



Martin "Whitey" Duris

February 18, 1931 - June 28, 2020

Troy - Martin Luther Duris, 89, passed away Sunday, June 28, 2020 at Crabtree Lane Foster Home in Troy.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Frances (Jeansonne) Duris; his daughters: Donna Gerhart and her husband Clifford Gerhart, both of Cocoa, FL, and Robin Duris of Royal Oak; his sons: Christopher Duris and his wife Sara of Watervliet, and Gary Duris of St. Clair Shores; four grandchildren: Matthew Garrett, Kaylin (Garrett) Kudsin and her husband Scott Kudsin, Andrew Duris and Claire Duris; one great-granddaughter, Vivienne Kudsin, and many nieces and nephews.

Whitey, as he was known, was born February 18, 1931 and raised in Senecaville, OH, the youngest of seven children, to Andrew and Anna (Folta) Dzuris. In his younger years, Whitey worked on the family farm and at the Seneca Lake boat docks. He joined the Army in 1951 and served during the Korean War. After the war, he moved to Royal Oak where he met his wife, Frances, of New Orleans, LA. They were married in 1955 in New Orleans and settled initially in Royal Oak, MI. They raised their family in Center Line, MI, where they lived until his retirement from Chrysler in 1992.

Whitey and Frances built their retirement home in Ventress, LA, where he enjoyed gardening, new friendships, hosting many family visits, and serving as the neighborhood's local handyman. In 2012, they moved back to Michigan

to be closer to family.

Whitey was an avid sports fan, especially of hockey and football. He loved to talk, was never shy to share a story, and lit up a room with his smile. He was most at home working with his hands; whether building a shed, repairing an engine or working on a puzzle or model train. He adored his grandchildren, and was particularly captivated by his great-granddaughter, Vivie.

Funeral Mass will be held Thursday, July 2, at 10:00 a.m. (visiting at 9:30 a.m.) at National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica, 2100 Twelve Mile Rd., Royal Oak.

Memorial contributions to the Korean War Veterans Association are appreciated.

Please share a memory at www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com.

Cemetery Details

Guardian Angel Cemetery

4701 Rochester Road
Oakland Township, MI 48306

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

JUL 2. 10:00 AM (ET)

National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica
2100 W. 12 Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48073

Tribute Wall

TC

“ Our hearts are saddened learning the loss of this wonderful soul. We will treasure the memories made along the 15+ years living next door. Whitey was a gem of a neighbor and would do anything, anytime he was needed. Rest In Peace dear friend - your work here is done ❤️ Frances and family we send you prayers and much love 🙏🙏❤️❤�

tommy and deborah cashio - July 02, 2020 at 12:57 PM

TR

“ You were the BEST neighbor and friend! There wasn't anything Whitey couldn't fix. We thank you for everything, and hopefully will see you again one fine day! Our sincere sympathy to Frances and the entire family!

Tom & Patrice Robinson - July 02, 2020 at 11:40 AM

FJ

“ Rest in peace my friend. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this difficult time. Whitey was a special person and great neighbor. Frances Jarreau

Frances Jarreau - July 01, 2020 at 06:07 PM

AM

“ A donation to the Korean War Veterans Association has been made in memory of Whitey by the McInnis Family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Respectfully, Bill and Annajeanelle McInnis, Cory, Patrick and Cameron McInnis, Meaghan, Jerry, Skyler and Lily Ficek.

Annajeanelle McInnis - July 01, 2020 at 06:04 PM

LM

“ *Larry McDonald lit a candle in memory of Martin "Whitey" Duris*



Larry McDonald - July 01, 2020 at 11:39 AM

LM

“ *I remember when his son Gary told me Whitey and his coworkers used to sell cans of Busch Beer in the Chrysler parking lot during their lunch breaks. I bet those were good times! Rest In Peace ole timer.*

Sincerely, Larry McDonald. Gary's buddy.

Larry McDonald - July 01, 2020 at 11:38 AM