



## Richard P. Hayford Jr.

April 13, 1949 - August 31, 2024

Richard Preston “Rick” Hayford Jr., age 75, of Bloomfield Hills, passed away on August 31, 2024.

Rick was born in Detroit on April 13, 1949 to Richard Preston Hayford Sr. and Adona Jane Hayford (née Schwartz). He attended Royal Oak St. Mary Grade School and High School.

Rick proudly served as an aircraft mechanic in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War. After returning to Michigan, he briefly worked for the Daily Tribune newspaper before obtaining his civilian certifications in aircraft maintenance. He went on to build a career with Zantop International Airlines at Willow Run Airport and later with IFL Group at Oakland County International Airport. Eventually, he transitioned to a role at St. Joseph Mercy Oakland (now Trinity Oakland) from which he retired.

Rick had a passion for anything with an engine. He enjoyed working on cars and planes and had a deep love for motorcycles, owning a couple himself. He also built and raced slot cars, always eager to be hands-on with a mechanical challenge. He will be dearly missed.

Rick will be remembered as the beloved husband of Carol (née Wright). Loving brother of Andrea (the late Robert) Diegel, Julie (David) Wood, and

Marc (Kathy) Hayford. Dear uncle of the late Jennifer, Keri, Rob, Shannon, David Jr., Adona, and Patrick.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, September 7, from 11 a.m. until time of service, 4:00 p.m. at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W. Eleven Mile Rd. (four blocks east of Woodward), Royal Oak.

Memorial contributions can be directed to a charity of the donor's choice.

# Cemetery Details

## Great Lakes National Cemetery

4200 Belford Road  
Holly Township, MI 48442

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 7. 11:00 AM - 4:00 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

SEP 7. 4:00 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/>

# Tribute Wall

SS

“ I just learned of Rick’s passing and send my condolences to Carol and his family! I got to know Rick over the last decade or so as his hairstylist and he was always so kind and had lots to chat about. He will be missed!

Sarah Stewart - January 05, 2025 at 11:09 AM

JW

“ June W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard P. Hayford Jr..

June W. - September 09, 2024 at 08:14 AM

TO

“ I was so looking forward to celebrating our reunion together after chatting about it for a couple of years. At least I find comfort in knowing we had all those phone visits and lots of memories and laughter shared! ❤️



Terry O'Connor - September 07, 2024 at 12:10 PM

HS

“ Rick was a great aircraft mechanic and co-worker for many years at Zantop at Willow Run. Condolences 🙏 go out to Carol and their family members. R.I.P., Rick. .... You were one of the Good Guys !

Harvey Snitzer - September 06, 2024 at 05:46 PM

TF

“ The Kiltie and the Pope Families planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard P. Hayford Jr..

The Kiltie and the Pope Families - September 06, 2024 at 11:32 AM

TF

“ The Respecki Family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Richard P. Hayford Jr..



The Respecki Family - September 05, 2024 at 07:51 PM

KL

“ Our condolences to Carol and the rest of Ricks family. I have know Rick for many years as I worked with him at Zantop International Airlines. I remember all of the good times that we all had there working together.

Kevin A. Love - September 04, 2024 at 04:37 PM

SS

“ Stephen Preston Schwartz planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard P. Hayford Jr..

Stephen Preston Schwartz - September 04, 2024 at 08:24 AM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Richard P. Hayford Jr..*



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September 04, 2024 at 08:24 AM



“ *Harrison & Luanne Woodrow planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard P. Hayford Jr..*

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**Harrison & Luanne Woodrow** - September 03, 2024 at 05:22 PM



“ *Harrison & Luanne Woodrow purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Richard P. Hayford Jr..*



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**Harrison & Luanne Woodrow** - September 03, 2024 at 05:22 PM



“ *The loss of a friend like you can never be recovered. Although we cannot see you, you'll always stay alive in our memories and heart. Rest In Peace my Friend*

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**Garry Patton** - September 03, 2024 at 03:25 PM

DP

“ *Denise Park lit a candle in memory of Richard P. Hayford Jr.*



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**Denise Park** - September 03, 2024 at 02:09 PM

DP

*My prayers are with you. Although I did not know Richard, I went to school with his sister Andrea. Wishing the entire family peace while the celebrate his life.*

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**Denise Park** - September 03, 2024 at 02:14 PM

CP

“ *My dear friend. I have had the privilege to have known him since we were in first grade together at St. Mary's when I was just 4. I will miss him dearly. Truly one of the best. I loved the man.*  
*Chuck Peltier*

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**Chuck Peltier** - September 02, 2024 at 02:52 PM

DD

“ *Doug And Donna DeBastos lit a candle in memory of Richard P. Hayford Jr.*



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**Doug and Donna DeBastos** - September 01, 2024 at 05:40 PM



“ Rick was a wonderful guy, I met him in 1985 at Zantop (ZIA) we had many fun adventures and great memories, condolences to Carol and family, he is missed

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**Bill Sadley** - September 01, 2024 at 04:42 PM

MC

“ I was one of Rick's co-workers at Zantop Airlines. Rick always had a smile for everyone, and he was a great guy. My condolences to his family and friends.



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**Michelle Campbell** - September 01, 2024 at 11:30 AM

RS

“ He was my first lead mechanic at Zantop when I came into aviation, his demeanour was a stepping stone and a great push for me. RIP my friend,

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**Richard Smith** - September 01, 2024 at 12:54 AM