



## Merle Newberry

June 24, 1936 - February 26, 2023

Merle Francis Newberry, a resident of Rochester Hills and formerly Washington Twp and Sterling Heights, passed away on February 26, 2023 at the age of 86. A son of Stanley and Gladys Newberry, he was born on June 24, 1936 in Grosse Pointe. Merle graduated from St. Gertrude High School in 1954 before working as a certified auto mechanic. On June 7, 1958, Merle exchanged vows with Santina Vitale at St. Gertrude Catholic Church in St. Clair Shores. In 1967, Merle joined the Sterling Heights Fire Department, where he retired as Captain after 25 years of valiant service.

Beloved husband of Santina, joined in love for 64 years. Loving father of Christine (Paul) Toski, Carol Ecker, Debra (Bruce) Cherry, Mona Tighe, Peter (Ligia), Darlene (Chris) Benson, and David (Kristina). Cherished grandfather of Ryon, Alec, Elise, Matthew, Steven, Madison, Krystal, Kenny, Nicolas, Sebastian, Meredith, Claire, Luke, Gustav, and Valentina. Proud great-grandfather of Hailey, Noah, Abigail, Eden, Rylee, and Savannah. Dear brother of the late Alger C. (Barbara).

A visitation for Merle will be held on Wednesday, March 1, from 2:00 to 7:00 pm with a rosary service and sharing of memories at 6:00 pm at Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors, 705 W. Eleven Mile Rd. (4 blks. E. of Woodward), Royal Oak, 48067. Merle will lie in state on Thursday, March 2, from 9:30 am until time of Funeral Mass at 10:00 am at National Shrine of the Little Flower

Basilica, 2100 Twelve Mile Rd., Royal Oak, 48073. Interment to follow at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield.

For those unable to attend, the Funeral Mass for Merle will be livestreamed through [www.shrinechurch.com/live-streamed-mass](http://www.shrinechurch.com/live-streamed-mass) and [www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com](http://www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Holy Sepulchre Cemetery

25800 W. 10 Mile Road  
10 Mile Road @ Beech Road  
Southfield, MI 48033

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 1. 2:00 PM - 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  
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

## Rosary

MAR 1. 6:00 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/>

## Funeral Mass

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MAR 2. 10:00 AM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of Merle Newberry*



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**Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors** - February 28, 2023 at 03:11 PM

MF

“ *Mona and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Merle Newberry.*



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**Mona and Family** - March 01, 2023 at 05:37 PM

MT

“ *Rest in Peace, Grandpa/Great-Grandpa Merle.* ❤️

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**Marissabelle Tighe** - March 01, 2023 at 03:29 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Merle Newberry.*



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March 01, 2023 at 11:16 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Merle Newberry.



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March 01, 2023 at 11:01 AM



“ *Krystal, My thoughts and prayers are with you and your entire family May God have a beautiful welcoming for His child when he arrives.*

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May the souls of all the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.  
~Amen~*

*J. Cash*

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**Jeremy** - March 01, 2023 at 07:38 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms* was purchased for the family of Merle Newberry.



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March 01, 2023 at 01:35 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Merle Newberry.*

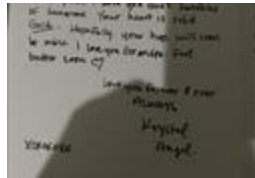


March 01, 2023 at 12:07 AM



“ *He is and was the most amazing hero and person I've have ever known. The memories with him will be cherished forever. A true Angel.*

*I'm not sure who Samantha is? I know my nieces name is Savannah.*



**Krystal Tighe** - February 28, 2023 at 09:55 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



**Mona Tighe** - February 28, 2023 at 07:31 PM



*Beautiful.*

**Marilyn (John) Vitale** - February 28, 2023 at 07:56 PM

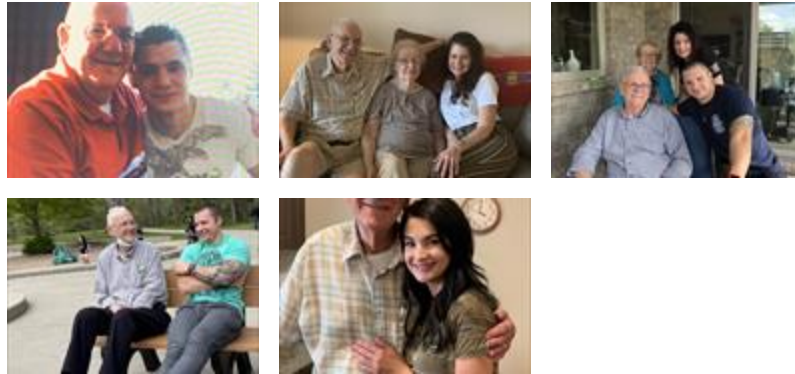
MV

*Such a good and nice man. Will never forget silently watching a deer standing on a dune with him during a visit.  
Our hearts go out to Tina and family.*

Marilyn (John) Vitale - February 28, 2023 at 08:01 PM

MT

“ 12 files added to the tribute wall



Mona Tighe - February 28, 2023 at 07:26 PM

MO

*I was so blessed to have the most amazing father & my children had the most amazing Grandfather ever❤️ God bless you Dad 💔💔💔 You will live forever with us 💕💕💕*

Mona - February 28, 2023 at 07:58 PM

KT

Yes! ❤️

Krystal Tighe - February 28, 2023 at 09:57 PM