



## Richard Julian Iwanski

June 20, 1929 - September 15, 2016

Richard "Julian" Iwanski

Age 87, passed away on Thursday, September 15, 2016 and was born on the east side of Detroit on June 20, 1929.

He was the sixth child of eight- four boys and four girls, two of whom- Florence and Helen have survived him.

He married Joan Rita Zgliczynski on May 15, 1950 and proceeded to have seven children ~ Jerald, John, James, Jeffrey, Jeanette, Joseph (Deceased) and JoAnn.

He is survived by twelve grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Richard graduated from Wilbur Wright High School in Detroit and worked several jobs. These jobs included working as a mechanic for Detroit Bus System until he settled in at Woodall Industries in Detroit, where he worked on developing prototypes for many various products. After that he moved on to AMC, which was taken over by Chrysler, where he finished his career creating clay mockups of their various automobiles.

Richard was a remarkably skilled craftsman and mechanically inclined. He built and modified two cars, crafted cabinets and other furniture, and even added a room to his house. Repairing appliances - both his own and his kids- was a regular "hobby", as well as brake jobs, water and fuel pump replacements.

He actually found time for real hobbies. He was an accomplished photographer and set up his own darkroom for developing prints and slides. He was an amateur magician, fabricating his own

ticks and putting on shows for family and friends. He converted a van so that he and Joan could travel the country. Joan and Richard constantly enrolled in dance lessons and hit the local dance clubs where he "boogied" to "Foxy Lady" and "Purple Haze."

His children were the envy of the neighborhood when he built them a two man tank that

could travel by pedal power, but especially at Halloween when his skills and imagination created the likes of paper mache heads, latex masks, and cardboard and tin foil suits of armor. When his children grew, he turned to creating Halloween fun houses in the garage and yard to delight the neighborhood children and adults.

Richard came to enjoy playing cards with his family (which he shunned for years, most probably because of the decibel levels reached whenever his kids got together for games) even though he never could get the hang of "trumping low and leading high."

He was kind, loving, and generous soul always ready to lend a hand. He was a dear father and constant loving companion to Joan for sixty-seven years. The world has lost a fine man.

He was also the funniest guy you could hang around with.

A Memorial Visitation and Memorial Mass will be held on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at St. Lawrence Catholic Church, 44633 Utica Road (Btwn Van Dyke and M-59), Utica from 11:30 am until time of mass at 12 (Noon)

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

SEP **20**. 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Lawrence Catholic Church  
44633 Utica Road  
Utica, MI 48317

## Memorial Mass

SEP **20**. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Lawrence Catholic Church  
44633 Utica Road  
Utica, MI 48317

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Richard Julian Iwanski.*



September 19, 2016 at 02:49 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard Julian Iwanski.*



September 19, 2016 at 02:36 PM

TF

“ *The Daman Family and Nissan Friends purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Richard Julian Iwanski.*



**The Daman Family and Nissan Friends** - September 19, 2016 at 01:32 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Richard Julian Iwanski.*



September 19, 2016 at 12:07 PM

YF

“ *Yvonne Mack-Bazemore (Kabul forever friends) purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Richard Julian Iwanski.*



**Yvonne Mack-Bazemore (Kabul forever friends)** - September 19, 2016 at 09:09 AM

CL

“ Sorry to hear of your loss , my condolences to you and the Iwanski family. -Clara Yee

Clara - September 17, 2016 at 02:50 PM

CH

“ My condolences to the Iwanski family. In the few short years I was acquainted with him and the family many years ago, he made a lasting impression and has been remembered with fondness. He was charmng, welcoming and always had a kind word with a great sense of humor. May the family find comfort in their many special memories. Regards,  
Cheryl (Martell) Balmas



cheryl - September 17, 2016 at 12:36 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Richard Julian Iwanski.



September 17, 2016 at 11:37 AM

LO

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to all of you. It was a blessing to see my dear Uncle Ritchie and my dear cousins this past May at my Mothers 90th Birthday. He was very charming as always. One of my fondest memories of him when I was a child was to visit and see his talents i.e. the car he built! His sense of humor, and pleasant personality is most certainly one to remember. Thoughtfully, Lisa ( Mcgee) O'Shaughnessy

Lisa OShaughnessy - September 16, 2016 at 01:21 PM

FB

To loss a parent or a mate is one of the biggest challenges to undertake. I hope you find comfort in the scripture found at Isa. 41:10

Frank Battaglia-Macomb - September 17, 2016 at 09:19 AM

RR

“ *Riva Rice lit a candle in memory of Richard Julian Iwanski*



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**Riva Rice** - September 16, 2016 at 01:08 PM

SN

*my family is slowly fading away on earth only. i know one day we will all be reunited in heaven but this does not make the pain any easier. i trust that the LORD has a plan for each and every one of us. GOD bless you Uncle Richard, may your wings help you to soar through the clouds to heaven. GOD bless you Auntie Joanie and all of your family. boy, i sure miss the good old days ! love renee*

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**sandra newkirk** - September 19, 2016 at 01:09 PM