



## Russell J. Barthelmeh

November 8, 1944 - May 6, 2015

Russell J. Barthelmeh, age 70 of Utica, passed away May 6, 2015. Beloved husband of June. Dear father of Paul (Cathy) Barthelmeh and the late Russell W. Barthelmeh. Loving grandfather of Gavin and Landon. Dear brother of David (Leslie) Barthelmeh. Russell was a resident of Utica since 1973 where he was a dedicated city official, serving on the Utica City Council from January 1995 -2001 and re-elected in 2005 and serving until the present time. He was appointed as Mayor Pro-Tem in 2006 until the present. He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Utica. He loved the outdoors, fishing, hunting and his family cottage on Secord Lake. Friends may visit at Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 8459 Hall Rd. (3 blks. E. of Van Dyke) Utica on Friday from 2:00 - 9:00 p.m. Funeral service Saturday at Trinity Lutheran Church, 45160 Van Dyke, Utica where he will lie in state from 12:30 p.m. until 1:00 p.m. time of service. Interment Utica Cemetery. Memorials suggested to Trinity Lutheran Church, The Alzheimer's Assoc. or The American Cancer Society. Please share a memory at [www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com](http://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 8. 2:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Wm Sullivan and Son Funeral Home  
8459 Hall Road  
Utica, MI 48317  
(586) 731-2411  
utica@sullivanfh.com  
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

## In State at Church

MAY 9. 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Trinity Lutheran Church  
45160 Van Dyke  
Utica, MI 48317

## Funeral Services

MAY 9. 1:00 PM (ET)

Trinity Lutheran Church  
45160 Van Dyke  
Utica, MI 48317

# Tribute Wall

MA

“ Russ' larger-than-life personality will be forever etched in my mind and heart. From the joy I felt when he would toss me in the air as a little girl (up north) to the instinctive protective, father-like nature he had (when meeting my now husband!) - he truly is one of the greatest guys I have ever met.

*My deepest sympathies go out to June and Paul (& family) - while his presence will surely be missed, hopefully a small measure of peace comes along with knowing that Russ is no longer in any pain.*

*Russ will be missed but definitely not forgotten.*

*Mindy Arndt*

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**Mindy Arndt** - May 12, 2015 at 12:42 PM

ML

“ So sorry to learn of Russ's untimely passing.  
*I hope the lifetime of positive memories of this good man will, in time, ease somewhat the pain of loss.*  
*Thoughts and prayers are with you.*

*Mark Leyda*

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**Mark Leyda** - May 08, 2015 at 01:03 PM

RB

“ *The measure of a man, it has been said, is that his death may still his heart, but cannot erase the memories we have of him.*

*Russ was a good man...and all that that encompasses. He was a good father. He was a good husband. He was a good brother. He was a patriot, serving his nation at a time when others chose not to.*

*And he was a helluva friend.*

*We are going to miss his imposing hulk, his booming voice, his habit of standing just a bit too close to you when he talked....all part of what made Russell Russ....*

*Russ redefined the term "neighbor" by always being there to help, whether it was to put a roof on a house, fix a balky toilet, spread top soil or lend his assistance in killing off a case of Miller. You knew if you asked him for help, you got it.*

*Damn. We are going to miss him.*

*Kathy and Randy Bawkon*

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**Randy Bawkon** - May 08, 2015 at 12:11 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Russell J. Barthelmeh .*



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May 08, 2015 at 09:28 AM

NT

“ I have many wonderful memories of Russ. He was a mentor and friend to me over the last 18 years. He will be very missed!

Nicole Thomas - May 08, 2015 at 08:15 AM

LA

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you!  
Hugs and kisses!  
The Langkam's

Langkam - May 07, 2015 at 09:37 PM

RD

“ Always enjoyed sharing time with Russ and June at the Shamrock Pub. Russ will be missed by many. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.  
Love, Roger and Kathy Daniel

Roger Daniel - May 07, 2015 at 01:37 PM

UN

“ Uncle Paul Aunt Ann Uncle Art Aunt Teresa James Nicole purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Russell J. Barthelmeh .



Uncle Paul Aunt Ann Uncle Art Aunt Teresa James Nicole -  
May 07, 2015 at 09:33 AM

DL

“ Over thirty years of memories with Russ and June he will always be in our hearts.

Dave and Gail Lewandowski - May 07, 2015 at 08:20 AM

PS

“ *Pat and Wil suomela purchased the Heartwarming Thoughts Boston Fern for the family of Russell J. Barthelmeh .*



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**Pat and Wil suomela** - May 07, 2015 at 07:49 AM