



## Richard H. Gitter

November 9, 1930 - April 7, 2020

Richard Gitter, of Troy, formerly of Oxford, passed away on April 7, 2020 at the age of 89. Richard was born on November 9, 1930 in Hortonville, Wisconsin to Edwin and Burnette Gitter. Richard served in the Army in the Counter Intelligence Corp. during the Korean War where he met the love of his life. On June 19, 1954, Richard married Elizabeth VanDitti, in Baltimore, Maryland. He obtained a Masters Degree in Mathematics from the University of Wisconsin. Richard worked in Informational Technology; first to help put the Man on the Moon and later for GM and EDS. He was a long time member of St. Joseph's Catholic Parish in Lake Orion and member of the Knights of Columbus Council 4764 Lake Orion. He enjoyed hiking, gardening, playing bridge and ping pong. Richard is the cherished husband of the late Elizabeth, who passed away in 2014; the loving father of Joseph (Linda) Gitter of Port Huron, Theodore (Nancy) Gitter of Shelby Twp., Thomas (the late Karen) Gitter of Lake Angelus, Carol (Ken) Casolari of Waterford, and Diane (Thomas) Mueller of Sterling Heights, the late Andrew (survived by Brenda) Gitter; the beloved grandfather of 20 and great-grandfather of 4; and the dear brother of Rita (the late Dominic) Guzzetta, Thomas (Louise) Gitter, Peter Gitter, the late Phillip, the late James, the late Lawrence, the late Frances, and the late David Gitter. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, a private funeral service will take place at Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home in Utica, Michigan on Monday, April 13 at 11:30 a.m.. For those that wish to watch the memorial service please revisit our website during that time and click on the link under

the "photo and video" tab.

You may also leave a message for the family on the "Tribute Wall" tab.  
Please share a memory at [www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com](http://www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com).

Memorials are appreciated to

Catholic Charities USA - Covid Relief, 2050 Ballenger Ave, Suite 400,  
Alexandria, VA 22314 or at [https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/media-center/  
covid-19-resource-center/](https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/media-center/covid-19-resource-center/)

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) - Coronavirus, 228 W. Lexington St. Baltimore,  
Maryland 21201 or at <https://support.crs.org/donate/prevent-coronavirus>.

# Cemetery Details

## **Guardian Angel Cemetery**

4701 Rochester Road  
Oakland Township, MI 48306

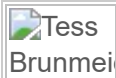
# Tribute Wall



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



**Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors** - April 11, 2020 at 05:09 PM



*Love and prayers from Tess Gitter Brunmeier from Southern Indiana.*

**Tess Brunmeier** - April 13, 2020 at 11:26 AM



*prayers and best wishes to the family, in memory of my uncle Dick..*  
*Mark Gitter*

**mark gitter** - April 13, 2020 at 11:29 AM



*Dear Gitter Family, May God's grace and love be with you always. We cherish our memories of Uncle Dick and your entire family.*

**Anna Mary Coburn** - April 13, 2020 at 11:52 AM



*You will be loved and missed forever grandpa thank you for the amazing memories*

**crystal gitter** - April 13, 2020 at 12:00 PM



*Thank you, Tom, for your heartwarming words about your father, my Uncle Dick. The whole family has been in my thoughts. Sarah in CA*

**Sarah Gitter** - April 13, 2020 at 12:33 PM

TN

*Beautiful service, beautiful tribute. May God Bless*

*Tom & Sharon Niedzielski*

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**Tom & Sharon Niedzielski** - April 13, 2020 at 01:35 PM

KS

*Thomas Martins and I, Kim Smith, watched the eulogy in Liberia, West Africa.*

*Tom, thank you for powerfully presenting the life of your father. His life was a testimony of faith expressed in love. Your family and all those blessed by knowing him have been enriched and challenged to imitate life.*

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**Kim Smith** - April 15, 2020 at 02:24 PM

AW

“ *April Wagoner lit a candle in memory of Richard H. Gitter*



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**April Wagoner** - April 14, 2020 at 11:06 AM

AW

*I am so sorry for your loss, my thoughts and prayers are with the family during this difficult time.*

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**April Wagoner** - April 14, 2020 at 11:07 AM

JC

“ *Jen Cooper-Sturgess lit a candle in memory of Richard H. Gitter*



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**Jen Cooper-Sturgess** - April 14, 2020 at 07:21 AM

BA

“ Brad Allen lit a candle in memory of Richard H. Gitter



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**Brad Allen** - April 13, 2020 at 04:33 PM

TG

“ Dick was one of my little brothers. I remember him being a good student, pingpong player, fastest bean picker in town, and always my conservative supporter. He loved our parents and was a good son. Later when we both had families yours were the “Dickies”, I remember camping together on Lake Michigan with 2 very competitive groups of cousins. Dick would calmly say “Let them work it out”, when the losers would cry. May your memories keep you smiling. Brother Tom and Louise

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**Thomas J Gitter** - April 13, 2020 at 03:33 PM

“ Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace. Where there is hatred let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

St. Francis of Assisi (1181-1226)

It is with a heavy heart during these turbulent times that I write this as a generation has passed and our own mortality feels threatened. Yet we can rest in peace as we know that Richard H. Gitter loved his family immensely and passionately. He joins not only his wife but his son, my late husband, Andrew, as well as siblings and friends. His convictions were strong and he lived his life as his conscience dictated. Faith and adhering to that faith was one of the principles he faithfully followed. We differed on many issues but respected one another. I remember standing with him on Hurricane Ridge, Olympic National Park, Washington, looking out at the pristine vastness of wilderness culminating in the snow capped peaks of the Olympic Mountains. As far as the eyes could see, old growth conifers some as old as when St. Francis walked this planet when I noticed the reverence for the Almighty's work in his eyes. Because we knew that he loved long walks and only the solitude from being alone in the forest. He loved his family deeply and was the Protector. He will be sorely missed but his imparted principles will live on through his heirs. It is how you live your life is the measure of a life lived well. He is loved.

*The Breathing*

*An absolute  
patient.*

*Trees stand  
up to their knees in*

*fog. The fog  
slowly flows uphill.*

*White  
cobwebs, the grass  
leaning where deer  
have looked for apples.  
The woods  
from brook to where  
the top of the hill looks  
over the fog, send up  
not one bird.  
So absolute, it is  
no other than  
happiness itself, a breathing  
too quiet to hear.*

*Denise Levertov*

*Shalom.*

*Brenda Gitter  
Anna Gitter, Clint Harkey, Sofya Gitter, Yulia Gitter and Addilyn  
Rose Gitter*

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**Brenda Gitter** - April 13, 2020 at 12:56 PM

RR

“ *Ruth Robinson lit a candle in memory of  
Richard H. Gitter*



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**Ruth Robinson** - April 13, 2020 at 11:30 AM

AS

“ Adam Smart lit a candle in memory of Richard H. Gitter



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Adam Smart - April 13, 2020 at 11:15 AM

CG

“ I remember when I was little and we would go visit grandpa he would hand us a bucket and tell us to go pick up pine cones and I never bothered to ask why until the last time he was in the hospital and his answer was to give us exercise but my favorite memory is when I called him and he told me he fed his hippopotamus grandpa was an amazing man and my condolences go out to you all much love and hugs through this very tough time

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crystal gitter - April 12, 2020 at 10:12 PM

JG

“ To my Michigan cousins: you are all in our thoughts and prayers. I loved Uncle Dick. He always called me JP. He was smart and kind. I remember how patient he was when you all tried to teach me to water ski one summer when we visited. I was pretty young. I also remember some family reunion and we were at a buffet and he said “go for the meat.” That is the all time best comment from any Uncle and I’ll always remember that! Love, Jamie, Kristen, Chris, and Emilie

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Jamie Gitter - April 12, 2020 at 09:40 PM

TC

“ Hello Jitters - Coburners here. We came up with a few of our favorite memories of Uncle Dick. What comes to mind 1st, is the early am arrival of that stuffed station wagon, with the rear facing back seat and the Gitter family descends upon Medwick Garth for a vacation week in Baltimore. Museum day trips to downtown Washington, DC. Hey, when you forced your family to move from Wisconsin to Michigan you had the foresight to insist on buying a house on a lake. We so appreciated the summer vacations on Tanview Drive learning how to water ski. We could not wait for this week. And how about the time you were driving the boat, when Mert was skiing and his bathing suit split wide open. Wiffle ball competitions: Gitters vs. Coburns. Take no prisoners. Linda was the weakest link but she executed a triple play ending a bases loaded come from behind attempt by the Coburns. You thought swiss chard was a main course. Backyard cookouts sitting around in a circle on a warm summer night singing silly songs. You were the 1st person witnessed to eat pizza with a knife and a fork! LOL. You didn't have an extensive wardrobe: "Hey Uncle Dick, you were wearing that outfit that last time we saw you (last year)". These are the funny memories, but what we admire most was your commitment to your wife, Aunt Betty, and the marital vow, "in sickness and in health". Well done, good and faithful servant.

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**The Coburns** - April 12, 2020 at 02:43 PM



“ Sharon Casolari Jones Niedzielski sent a virtual gift in memory of Richard H. Gitter



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**Sharon Casolari Jones Niedzielski** - April 11, 2020 at 06:53 PM



*Tom and I were sadden to hear that your father passed away. Our deepest sympathy. Sending healing prayers and comforting hugs.*

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**Sharon Casolari Jones Niedzielski** - April 11, 2020 at 06:59 PM



*I'm thinking of you in this difficult time. You are loved. I pray for your comfort and peace in knowing God's promises. Hugs,  
Ruth Robinson*

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**Ruth Robinson** - April 13, 2020 at 11:35 AM