



## John Robert Knotts Sr.

June 2, 1936 - May 17, 2015

John Robert Knotts, Sr., 78, died Sunday, May 17, 2015 at St Luke's Baptist Hospital in San Antonio, Texas, following medical complications that led to respiratory distress. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Gloria (Wilber) Knotts, his son, John Knotts, Jr., his son's wife, Lori Seitz, and many close friends across the United States. He is the son of Robert and Mable Knotts (deceased) and the brother of James Knotts (deceased) and Sharon Fackler.

Born in Highland Park, Michigan, John lived most of his life in the Detroit Metropolitan area of Michigan. Recently, John and Gloria moved to the San Antonio area to be close to their son and daughter-in-law. In his early years, Mr. Knotts was a gas station attendant before he was drafted for one enlistment in the Army between the Korean and Vietnam War. After the Army, he became a police officer and fireman for the Beverly Hills Michigan Public Safety Department, where he spent the rest of his career, retiring as the Director of Public Safety.

John attended Birmingham High School and graduated with the class of 1954. He went on to attend many community college courses.

John and Gloria were avid travelers, having seen nearly every state in the United States via motorhome or travel trailer, as well as visiting several countries outside of the United States. In the winters they would stay at Live

Oak RV Resort and Golf Course where they developed many friends over the years. Both enjoyed the game of golf and John enjoyed working around the house.

Gloria and John met at The Big Town Restaurant in Royal Oak, Michigan, in August 1961, right after he separated from the Army. They were married on May 27, 1962, at Highland Park Presbyterian Church in Highland Park, Michigan.

There will be a memorial visitation and service held on Wednesday, May 27, 2015, from 9 am until the time of the service 11 am, at the Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 705 W. Eleven Mile Road (4 blocks E of Woodward), Royal Oak, Michigan. A luncheon will be held following the memorial service to celebrate his life at Pasquale's Restaurant, 31555 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak, Michigan. John's ashes will be interred at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery in a private ceremony in June 2015. Those interested in attending the luncheon, please email [knotts.memorial.service@gmail.com](mailto:knotts.memorial.service@gmail.com).

Memorial contributions may be made in John Knotts' name to the Beverly Hills Lions Club - Irving Usner, 19153 Walmer, Beverly Hills MI, 48025 or donor's choice.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

MAY 27. 9:00 AM - 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/>

## Memorial Service

MAY 27. 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



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Robert Knotts Sr..*



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May 29, 2015 at 09:43 PM



“ *Growing up, I was best friends with John Knotts, Jr. and was fortunate to spend a lot of time with Chief Knotts. I will always remember him as a warm and kind man with a deceptively-stone-cold exterior. I will miss his sense of humor. I know all my friends have great memories of Chief Knotts--and our sympathies go out to Gloria and John, Jr.*

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**Kevin Bogucki** - May 29, 2015 at 08:40 PM



“ *On behalf of the members of the Birmingham High School Class of 1954 we send our sympathy and condolences to John's family.*

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**joan berndt** - May 27, 2015 at 07:44 AM

MM

“ Chief Knotts-

*Thank you for giving me an opportunity to work for the Village of Beverly Hills Department of Public Safety. You were a wise and inspiring leader- with bits of wisdom I still use and pass on today. One of my favorite memories is during the police academy when you reminded me that the person who finishes first and the one who finishes last are both called Officer in the end. Leaders of your caliber are rare today and I consider myself and others who worked with and for you lucky. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers. I hope your family finds comfort in knowing that you will always be remembered. Thank you again for the opportunity and still today when I put on my tie with clip- I am reminded of your kindness, generosity, and leadership as it is the tie clip you gave me upon your retirement.*

*With great respect and a heavy heart-*

*PSO M. Miles and Family*

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**Mike Miles** - May 24, 2015 at 03:26 PM

RS

“ Gloria, You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Very sorry to hear about the loss of John,

*Renzo Spallasso*

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**Renzo Spallasso** - May 24, 2015 at 09:57 AM

RM

“ Sorry to hear about the loss of a nice guy and a person who helped make Beverly Hills MI the community that it is today.

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**Randy Munguia** - May 22, 2015 at 07:34 PM

KN

“ Gloria, our thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family. Ken & Leona Newman.

Kenneth & Leona Newman - May 21, 2015 at 05:54 PM

MI

“ John -

You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Let us know if there is anything we can do for you.

Mike / Jenn Kramer

Mike - May 21, 2015 at 07:19 AM

KB

Sorry to hear about John, knew him well from our class of 54

Kay Pomeroy Beaudry - May 27, 2015 at 05:55 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of John Robert Knotts Sr..



May 20, 2015 at 10:13 AM

MQ

“ *John and Gloria have been close friends for many years. We have traveled with them to many places and always enjoyed their company. It is hard to separate them in our minds because they were always together as one. John was a kind and loving husband and father. We will miss him and treasure the time we shared with him.*  
*love Myron & Shirley Quartuccio*



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**Myron & Shirley Quartuccio** - May 19, 2015 at 09:45 PM