



Mark G. Flanders

April 24, 1951 - November 24, 2023

Mark George Flanders, a resident of Detroit, passed away on Friday, November 24, 2023, at the age of 72. A son of Ralph and Anne Flanders, he was born on April 24, 1951 in Montpelier, Vermont.

Mark began his higher education as a theater major at the University of Vermont, but ultimately earned his Associate's Degree in Nursing from Northampton County Community College. He was enrolled in the BSN program through Wayne State University. Mark was a charge nurse in the critical care cardiothoracic surgery unit during the pioneering age of heart transplant surgery. He gave new life to patients as an employee of Corewell Health-Dearborn (formerly Oakwood) and Harper University Hospital. Mark's passion for the theater led him to his constant loyal companion, Roger Loeb. They exchanged vows in a civil ceremony in 2007, and proclaimed their love through marriage on August 2013 in Montpelier, Vermont. Together they shared years of laughter, unconditional support, and the occasional anchovy pizza.

An aspiring actor, Mark took the stage in dramas, comedies, and musicals such as *My Fair Lady*. Mark was a bold, confident vocalist both in church choirs and several theater companies. He was a gifted linguist who studied French with a tutor and found a competitive edge learning Spanish with DuoLingo. Mark was a fanatical Pistons fan through championships and rebuilding years, and enjoyed all things Harry Potter. His greatest pride was his rose garden. Christmastime held a special place in Mark's heart- there was no such thing as too many Christmas lights. Mark captivated friends new and old with his storytelling and charisma- he was a hard man to forget. Despite years of health challenges, Mark was steadfast in his optimism. He spent his life showing generosity, forgiveness, and warmth to all who knew him.

Beloved husband of Roger. Doting owner of precious rescue dogs Odin, the late Bunny, and the late Riley James. Dear brother of Jon (Nancy), the late Timothy, Naomi, Deborah (Tim), Elizabeth "Goussie" (Richard), Eunice (Wayne), Lois "Lolo," and James "Jamie." Cherished uncle of Rhys, Daryl, Neil, Esther, Isaac, Mary Clare, and Brittany. Treasured

friend of The Three Markscateers: Kathy Larkins, Bobbi Bergmooser, and Robin Monterosso.

Friends and family will gather on Saturday, December 2, 2023, from 2:00 pm until time of memorial service at 3:00 pm at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak, 705 W. Eleven Mile Road. Mark will be laid to rest at The Preserve at All Saints Cemetery in Waterford Township, Michigan.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Transportation Riders United, PO Box 2668, Detroit, MI 48202 or online at www.detroittransit.org. Mark firmly believed in accessible mass transit and lobbied in Lansing for its expansion.

Please share a memory at www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com

Cemetery Details

The Preserve at All Saints Cemetery

4401 Nelsey Road
Waterford Township, MI 48329

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

DEC 2. 2:00 PM - 3:00 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/>

Memorial Service

DEC 2. 3:00 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/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of Mark G. Flanders*



Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors - November 27, 2023 at 07:13 PM

VW

“ *RIP! My mom and you were acting friends Kay Kennedy. My mom passed June 18, 2023 and I was thinking of you and you just passed recently. We enjoyed the theater and all that you did! Say hello to mom in heaven!*

Valerie Wieckowski - April 30, 2024 at 08:51 PM

GB

“ *I thought of Mark today, don't know why. He was such a special person whom I had not seen in many years. I looked on FB and saw several pages that he had. Rest well my dear friend, I will always have beautiful memories of you. Glenda Burton, a friend from Harper.*

Glenda Burton - December 02, 2023 at 06:28 PM

LH

“ *I've known Mark's beloved husband Roger for 50 years, having met him when I started teaching at Lehigh. Roger was closeted at first, and it took me a while to figure things out. (I was even more closeted, but that's another story). When Mark became a part of Roger's life, Roger immediately became a happier person. I remember Mark from that time as fun loving and a bit over-the-top, as so many people at the memorial gathering described him today. Both Roger and I moved on from Lehigh University in 1978, and so we didn't see each other frequently. However, the occasional phone call, email, and overnight visit on Roger and Mark's eastern summer swings, have kept us in touch. Roger, I was tearing up at various times during the gathering, as I can only begin to imagine how heartbroken you are and how tough the road ahead is. Always know that you have a friend and supporter here. All best, Leslie Horst*

Leslie Horst - December 02, 2023 at 04:41 PM

PD

Roger, I just saw Mark's obituary. I am so sorry you are without him now and dealing with such emptiness in your heart. He was always such a joy, lots of fun and laughs at our TA picnics. My prayers are with you for healing of the loss but enjoying the spectacular memories you will always have by having him by your side.

Peggy Dealey

Peggy Dealey - April 20, 2024 at 09:06 AM

BD

“ *My favorite memory of being with Mark onstage was singing in the quartet of street vendors in Oliver. After his accident, I sang "with" him in a different way, as Roger and I sat by his bedside in the ICU and serenaded him with show tunes, hoping to reach him and bring him back to wakefulness. It was then that I became his honorary sister, as hospital rules only allowed family members to visit. So to all of my honorary siblings, and to my dear friend and duet partner Roger, thank you for making this service available to us online, and thanks for sharing Mark's journey with me. I will miss his sweet and sassy presence.*

Beth Dover - December 02, 2023 at 04:37 PM

JB

“ *Mark had a huge personality and was a lot of fun. He accomplished much in his life. Thought and prayers to Roger, family and friends.*

Julie Byrne

Julie Byrne - December 02, 2023 at 12:45 PM

CA

“ I was 48 years old and sitting in my very first acting class. There were about 50 people gathered in a small school theater. I had no idea what to expect, and then...a tall man walked in wearing a blue suit with a long coat draped over his shoulders, a wide brimmed brown hat, and a long, thin, light pink satin scarf around his neck.

I thought he must have been the teacher because he was followed by an entourage of 8 people all carrying an assortment of things for their day's comfort.

I asked the guy next to me who he was. He smiled at me and said, "That's Marco. You'll get to know him."

I did get to know him and we became good friends for the next 29 years. Mark encouraged me to audition for most of the plays I was in. Some of my favorite scenes were comedies I did with Mark. He always came up with fun ideas that made everyone laugh. He also got me through many sad and frightening times that had nothing to do with acting.

For all the moments Mark gave me support and encouragement, trust and love and all the laughs we shared, I will never forget him.

I'll miss you buddy.

Give Rick my love, he will be happy to see you.

Roger, remember that you can always call me, you have my deepest sympathy and love.

Carol Aubuchon - December 02, 2023 at 11:08 AM

JH

“ Mark's positive was an attitude. It was so much a part of who he was. This positive attitude was under girded by deep reserves of courage and strength. It exuded from him whenever I saw him on stage. I was blessed to share the stage with him the few times that I did. His passion and love for the theater was unmatched. He will be truly missed. Roger, you are in my thoughts and prayers. May God's grace comfort and strengthen you. - Jeff Hedeem

Jeff Hedeem - December 02, 2023 at 10:48 AM

SK

“ Sending our very deepest sympathies to Roger. We have lasting memories of sharing the stage with Mark. Hoping the happy memories will sustain you during this sad time.

Sue and Kirk

Sue and Kirk - December 02, 2023 at 09:48 AM

NA

“ *Mark had the most positive attitude of anyone I have ever met. His enthusiasm and optimism were boundless. He loved his city, his many friends, his pup, his gardens, any opportunity to sing, opportunities to learn, especially romance languages, and, of course, Roger. Mark faced many challenges over the years and his approach to these were inspiring. He met each with steadfast determination, grace, and good will. He was a force of nature. Mark's passing will leave a hole in the world. We are so very sorry! Nance and Phil Angelella*

Nance Angelella - December 01, 2023 at 09:55 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mark G. Flanders.*

December 01, 2023 at 10:42 AM

JK

“ *Mark was very enthusiastic about improving his foreign language skills. Thankfully I could connect him with patient teachers as he explored, French and Italian, his determination and willingness to keep learning. I am experiencing my deepest sympathy to Roger. You were supportive and caring for many years. Sorry for your loss. Our Rosedale Park and Christ the King Community will remember many ways that Mark brought a smile to so many of us. Thank you for always decorating your home with beautiful lights at Christmas. It's sad his death is near the holidays, but maybe Mark wanted us to remember joyful memories. Sent with sincere sympathy, Jean Krystyniak*

Jean Krystyniak - November 30, 2023 at 07:23 AM

JF

“ *3 files added to the album Mark Flanders*



Jamie Flanders - November 28, 2023 at 03:45 PM

WS

“ 1 file added to the album *Mark Flanders*



Wm. Sullivan and Son - November 27, 2023 at 05:46 PM