



Richard T. Bailey

April 16, 1927 - December 18, 2020

Richard Thomas Bailey, age 93, passed away on December 18, 2020 surrounded by family at his home. He was born on April 16, 1927 to Richard and Lottie Bailey in Highland Park, MI. Richard served in the US Navy during WWII. After being discharged from the Navy, he married Shirley Anderson. The couple originally made their home in Highland Park and later moved to Royal Oak, near his brother, Kenneth. The couple raised their family in Royal Oak. Mr. Bailey was a chauffeur with 43 years of service when he retired from General Motors in 1994. He was the personal driver for the various Presidents of the company during his tenure. In 1963, he began working as an Auxiliary Police Officer for the City of Royal Oak until his badge was retired on December 16, 2020. He was the longest serving auxiliary officer for the city. While the kids were growing up, the family spent time at their summer home in Hillman, MI, where they would spend time volunteering setting things up at the Montmorency County 4H Fair in Atlanta, MI. Richard and Shirley kept busy volunteering with the Bluewater Michigan Chapter of the National Railroad Historical Society, where he was a Car Host on numerous train excursions. They also enjoyed taking trips with the Royal Oak Senior Citizens to Mackinac Island and staying at the Grand Hotel. For many years Richard volunteered with the Detroit Grand Prix, Detroit Fireworks, River Days, Dream Cruise and the Hob Nobble Gobble. Richard was also a volunteer for World Cup Soccer when it was hosted in Pontiac, MI, in 1984. He also volunteered at the NFL Experience when Detroit hosted Super Bowl 40 in 2006. Richard began

volunteering for America's Thanksgiving Parade in Detroit in 1984 and was named Art Van Volunteer of the Year in 2017.

Beloved husband of the late Shirley. Loving father of Sandy (the late Emil) Paci, Rick Bailey and Dawn Bailey. Dear brother of Kenneth (the late Peggy) Bailey. Also survived by nieces and nephews. He will be missed by Indy, his beloved dog. The family will receive friends Tuesday 11 am until time of funeral 1 pm at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Rd. (4 blks E. of Woodward), Royal Oak. The funeral will be webcast a few minutes prior to 1 pm. To access the webcast please visit www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com and in the tributes and photos section of Mr. Bailey's obituary the webcast will be available. *Please note that due to current Covid-19 restrictions, a maximum of 25 people are able to be in the visitation room at a time. Also, masks are required for entry into the funeral home. Memorial contributions to Michigan Humane or Leader Dogs for the Blind are appreciated. Share your memories at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

Cemetery Details

White Chapel Memorial Cemetery

621 W. Long Lake Road
Troy, MI 48098

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **22**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 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 Service

DEC **22**. 1:00 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/>

Burial

DEC **22**. 2:30 PM (ET)

White Chapel Memorial Cemetery
621 W. Long Lake Road
Troy, MI 48098

Tribute Wall



“ *Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of Richard T. Bailey*



Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors - December 22, 2020 at 11:05 AM

JC

“ *So many memories of Dick Bailey. He was just the best. Dont think I ever saw a sour face or heard a cross word. He did everything with vigor and joy. You needed something done, he was your go to guy any time day or night. I hope the kids realize what a truly great person he was, and how much he will be missed. We thank his family for sharing him for so many years. Dick and his family are family.*

Joe cole - January 03, 2021 at 10:37 AM

BS

“ *I had the pleasure of knowing Mr Bailey for many years. Over the last 22 years he would stop by my shop to have his clock adjusted, but most times it was to just chat. And during those visits, out of his pocket came the homemade candy!*

I will miss Mr Bailey and will always be thankful for knowing him!

Bob Stewart - December 23, 2020 at 06:16 PM

SY

“ Was the best Auxiliary partner ever, will truly be missed. RIP

Sherri Yorkey - December 22, 2020 at 07:49 PM

RS

“ I met Dick through the Bluewater Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society. We worked dozens of trips together, he as a car host and me as the EMS provider. We laughed, we joked, we traded jibes and had a great time. He told me many stories of driving for the big-wigs at GM. While I haven't communicated with him in years we exchanged X-Mas cards for years. We talked like a couple of brothers. I will miss him and may he rest in peace. Roger Schmidt

Roger Schmidt - December 22, 2020 at 06:19 PM

MO

“ Condolences from the family of Ray Olsen. Mr Bailey would stop by Northern TV to see our Dad about once a week just to chat for a few minutes. He was a kind man.

Mark Olsen

Mark Olsen - December 21, 2020 at 07:21 PM

CJ

“ I had the pleasure to work along side of Richard for many years at Royal Oak PD- He had the sixth sense about him when you were a bit stressed or out of sorts- he would walk up to you give you some kind and encouraging words while offering a piece of hard candy...He always left you smiling-- Richard is a prodigious ambassador for the City: A true icon in the Police Department. We will all miss him.

Chris Jahnke
ROPD-retired Chief

Christopher Jahnke - December 21, 2020 at 01:52 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Richard T. Bailey.



December 21, 2020 at 12:57 PM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard T. Bailey.



December 21, 2020 at 10:20 AM

DP

“ *Detroit Grand Prix Association/ Detroit Grand Prix purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Richard T. Bailey.*



Detroit Grand Prix Association/ Detroit Grand Prix -
December 21, 2020 at 10:10 AM

BR

“ *Dear Bailey Family, I have lived in my Royal Oak home for 44 years, and just 4 houses down and across the street from Mr. Bailey. Every day that I was in the yard gardening and Mr. Bailey was walking his dog, he would stop, look across the street, and give me a salute. Fifteen years ago when I moved much faster, he would say your a hard worker, and your doing a great job, "then a thumbs up". Maybe a small jester, and a moment in time, but it meant the world to me, that Mr. Bailey took the time to cheer me on. He is a gracious man, humble and still stately. I will miss his salutes, and thumbs up, but I am pretty sure he will continue to spur me on from up above, and I will work just as hard to keep my gardens up for my "Guardian Gardening Angle".*

Love to you, Mr. Bailey and to your family,

Barbara Ritchie

Barbara Ritchie - December 20, 2020 at 04:18 PM