



## Richard J. Straughen

February 26, 1930 - August 27, 2010

Richard J. Straughen Formerly of Eastpointe

Age 80, Passed away on Friday, August 27, 2010

After retiring from K-R Automation as an engineer, he volunteered at Bi-County Hospital, meals on wheels

and Selfridge Air Museum. Mr. Straughen is a member and current Commander of the American Legion Post 386. He was loved as a chaperone by the runners of the Eisenhower High School Cross Country Team.

Enjoyed car cruising and flying.

Beloved husband for 47 years of the late Geraldine.

Loving Father of Richard Gail, Gari, and Dale Dawn.

Proud Grandfather of Kelly John Swanson, Richard Jennifer, Sarah Jacob Graegin, Michael, Donald, and the late Douglas and Freedom.

Dear Great-Grandfather of Skyler

Brother of Lee Alfreida and the late Gerald.

Brother-in-law of Carolyn

Dear Friend of Martha Waroway.

Graveside service at Great Lakes National Cemetery Holly, Michigan on Thursday, September 2, 2010 at 11am.

A Celebration of Life Memorial Service will follow after the Cemetery service on Thursday-Please call Funeral Home for information. Memorials

appreciated to American Legion Post 386 Frank J. Calcaterra 21555 Gratiot Ave, Eastpointe MI 48021 or Selfridge Air Museum 127 WG/MU 27333 C

Street Bldg. 1011 Selfridge ANG Base MI US 48045

Please share a memory at [www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com](http://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com).

Arrangements by Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home-Utica

# Tribute Wall

WM

“ On behalf of the Eisenhower Math department we want to send our condolences to Rick, Kelly and their family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

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**Wendy Morin** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ We are so sorry for your loss and our prayers are with your family. He was a wonderful man who will be greatly missed. All our love - Jenny, Justin and Jessica Kayse

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**Jennifer Kayse** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PK

“ I did not know Richard J. Straughen, but I know the Straughen Family, and, because he is a Straughen, he is most assuredly in Heaven. My condolences to all the Straughens. I know how you all grieve so deeply. Love, Pat

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**Patricia Kiss** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ My Father-in law was a kind and caring man he never judged anyone. He met people where they were. He was a great problem solver. He helped us out with his technical knowledge. He loved the country and we enjoyed when he visited. He treated me like a daughter and I will always be grateful for that. He was there when our Douglas passed away and he helped out in his quiet comforting way. I will miss him forever. Love Dawn

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**Dawn Straughen** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to the entire Straughen family. "Grandpa" Straughen was a gentle, caring, giving man. He soared with the eagles in life, and now is at peace with the angels and "butterflies"..With Love and fond memories from the Jones family and the McDaniels:

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**Sherry McDaniel** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ Uncle Richard was a good man. I am saddened by his passing. His was the first Christmas card I would receive each year. He and Gari brought me to my first motorcross event when I was five. He supported my comedic endeavors and he gave support to my father when he took ill. He was kind, compassionate and wise. I will miss my Uncle Richard. Our loss is heaven's gain, as he rejoins those loved ones that have passed before him into God's Kingdom. May his family and friends take comfort in knowing that we will be together again.

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**Lawrence J. Straughen** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

A3

“ On behalf of the Frank J. Calcaterra, American Legion Ladies Auxiliary, Unit 386, we offer our thoughts and prayers to Commander Richard Staughen's family. We not only lost a leader, we lost a dear friend. Bonnie Winkler, President Connie Roemer, 1st Vice President

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**American Legion, Post 386** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RI

“ My "grampa" was such a great role model for those around him, and he lived life the way it was meant to be lived. He was a very charitable and generous person, always using his spare time to help others. In the last 10 years we were often roommates on many trips together, and he became more than a grandpa, he became my close friend. He shared many stories and life lessons with me that I will not forget. Traveling around Scotland with him was one of the highlights of my life so far, and I believe it was one of his as well. He provided so much love for his family, but he has made it very tough for those of us named after him to live up to his name. I can only pray that those around him were paying attention so that they too can know the right way to live their lives. I will miss him very much, but I know that he is still alive in us and we hope to make him proud.

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**Richard Straughen III** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

WD

“ We were all very sadden to hear of your dad's passing. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and your entire family at this difficult time. Pierce, Ward, Lee and Toni

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**Ward Dietrich** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ Dear everyone, We were very sorry to hear of Richard's passing. My father has fond memories of times on the east coast with Richard and all his cousins, aunts and uncles. And Heidi, Joel and I remember the Straughen Family Reunion at our house several years ago. While we cannot be with you our Dad no longer travels, our thoughts and sympathies are with you during this time of remembrance of Richard's wonderful life and legacy. Sincerely, Polly 'Straughen' McAuliffe, Tallahassee, Florida Heidi 'Straughen' Anderson Centerville, Ohio Joel Straughen Orlando, FL and Bill Straughen Dayton, Ohio

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**Polly McAuliffe** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ We send our love and prayers to you all . "Grandpa" Straughen was a kind and gentle man and we will always remember him at the State Cross Country Meet in 2008 where he encouraged the boys to run and joined them in a team cheer. He was precious to them and to all who knew him. Please try to remember all the good times and celebrate this wonderful man.

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**Betsy and Steve Fowler** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ Uncle Richard you will be sorely missed. Our deepest sympathy to all of our family in this time of sadness.

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**Randall, Rebekah & Ender Straughen** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ I was deeply saddened when I learned about Rich's passing. To all of his family and friends know that many are remembering and honoring his memory. I met Rich in 1983 when I didn't have a clue about the engineering field I was entering. Rich helped convince me that I could learn how to do this work. He was barrel of knowledge – not just in engineering but in everything. He was an excellent engineer and teacher. I often refer to him as the “Grandfather of Automation”. He affected many people with his personality and knowledge. Even though my wife never met him she knew about his knowledge. She would call me at work because there was a problem at home with something. She would say “ask Richard he knows”. I would and he did – everything from the washer to the car. I pray that all of his family and friends find comfort in knowing that he is no longer in pain and is with our Creator. I will miss him.

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**John Holland** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NR

“ To the family of Richard Straughen. Who came to love our grandson Freedom. He and his wife gave so much love to him and Richard came and helped us at the time we needed him. He was a giving man with all the love and kindness any one could show. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.

Novis,Ron,Marcy,Jay,Kaci and Brody August 30th,2010 Oklahoma City, OK

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**novis rukes** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ On behalf of the 2007-2008 Eisenhower Men's Cross Country team, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies and regards to the Straughen family. Known by the team affectionately as "Grandpa" Straughen, Mr. Straughen was a great addition to our Eisenhower Cross Country family. We all have great memories of cross country camp with Grandpa and know that it would not have been nearly as great of an experience without him. He will be deeply missed but our memories will last forever. Keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers, -Jeff Fowler and the Eisenhower Cross Country team

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**Jeff Fowler** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NN

“ So sorry to hear about your grandfather. I will keep your family in my prayers during this difficult time. Love, Nancy

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**Nancy Nichols** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JY

“ My friend, Uncle Richard passed away last night. Richard and I were friends. He worked at KR Automation until he retired. I helped him move from the house he bought after the army, that he raised his family in, and that his wife died in, to the condo he has now. It took him over a year to sort his life out and put that house up for sale. He borrowed a van. I helped load and unload and we would have lunch a couple of times a week. I helped with the AMX; he helped me with my cars. We went Drag Racing. We went Road Racing. I took him to my car club meetings and he told me about the NASCAR races and his AMCOA meetings. Richard donated time to the hospital and to the Air National Guard Air Museum. We shared a lot. When my Father- in- law was dying at Beaumont, Richard was sharing his life story that he wrote to share with the family. He came by every day, to just sit with his brother. I will miss my friend.

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**John Yarema** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ On behalf of my father, uncle Richard's brother, our family is mourning. We wish to extend our deepest condolences to our family in Michigan and surrounding area, we're praying for Richard.  
Celeste

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**Lee, Alfreida & Celeste Straughn** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM