



## Robert D. McCafferty

April 1, 1939 - January 22, 2026

Robert D. McCafferty, age 86, of Madison Heights, passed away on January 22, 2026. He was born April 1, 1939, to Don and Ruth McCafferty at Pontiac Hospital and grew up in Royal Oak.

Robert was a proud member of the first graduating class of Kimball High School in Royal Oak. During his time at Kimball, he played American Legion Baseball for Post 253—the same post that he would later return to as a longtime, cherished member.

At just 19 years old, he enlisted in the United States Navy, serving honorably from 1958 to 1962. Following his military service, Robert dedicated himself to his community as a firefighter with the Royal Oak Fire Department, where he served for more than thirty years and retired with the rank of Lieutenant.

Robert married the love of his life, Kay McCafferty, in 1963. He was a devoted and loving husband for fifty-nine years, faithfully honoring his promise to visit her weekly after her passing in 2022.

Robert loved spending his free time on the golf course and following his favorite sports, but nothing meant more to him than his role as a father and grandfather. He deeply cherished time with his children and grandchildren, creating lasting memories they will forever hold close.

Robert is survived by his children: Mark (Melissa), Jill (Dan) & Rick (Melisa); and his grandchildren: Brandon, Drew, Blake & Blair. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Kay McCafferty, with whom may he rest eternally in peace, together forever.

Visitation for Robert will be held on Saturday, February 7, from 9:30 a.m. until time of service, 12:30 p.m., at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors, 705 W. 11 Mile Rd. (four blocks east of Woodward), Royal Oak. Interment will follow at White Chapel Cemetery in Troy, followed by an early dinner gathering (location will be announced at the service).

Memorial contributions in memory of Robert can be directed to Gilda's Club Metro Detroit: [www.gildasclubdetroit.org](http://www.gildasclubdetroit.org) or Folds of Honor: [www.foldsofhonor.org](http://www.foldsofhonor.org).

Please share a memory or a tribute at [www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com](http://www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com).

# Cemetery Details

## White Chapel Memorial Cemetery

621 W. Long Lake Road  
Troy, MI 48098

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 7. 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak  
705 W. Eleven Mile Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48067

## Funeral Service

FEB 7. 12:30 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak  
705 W. Eleven Mile Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48067

# Tribute Wall



“ *Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of Robert D. McCafferty*



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**Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors** - January 30 at 05:41 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert D. McCafferty.*



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February 05 at 11:34 PM



“ *I met Bob at the Birmingham/Troy American Legion post 14 and I went to Lake Superior State University for fire science. I did a summer internship there as well and learned so much and had had quite an experience. I talked with Bob about it and heard a lot of stories from his career plus we're both Irish! I feel like we're cut from the same cloth and he was always so sweet and kind. I will dearly miss you my friend and I hope you rest easy.*

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**Meagan Mandley** - February 05 at 10:48 AM

RC

“ I met Bob 4 years ago at the American Legion Post 253 in Royal Oak, second week of April 2022, Candy was bartending. I think we were the only two in there. The week before I had lost my Dad on Palm Sunday, he had lost his wife on Good Friday. We had some country music playing and proceeded to have a few gingersales and commiserate on our losses. We were great freinds ever since then. He had some great stories. Seeing Muhammad Ali fighting in the Olympics during his time in the Navy. His baseball playing and wrestling days. The BSA motorcycle the wife made him sell to meet family obligations. Partying downtown at "The Lindell" with Detroit Tigers Norm Cash and his wife, and all the sports stars he got to rub elbows with down there. But he was a very kind man, good hearted, generous with his time, and a great freind who will be sorely missed ! Rest in Peace Bob. I'll see ya again I'm sure.

*Rich Blomberg  
American Legion Post 253  
Sons of The American Legion Champlain*



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**Rich Blomberg SAL Chaplain** - February 04 at 10:40 PM

KR

“ *Bob was such a kind man and he always had a smile on his face. He will be truly missed by so many of us at the legion. From one sailor to another; Fair winds and following seas, we have the watch, rest easy shipmate.*



Kris - February 04 at 09:59 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Robert D. McCafferty.*



February 03 at 11:23 AM

JF

“ *Jeff & Lisa Toenniges and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert D. McCafferty.*

Jeff & Lisa Toenniges and Family - February 03 at 11:23 AM

LB

“ *We are so sorry to get the news that Bob passed away suddenly. He served as such a great contributor to his community as a fire fighter and Veteran. Surely Rick and entire family will miss hos fun filled visits to Nashville.*

Larry and Mary Ellyn Boledovich - February 03 at 08:43 AM

MC

“ I worked with Bob at the Royal Oak Fire Department. He was a good and steady firefighter and officer. The last time I saw Bob was at a gathering of retirees just a couple of years ago and was struck by how little he had appeared to have aged - lucky guy! He will be missed by all who knew him for sure.  
Mike Corless

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**Mike Corless** - February 02 at 09:09 AM

YD

“ Your Daughter planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert D. McCafferty.

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**Your Daughter** - February 01 at 03:06 PM

YD

“ Your Daughter purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Robert D. McCafferty.



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**Your Daughter** - February 01 at 03:06 PM

CZ

“ *Bob was truly a beloved Friend! He was a good friend of my late Husband, Larry Zimmerman, as they worked together at the Royal Oak Fire Department. The last decade Bob and I became close friends, more like Family. Bob and I shared a wonderful and close relationship the last decade with my friend Rob. We will surely miss Bob. Rest in peace my friend and celebrate your reunion with Kay. We will miss sharing time and talks with you Bob. Thanks for your friendship and love.*

*Catherine Naas Zimmerman*

*Rob Baker*

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**Catherine Naas Zimmerman** - January 31 at 06:07 PM