



Richard "Dick" Granke

May 9, 1942 - January 13, 2016

Granke, Richard "Dick", age 73, a longtime resident of Royal Oak, passed away January 13, 2016 at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. He was born May 9, 1942 in Detroit to the late Leonard and Virginia Granke. Beloved husband of Sally Hoffman Granke; the couple met through his sister, Carolyn, while she attended the ninth grade. Dick and Sally later married on November 18, 1966 at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Church. Dick served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War as a Specialist 5th Class. He received his bachelor's degree in chemistry from the Detroit Institute of Technology. He went on to utilize his knowledge working for Detroit Diesel as a product engineer and later at General Motors as a senior project engineer.

Dick was well-known for many things, like his great smile, wonderful hugs and his willingness to accept anyone into his life. He also was well-known for his exceptional house decorating during the holidays - "Too much is never enough!" and for his ongoing display of flags throughout the year. He always proudly flew the American Flag, but he also liked to make a statement with another.

Dick was deeply invested in his community. He was past PTA president at Kimball High School, 8-year member and past president of the Royal Oak School Board, Inter-Club Council treasurer, 7-year past president and 4-year board member at large of the Royal Oak Community Coalition, Girl Scout

Troop parliamentarian, and boating instructor for the United States Power Squadron of Dearborn.

Loving father of Steven Richard (Jennifer) Granke, Lisa Jean (Larry) Hills and Amy Virginia (Carlton) Stauss; dear brother of Carolyn Dell, Beverly (James) Miles and Gary (Leslee) Granke; and proud, proud grandfather of Alexander and David Granke; Jordan, Alexandra and Joseph Hills; and Ryan, Caeden, Ethan and Owen Stauss.

Visitation Monday 4-8 p.m. and Tuesday 3-8 p.m. at the Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 705 W 11 Mile Road (4 blocks E of Woodward), Royal Oak. In state Wednesday 10 a.m. until the time of service 11 a.m. at First Congregational Church, 1314 Northwood Boulevard, Royal Oak. Final resting place at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly.

IN LIEU OF FLOWERS, memorial contributions to the Salvation Army or donor's choice of charity are appreciated.

Share your memories at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

Cemetery Details

Great Lakes National Cemetery

4200 Belford Road
Holly Township, MI 48442

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 18. 4:00 PM - 8:00 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/>

Visitation

JAN 19. 3:00 PM - 8:00 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 Services

JAN 20. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Congregational Church of Royal Oak
1314 Northwood Boulevard
Royal Oak, MI 48073

Burial

JAN 21. 12:30 PM (ET)

Great Lakes National Cemetery
4200 Belford Road
Holly Township, MI 48442

Tribute Wall



“ Dick and I used to fly model airplanes together in our 20's and I remember attending his wedding when we were both so young.....I am sad to have waited too long to reconnect..Bob Hamilton 12-14-2019



Bob Hamilton - December 14, 2019 at 12:04 PM

SG

Thanks for sharing your memories, I still have a few of my Dad's airplane models, including two unbuilt kits.

Steven Granke - September 02, 2021 at 08:57 PM

EK

“ While I did not know Mr. Granke personally, I would like to express my sympathy for your loss and to thank him for his service to our country and leadership to the schools and community in Royal Oak. Thank you for sharing him for those civic endeavors, for undoubtedly it was time away from his family. From my younger days going through the Royal Oak schools, my family always knew who he was, what he did for our city, (to vote for him!) and, of course, where he lived from all the **magnificent decorations** for every occasion. May your loving memories give you peace in the days ahead.

Ellen Eskola Kehoe - January 24, 2016 at 01:20 PM

WA

“ To the family of Mr. Granke: Please accept my sincere sympathy for the loss of your loved one. While we don't know one another, experiencing the devastation of losing a loved one is something we all face in our lives. I lost a very dear family member also. Something that brought us comfort was the Bibles promise of a time when "death will be no more" (Rev 21:3.4) & the assurance that God hears our prayers (Ps 55:22). I hope this brings you some peace during this difficult time.

Wanda - January 19, 2016 at 08:58 AM



“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors - January 17, 2016 at 07:56 PM

ML

“ Very sorry for your loss. We extend our sincere sympathy to Sally and family. You are all in our prayers.
The Luciano's

Marcia Luciano - January 17, 2016 at 04:50 PM

JA

“ You are greatly missed, Uncle Dick. I'll always remember how you were the first person to ever sneak human food under the table to our dog Baxley at Thanksgiving a few years ago...and I will never ever forget the huge, contagious smile you had once we realized where Baxley had gotten the food from! -- Aunt Sally, Steve, Lisa and Amy: you have been in my thoughts and prayers all week and I wish very much that I could be there with you right now. Sending love to you all. -- Love, Jamie

Jamie - January 17, 2016 at 03:53 PM

PR

“ So many memories: from the gate in the fence, to dream cruise parties, to lex on the lake, to new years eve parties/trips, to many impromptu backyard drinks, to a super fantastic neighbor with lots of crazy ideas. I will miss you Dick Granke, but your spirit will live on through your family. Even the young grandchildren will remember you well through all the stories that will be passed on. To the family: hang on to the memories. Your most special memories and the support of each other and friends will help get you through the dark times.
Love, The backyard neighbors

Peggy and Gary Reggio - January 17, 2016 at 08:36 AM

CM

“ The best big Brother a bratty little sister could ever have. A loving brother who taught us about Jesus and Grace. Thanks to him, my family and I will get to be with him in heaven. Lots of earthly tears, oh but joy in the morning!
Love, Bevy

Cassie Miles - January 16, 2016 at 02:50 PM

MR

“ So very sorry to learn of Dick's passing. Our last visit with him was such a delight as he shared his love for Christmas decorating and especially his train. Just as "trains move swiftly to their journey's end" sadly so has Dick. He will always be remembered fondly.

The Ritchies

Mary Ritchie - January 16, 2016 at 02:47 PM

BS

“ Our sincere condolences to Sally and family. Dick was truly a wonderful man. We remember the great times at the girls' soccer games years ago! May your incredible memories help you all. Sending hugs and prayers to you all.

Bill & Cheryl Samson

Bill and Cheryl Samson - January 16, 2016 at 01:02 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard "Dick" Granke.



January 16, 2016 at 12:07 PM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Richard "Dick" Granke.*



January 16, 2016 at 11:32 AM



“ *Steve & family,
We are so sad to hear of your dad's passing. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.
Mandy, Steve & Dylan Sigman*

ms - January 16, 2016 at 09:29 AM



“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Jenni Granke - January 15, 2016 at 09:14 PM



“ *I love that Dick was a "citizen." He didn't wait around for other people to do things--he got out there and did them! I am thankful for all he did to ensure my kids got a quality education in Royal Oak. I am so sorry he is gone. My love and deep sympathy go out to Sally, the kids and grandchildren.*

Chris Simpson - January 15, 2016 at 05:59 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Richard "Dick" Granke.



January 15, 2016 at 02:15 PM



“ Lori, Scott, Connor and Claire Chapman purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Richard "Dick" Granke.



Lori, Scott, Connor and Claire Chapman - January 15, 2016 at 11:57 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Richard "Dick" Granke.



January 15, 2016 at 09:10 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Richard "Dick" Granke.



January 15, 2016 at 08:56 AM



“ *Tiffany Gonzalez lit a candle in memory of Richard "Dick" Granke*



Tiffany Gonzalez - January 14, 2016 at 07:19 PM



“ *My thoughts and prayers to you Aunt Sally, Steve, Amy, and Lisa. Very sad that I can not be there with you. Love to you all!*

Tiffany Gonzalez - January 14, 2016 at 07:19 PM



“ *Dear Sally and family. I am so sorry that you lost your beloved husband, father and grandfather. Dick was a very special man and I'm so lucky that I knew him for more than 35 years. Lynne Staszak*

Lynne Staszak - January 14, 2016 at 04:21 PM



“ *I was so very saddened to hear of Dick's passing. Dick was such a wonderful man. A great dad, grandpa, friend, and leader in the Royal Oak Community. His face lit up when he talked about his kids and grandchildren. I will miss knowing I won't see him anymore, but his wonderful spirit and kindness will remain in our hearts forever. I will keep your family in my prayers in the coming months. So very sorry.*

Kathy Knapp - January 14, 2016 at 03:52 PM

LI

“ Sally and family, I was so shocked to her about Dick. I was looking forward to hearing him tell of his surgery when I get home. We sit close to each in church and will miss him not being there. I feel so bad for you Sally, I've been down that road. God's Blessings.
Love You, Linda Brack

Linda - January 14, 2016 at 03:21 PM

RC

“ Dick was a man of honor and integrity. His years of dedication to the Royal Oak community have created a positive impact that will be felt by many future generations. His legacy will live forever in the hearts of all who had the privilege to know him. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, children and grandchildren that he loved so dearly.

Royal Oak Community Coalition - January 14, 2016 at 02:33 PM

LS

“ We send our love to all of you. I wish I was there to speak at Dick's funeral and tell the world about Dick. We traveled the same path for almost 30 years of PTA, Board of Education and Community Coalition. Dick helped us get a huge federal grant to provide Royal Oak with money to improve the lives and safety for teens and families in our community. He was respected as a Parliamentarian at State conferences and a friend to so many people. On a lighter note, I Have never seen a Halloween display that rivals the Granke front yard and the fun we had at your parties. Dick was always kind- in fact, I never heard him say anything unkind and often heard him talk of Sally, his children and grandchildren with love and pride. Dick worked so very hard to make Royal Oak a wonderful place to raise a family . He was steadfast in his mission to serve others. I know he is looking down on each of you feeling very sorry to cause your pain. Take care of yourselves in the months ahead and always remember that you were and are loved. The world just lost a wonderful man. Lynette & Tim

Lynette & Tim Sisson - January 14, 2016 at 01:56 PM