982. It is my privilege to being taught by a professional who believed in me. Little John who I knew him as thought I was the best. I can reflect on my experience with the coach as great and the best coach I've ever had. My best to the family. I'm so proud to have been coached by an incredible person.

M.Skiver - October 04, 2025 at 10:56 PM