



Richard Thomas Hermann

June 3, 1940 - December 9, 2019

Richard Thomas Hermann, age 79, died December 9, 2019 in Royal Oak. He was born on June 3, 1940 in Royal Oak to George and Kathryn Hermann. A lifelong Royal Oak resident, Richard owned and operated Hermann's Bakery since 1942. His father, George, started the business in 1929 with his partner Gus Dondero. In 1983, Richard became a partner in the family business. He was a veteran of the US Navy, pre-Vietnam. During his time in the military he went to school for cooking and baking. In his younger years, he worked for a bakery in Detroit/Hamtramck. Richard was a longtime member of the Royal Oak Historical Society. He loved telling stories about Royal Oak history and was a true Royal Oak historian. An avid reader, Richard also enjoyed gardening and working outdoors. Richard was very community minded and supported the Sara Fisher Home, Royal Oak Fire Department, Royal Oak Police Department and Barton Towers.

Loving father of Richard "Dan" (Lauren) Hermann and Eric Hermann. Proud grandfather of Brett, Katelyn, Gabrielle, Joseph, Seraphia, Eliana and Rosalie. Dear brother of Andrew (Sue) Hermann, Raymond (Rose) Hermann and Theresa Hermann. Cherished uncle of Andrea (Brian) Halas, Beth (Luke) Sandzik, Jenny (Mike) Knode, Karl Hermann, Stephan (Kelly) Hermann, Jacqueline (Jorge) Martinez, Kathryn (Glicerio) Rivera. Also survived by his dear companion, Pam Stodola. He will be missed by his cat, Garfield.

Visitation Wednesday 5-8 pm and Thursday 2-8 pm. Funeral Friday 1 pm at Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Rd. (4 blks E. of Woodward), Royal Oak. Burial will follow at Roseland Park Cemetery. Memorial contributions to Royal Oak Historical Society are appreciated. Share your memories at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

Cemetery Details

Roseland Park Cemetery

29001 Woodward Avenue
(NW corner of 12 Mile and Woodward)
Berkley, MI 48072

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 11. 5:00 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

DEC 12. 2:00 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 Service

DEC 13. 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/>

Tribute Wall

MH

“ My family and I will miss Mr. Hermann and all the wonderful pastries he made with loving care. I discovered Herman’s bakery in 1987 when I moved to Royal Oak. My son grew up getting donut treats whenever we walked into town. He loved the pastries so much, that I would deliver them to him in Ann Arbor when he went away to college. My thoughts are with all of the family during this difficult time. I hope you can take comfort in knowing that he died doing what he loved.

-Mary Haddad-Raveane

Mary Haddad-Raveane - December 17, 2019 at 03:19 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Richard Thomas Hermann.



December 13, 2019 at 09:29 PM

CM

“ I know I can speak for the members of St Mary’s Class of 1958 in sending our deepest sympathies to Dick’s family at such a sad time. We’re a small but close class and are happy to have him as a part of us and to join us at our reunion last year. Rest In Peace, dear friend.

Clairellen McLaughlin - December 13, 2019 at 10:37 AM



“ *Richard will be much missed by four generations of our family. He was always at the bakery setting an example of hard work, and excellent quality craftsmanship. We so appreciated the bakery observing Christian holidays, including closing hours on Good Friday. And YES, we loved both his traditions and bake goods. We will miss him and his longtime loyal staff. Yours was a life well lived Richard.*

The Stange, Token and Secor families of Berkley.

Berkley Redford - December 13, 2019 at 09:10 AM

ER

“ *So sorry to hear of Dick's passing. He was a favorite patient in our dental office. He would always bring treats..cookies, bread, donuts, etc. which we loved! Always cheerful and fun loving.*

Ellen Nustad, RDH - December 12, 2019 at 08:32 PM

PL

“ *You will be missed, your humor, generosity, your friendship. Condolences to your family.....*

Patti

Windsor, ON

Patricia Love - December 12, 2019 at 02:10 PM

KM

“ *So very Sorry , The Family are in my Thoughts and Prayers ! I Will be lighting a candle at Shrine , in Richards Honor !*

Kevin McBrady - December 12, 2019 at 01:07 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard Thomas Hermann.*



December 12, 2019 at 10:24 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard Thomas Hermann.*



December 12, 2019 at 09:29 AM



“ *I came to Royal Oak over 18 years ago. Working for the City, my office is close by and it didn't take me long to discover Hermann's. I had the pleasure of meeting Richard as he made large dessert boxes for our summer and holiday luncheons. Over the years I have introduced my staff to the joy of warm cinnamon twists from Hermann's Bakery. My son would be on me constantly for loaves of cinnamon bread to be brought home.*

More important than the baking (if you can believe it) was the contact with Richard and his staff. Such a nice place to go for great food, nice conversation and great people. Hermann's was a town treasure that cannot be replaced. The German heritage and small family business made it what it was.

My condolences to Richard's family, friends and staff in this time of grief. I'm pleased to say that I knew him and I will miss him and his talents everyday.

James Geiermann

James M Geiermann - December 12, 2019 at 08:51 AM



“ *When I was a child I loved going to Hermann's bakery with my parents. The smell of fresh baked bread was wonderful. My dad, Earl Themean, was a relative of the owner. We wouldn't get bread anywhere else. Now, I live in Ontario but whenever I am in Royal Oak, I get two loaves of that wonderful small loaf and it takes me back to my childhood.*

Johnnene Themean Maddison

Johnnene Maddison - December 11, 2019 at 03:25 PM

AH

“ *I moved to California in 1973 but always made a point of stopping in to see Dick at the bakery and over the years my family got to also know and love him. He would always get a cup of coffee and sit down with us all and talk about the history of the town and the bakery. Rick and Pam went out of the way for my son, Ryan's wedding a few years ago and shipped us 25 dozen molasses cookies to give out to our guests.*

i am about 9 years younger than Dick and can remember helping out at the bakery during the Holidays and between my dad, Alfie and Uncle George with unlit cigar stubs in their mouths and Rick with his tooth pick i never understood half the time what they wanted me to do.

he was a special person (and cousin!) and we will all miss him terribly...

Al and Patti Hermann

Ryan, Kate, Thomas and Lauren Hermann

Tracy and JP Colaco

Al Hermann - December 11, 2019 at 02:23 PM

JC

“ I worked across the alley from Mr Hermann for the last 25 years, and one of my favorite parts of any day was if we happened to be outside at the same time , we always made it a point to say hello, sometimes we would stand and talk much longer about anything from business to the weather . But rest assured I always walked away with a smile on my face just knowing that I had such a well respected man right across the way . Over the years my staff and myself would go into Hermann's several times a week , and you could always count on holiday's for Mr Hermann to walk through the door with a box of goodies for all. I'll miss his sense of humor as well as the toothpick he would have hanging on occasion, he always had a smile and a funny story and I don't anyone who didn't think or speak highly of him . Our community will be losing a one of a kind MAN in Mr Hermann , if you noticed I referred to Richard Thomas Hermann as Mr Hermann several times that's because when you have the respect for someone that I had for him that's just how you address them. He will be sadly missed by my whole staff at the Rock but we will keep his memory strong forever Rest in peace sir .
John b. corradi

john b. corradi - December 11, 2019 at 01:53 PM

KO

“ Ah Dick! The memories.

You could be a bit of a rascal (Huck Finn Style) while growing up; like the time you made a trap out of a box, a stick and a string. You conned Andy and myself into sitting guard to pull the string when some unsuspecting bird came to take the bait. (Boring).

Oh boy, were you mad when you returned to find that we had abandoned our post, the trap was sprung and not a critter in sight.

As time went on you became every bit your father's son; quiet, unassuming, always kind and gentle with just enough mischief to warrant a giggle or two.

always with love,

Cousin Kathy

kathy Ostdiek - December 11, 2019 at 12:32 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Richard Thomas Hermann.*



December 11, 2019 at 12:17 PM

SB

“ I was truly impressed with Richard's work ethic that manifested itself in the outstanding products he produced on a daily basis. When I walked into the shop I never knew if he was going to say good morning or bite my head off, but either way, I respected him as professional in his field.

When "The Roost" was thriving, Richard on many occasions provided our catering customers with desserts that brought smiles to everyone who sampled them. On a daily basis, his white rolls were a hit in the restaurant.

You did it right Richard!. You paid your dues, now go collect on them. Thank you for being you.

With utmost respect,

Steve Bera

Steve Bera - December 11, 2019 at 11:41 AM

UF

“ Uncle Joe's Family (Karol, Joe & Tracy & families) purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Richard Thomas Hermann.



Uncle Joe's Family (Karol, Joe & Tracy & families) -
December 11, 2019 at 11:37 AM

TB

“ My dad, Dick's Uncle Joe, used to bring me to the bakery when I was a little girl, almost every weekend. I can still smell the flour, and in my mind's eye, see the tall counters. We would sit at my Aunt Kathryn's desk (Dick's mom) - she always had on a white uniform. I'm sure my cousin Dick was in the back, baking, so we didn't see him. Like most of my family, he made my wedding cake and it was beautiful. I was always proud to be connected to the part of local history that is Hermann's bakery. I can't imagine Royal Oak without Dick's baked goods. Wishing his family peace.

Tracy Bedford

Tracy Bedford - December 11, 2019 at 11:26 AM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Richard Thomas Hermann.*



December 10, 2019 at 10:00 PM

SR

“ *Richard is the finest man I've ever had the pleasure to meet. He would gladly give you the shirt off his back to help you out. When we were constructing/remodeling Malibu, Richard would come by every day with treats for us - pasties, crullers, cookies.....and check out our progress. When we opened, we got to reciprocate, but all Richard wanted was a few tortilla chips and a glass of beer....on rare occasions, a bowl of soup. He gave me lots of baking advice, for which I will always be grateful. He let me use his ovens for Mother's Day buffets. He told stories of his navy life, his bakery life and interesting items he learned from the radio. You knew what time it was and what Richard was prepping or baking by who was on the radio, without fail. And occasionally, he admitted to the very rare error - forgetting to put yeast in the dough batch....he was so humble, so proud, so kind, so giving. But my greatest memory will always be the huge smile on his face and rolling up his apron to give me a wonderful bear hug. I will miss you Richard. My deepest sympathies to his family. Much love, Shirley.*

Shirley Robertson - December 10, 2019 at 07:04 PM

AS

“ So Sad to hear that my cousin Richard had passed away.

I have such fond memories of him from when I was a little girl. Dick (that is what we called him back then) must have been about 14 years old and I was 7, now who could be cooler to a little girl than a teenage boy cousin; absolutely no one. It was in the early 1950's and I remember him as being quite stylish wearing white buck shoes (Pat Boone), a white T shirt with sleeves rolled up (James Dean) and he listened to the brand new music of the century "Rock and Roll".

He was very creative and innovative, so as an adult, I knew who to go to when I needed a special cake for my husband's 50th. Birthday Party. The theme was "I don't want to grow up". Dick created a cake that looked just like a chocolate Hostess Twinkie cup cake; it was awesome.

My condolences to my cousins for the loss of their dear brother, his family for the loss of their beloved father and to all who held him near and dear in their hearts.

Sincerely,

*Annette Woolsey Scott
10466 E. Summit Peak Way
Scottsdale, AZ 85262
480.206.4793*

Annette Scott - December 10, 2019 at 05:17 PM

AR

“ *Saddened to hear of Mr.Hermann's sudden passing.
His trademark work 'toothpick' ever present,he always had a smile,
good word ,uplifting story, or joke to share.*

He will be missed.

Condolences

Adele R. - December 10, 2019 at 04:16 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of
Richard Thomas Hermann.*



December 10, 2019 at 04:02 PM

HE

“ *So sad I remember going shopping with my mom and she took me
there a lot to get donuts and other stuff great memories*

Hester - December 10, 2019 at 02:49 PM

CA

“ *Mr. Hermann did my wedding cake 37 years ago. My condolences
to the family.*

Cathy Ashmore - December 10, 2019 at 02:12 PM

MB

“ One of the most vivid memories I have from my childhood is one of my Mom and younger brother Doug and I standing in front of the bakery looking at the delicious baked goods in the display window. What a special time!

*Mike Barnowski
Jacksonville FL*

Mike Barnowski - December 10, 2019 at 01:38 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Richard Thomas Hermann.



December 10, 2019 at 12:45 PM

CR

“ Walking into Hermann's bakery always filled me with a sense of awe at the craftsmanship of all the baked goods from both father and son.

*Love,
Cynthia Reno
Granddaughter of Ed and Iva Herman
My father George Robert Herman is named after Richard's father*

Cynthia Reno - December 10, 2019 at 11:42 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard Thomas Hermann.*



December 09, 2019 at 08:45 PM