



Robert Woolsey

January 3, 1943 - May 15, 2020

Robert "Bob" Woolsey, age 77, of Warren, MI, formerly of Royal Oak, MI, and Pickens, SC, made his transition on Friday, May 15, 2020 in hospice care at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, MI.

Bob was born on January 3, 1943, in Detroit, MI, the sixth of 11 children of Kenneth and Beatrice (Clermont) Woolsey. He attended school in Detroit and graduated from Patronage of St. Joseph, in 1960. Upon graduation, he worked for the City of Detroit Public Welfare where he was introduced by a coworker to Barbara Ann Pawlak. In 1968, he was drafted into the United States Army where he served in Vietnam. It was during a leave from the Army when Bob proposed to Barbara; the two were wed at Guardian Angel Church in Detroit on November 22, 1968.

While Bob was in Vietnam, Barbara welcomed their first child, Elizabeth Ann (Liz), in September 1969. Upon completing his tour of duty, Robert returned home to Barbara and the couple welcomed two more children, Michael Robert (Mike), in 1972, and Kristine Lynn (Tina), in 1974.

Though Bob and Barbara raised their family in Oak Park, MI, and then Royal Oak, MI, before retiring to Pickens, South Carolina, Bob was a Detroiter through and through. Growing up in a large family in the Harper and Gratiot area of Detroit provided him with the opportunity to explore the east side of

the city and, one of his favorite spots, Belle Isle. His varied career allowed him to build on his intricate knowledge of the city, including jobs at Simon and Leeman in Detroit's Eastern Market, Cintas, and Clark Food Service, where he retired from in 2000. As a result, Bob was known within his family to know the location of every street and address in Detroit, a helpful and interesting base of knowledge in the days before GPS.

Throughout his life, Bob avidly enjoyed bicycling, racquetball, Carolina shag, and golf. He worked hard through the week to play hard on the weekends, engaging in these pursuits to the fullest. In his retirement he continued to work hard to play hard literally, working for the local golf club, The Rock, in Pickens for golf privileges. Above all else, Bob loved spending time with his family and friends. He and Barb frequently hosted gatherings at their home where home cooked comfort food, hand poured drinks, and Motown music flowed freely. His big heart, zest for life, warm personality, and penchant for spontaneous singing and dancing made him a favorite among family and friends.

Bob is survived by his wife of 51 years, Barbara; their children, Liz (Brett) Tillander, Michael Woolsey, and Kristine Woolsey; and their grandchildren Paige Woolsey and Sloane and Will Tillander. He is also survived by four sisters, Annette Keister, Jacqueline Rogers, Suzanne Woolsey, and Lisa (Michael) Weingartz; four brothers, Ronald (Zina) Woolsey, Jerry (Sue Ann) Woolsey, David Woolsey, and Mark Woolsey; and dozens of nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Kenneth and Beatrice Woolsey; his brothers Paul (Lorraine) Woolsey and Victor (Jonnie) Woolsey; and three brothers-in-law, David McIntyre, Rex Keister, and James Rogers.

A service will be held at Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors in Royal Oak on Wednesday, May 20, at 11 a.m. Due to current social distancing restrictions, the service can be accessed remotely at <https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/obituaries/Robert-Woolsey-2/#!/PhotosVideos>. A private burial

will be held at Great Lakes National Cemetery immediately following the service. Memorial contributions may be made to Metro Detroit Youth Clubs, 1545 E. Lincoln Ave., Royal Oak, Michigan or at www.miclubs.org.

Cemetery Details

Great Lakes National Cemetery

4200 Belford Road
Holly Township, MI 48442

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAY **20**. 11:00 AM (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



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



Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors - May 20, 2020 at 08:48 AM

CV

God Bless you Woolsey Family, we are here for you. Love you! Verschaeve/Woolsey Family

Carol Verschaeve - May 20, 2020 at 10:54 AM

NR

Thank you for allowing us to celebrate Bob's life with you today. Sending love and hugs.

Nancy and Ron (Nana and Roro)

Nancy Rodda - May 20, 2020 at 11:02 AM

SJ

Rest In Peace Uncle Bob. Condolences, love and prayers to all the family. ❤️

Shelly Jack - May 20, 2020 at 11:08 AM

SZ

Rest in Peace Bob. We will never forget our week spent golfing with you and Barb. Our deepest condolences. Jim and Sandy Zureki

Sandy and Jim Zureki - May 20, 2020 at 11:23 AM

MB

So much love! Amen thank you Jesus

Mike and Virginia Barrows - May 20, 2020 at 11:56 AM

TR

God Bless you all. Uncle Robert will always hold a special place in our hearts. The Woolsey's love to nickname, and I will always cherish, Tracinda. My loving nickname from him, Uncle Bobert! Love and prayers, Tracey (Woosley) Kudla.

Tracey - May 20, 2020 at 12:28 PM

KO

*We love you all.
Margaret and Kathleen*

Kathleen O'Bryan - May 20, 2020 at 12:38 PM

RA

*Very kind and gentle man. Always warm and inviting each and every time we saw him. We'll miss you Bob.
Rodney and Kim Alexander*

Rodney Alexander - May 20, 2020 at 12:40 PM

MM

Thank you for allowing so many of us that could not attend to be part of the celebration of Bob's life. Sending love to all. Mitzi Mitsunaga

Mitzi Mitsunaga - May 20, 2020 at 12:41 PM

LG

Prayers to your family from ours. Guiffre family.

Lisa Guiffre - May 20, 2020 at 12:42 PM

JR

Beautiful what a great family

Jo Ann Ross - May 20, 2020 at 12:49 PM

CD

This was a beautiful memorial. Uncle Bob would be proud. As this was not what any of us wanted to celebrate his life, but I'm blessed there was a way. As I was sitting on the porch with My Mom, husband, and children; The sun was shining and it's a beautiful day. Uncle Robert wanted us to know that he is with us. Just as it was stated in this memorial. He filled Our hearts, he made them full. Now we are reminiscing all the beautiful memories that we have. Know I am with you All. This is so hard not being able to give tight hugs and be able to cry and laugh together. You All did a great job and I'm sending hugs and Love to you All and also to all my Aunts and Uncles as well. I can only imagine how difficult this is on all of you as well. Xoxo

Christine (Woolsey) Dietz - May 20, 2020 at 12:50 PM

DB

Beautiful tribute to Robert's life. God bless each and everyone of you.



Deborah Brown - May 20, 2020 at 05:14 PM



*The service was beautiful and touching.
Blessings,
Sue and Al Resnick*

Suzanne Serlin-resnick - May 20, 2020 at 05:32 PM

CE

*God Bless you and your family Tina. What a beautiful service! Praying for your hearts during this time
Of need. May your fathers legacy live on forever!!!!* ❤️
Courtney Elmer

Courtney Elmer - May 20, 2020 at 08:34 PM

JC

So every sorry for your loss. Such a beautiful tribute. Again I love watching your love and lives Brett and Liz.

jackie carlesimo - May 21, 2020 at 10:16 PM

MT

Thank you for letting me share in such a touching and loving memorial! He was a fun, caring, joyful person that I feel so lucky to have known.

mab turpin - May 22, 2020 at 12:37 PM

DW

barb,liz,michael,&tina so sad for the loss of brother robert,never called him bob. better brother couldn,t be found ! iwill miss him, but i will carry the best memories i have of him & all of you. hold on to each other &all your family members . love & prayers brother david .

david woolsey - May 25, 2020 at 07:57 PM

DW

ps this is david again ,wanted to let you know i,ve been ringing my porch bell for a long time at 7 pm for 1 minute each evening for robert & eve working in the hospital .love david

david woolsey - May 25, 2020 at 08:05 PM

JH

“ *My deepest condolences to Barb and the whole family. I always enjoyed talking with Bob and when he would come in to my office. Such a great, great guy! My thoughts are with the family during this time! Sincerely, Jeremiah Hoehner, AAA Agent.*

Jeremiah Hoehner - May 27, 2020 at 01:34 PM

RG

“ *Barb and family, my heart is with you during this time of remembrance and grief. Like many others, I share fond memories of a wonderful man that was Husband and Father to you all. Bob was one of the reasons I looked forward to going to work at The Rock. It would make my day to see you, Barb, and Bob walk into the clubhouse. I miss you both and I will continue my prayers for ease and overwhelming peace for you during this time and as time passes. Sending love and hugs always.*

-Becky

Rebecca Green - May 20, 2020 at 09:55 PM

FF

Dear dear Barbara, how we grieve with you for your loss. As we said earlier, we wish we had been blessed to know Bob better. If you come back south again please let us know so we can see and hug you again. Fondly, Frank and Ethel

Frank and Ethel Feltham - May 22, 2020 at 12:26 PM

CA

“ *Chris Zureki Ankney lit a candle in memory of Robert Woolsey*



Chris Zureki Ankney - May 20, 2020 at 01:53 PM

JC

“ *With fondest memories.*



Jimmy Carroll - May 20, 2020 at 11:04 AM

KC

“ *I wish we could be there right now to give you all a hug. Uncle Robert was one of the best and no matter how often we saw each other, he was always so interested in what was going on with us. He gave great hugs too! Sending all of my love from afar. Katie*



Katie Condon - May 20, 2020 at 10:57 AM

BF

“ *Blaine & Jodi Tillander & Family lit a candle in memory of Robert Woolsey*



Blaine & Jodi Tillander & Family - May 20, 2020 at 10:43 AM

SR

“ *Sherice Reeves lit a candle in memory of Robert Woolsey*



Sherice Reeves - May 20, 2020 at 10:33 AM

RD

“ *Ron And Naomi D'Autremont lit a candle in memory of Robert Woolsey*



Ron and Naomi D'Autremont - May 20, 2020 at 09:50 AM

CC

“ *Bob was always so kind and gracious, and I am thankful for his friendship to my father in Vietnam and the friendship he, my daddy, and Barbara have had subsequently. A beautiful, kind, fun-loving couple.*



Charlotte Carroll - May 20, 2020 at 09:36 AM

LT

“ We are praying for you and your family. 🙏



Lashana Threlkeld - May 20, 2020 at 08:44 AM

SS

“ Sandra And Mcarthur Stewart lit a candle in memory of Robert Woolsey



Sandra and Mcarthur Stewart - May 20, 2020 at 08:41 AM

TS

“ Thelma Scott lit a candle in memory of Robert Woolsey



Thelma Scott - May 20, 2020 at 08:31 AM

CS

“ My condolences to you and your family. Thoughts and prayers for all 🙏. We shared a few precious memories together that will always be treasured. Bob's smile and love for his family will forever remain in all of your hearts. May God wrap his loving arms around him as he is welcomed into His kingdom. ❤️



Cathy Sledz - May 20, 2020 at 06:15 AM

MW

“ *Malissa Woodruff lit a candle in memory of Robert Woolsey*



Malissa Woodruff - May 20, 2020 at 04:05 AM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Robert Woolsey.*



May 19, 2020 at 09:33 PM

LB

“ *So sorry to hear the passing of Bob. I worked with him at Clark Food Service. He was a great guy and lots of fun to be around. I will always remember him with a smile on his face.*

Leanne Loncharich Bommarito - May 19, 2020 at 01:00 PM

JH

“ *I am so sorry to hear of Robert's passing. I am glad he was able to make it to last years reunion to see his family.*

Janis Hamilton - May 19, 2020 at 12:35 PM

HB

“ Dear Barbara and family, We were very sorry to hear of your loss. We are happy that our last memory of Bob is the very enjoyable visit we had with you both last August. We will be with you online tomorrow during the Virtual Service. Herman & Marsha Baergen

Herman & Marsha Baergen - May 19, 2020 at 11:13 AM

TL

“ Thomas Leeper lit a candle in memory of Robert Woolsey



Thomas Leeper - May 19, 2020 at 10:32 AM

CW

“ Chrystal W. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Robert Woolsey.



Chrystal W. - May 19, 2020 at 09:19 AM

LB

“ Lois & Bill Barton lit a candle in memory of Robert Woolsey



Lois & Bill Barton - May 19, 2020 at 05:50 AM

TF

“ Teresa Fitzgerald lit a candle in memory of Robert Woolsey



Teresa Fitzgerald - May 19, 2020 at 05:49 AM

AB

“ Anicia Blake lit a candle in memory of Robert Woolsey



Anicia Blake - May 18, 2020 at 10:25 PM

BS

“ Spent many wonderful days and evenings at The Rock with Bob and Bob. I'll never forget his unselfish help and support and even his smelly cigars. Bob was always a joy and will be missed.



Betty Jo Shaw - May 18, 2020 at 09:00 PM

CC

“ Cedric Campbell lit a candle in memory of Robert Woolsey



Cedric Campbell - May 18, 2020 at 08:32 PM

WG

“ Many happy memories of Bob, including the year that our team won the 2nd place trophy at the Penguin Invitational and pleasant evenings at the Woolsey home.

Wayne Gardiner - May 18, 2020 at 08:25 PM

Brenda Jones

“ Where does one start to share memories.... he was my favorite person at The Rock Golf Course. We ALWAYS laughed and took care of business. SOOOOOOO many fun memories that I will always cherish..... 💖💖

Brenda Jones - May 18, 2020 at 07:16 PM

DB

“ Deborah Brown sent a virtual gift in memory of Robert Woolsey



Deborah Brown - May 18, 2020 at 06:49 PM

DB

“ Deborah Brown lit a candle in memory of Robert Woolsey



Deborah Brown - May 18, 2020 at 06:47 PM

NE

“ Prayers for all of Roberts family and friends.
Robert made his progression to join with all
the loved ones who went before. Blessings.



Norman R Van Etten - May 18, 2020 at 04:58 PM

SJ

“ Shirley Johnson lit a candle in memory of
Robert Woolsey



Shirley Johnson - May 18, 2020 at 03:56 PM

SJ

You are in my prayers, to have warm memories of Bob to touch your
heart and bring comfort today and love always.
Shirley Johnson

Shirley Johnson - May 18, 2020 at 03:58 PM

RS

“ There is never a loss when a life leaves an impact, a change that
alters how one sees and lives going forward. Thank you Bob!
Ruth Stallworth

Ruth Stallworth - May 18, 2020 at 03:41 PM

MT

“ *Dear Family,
Please accept our sympathy for your loss Bob was one of our
favorite people, he was down to earth and caring. He will be missed.
Michael & Laura Tillander*

Michael Tillander - May 18, 2020 at 02:39 PM