



Thomas J. Forti

July 13, 1947 - August 15, 2016

Forti, Thomas J., age 69, a lifelong resident of Royal Oak, passed away August 15, 2016 at William Beaumont Hospital. He was born July 13, 1947 in Highland Park to the late Frank and Alma. Tom was retired from Michigan Bell, where he had worked as a troubleshooter. Beloved husband of Sharon; loving father of John (Lesley) and Amy; proud grandfather of Jack, Luke, Jaya, Lexa, Beau and Brie. Visitation Friday from 3 p.m. until the time of the service 7 p.m. at the Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 705 W 11 Mile Road (4 blocks E of Woodward), Royal Oak. Memorials to the wishes of the family are appreciated. Share your memories at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 19. 3:00 PM - 7:00 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 Services

AUG 19. 7:00 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

PL

“ *Our prayers and thoughts. Great Man to a Great Family. Loved him being our neighbor.*

Phil and Darla

Phil LaCroix - August 19, 2016 at 02:47 PM

GU

“ *It is with deep sadness to learn of Tom's passing. As a neighbor, Tom was always there to lend a hand, lend a joke, and always lend a beer...*

Sharon, John, and Amy...what fun memories I will always cherish, especially that smile!

My prayers are with you...

Gibby Underdown

Gibby Underdown - August 19, 2016 at 01:40 PM

KH

“ *Dear Sharon and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Tom was such a dear friend to my brother, Paul, and me as we were growing up just a few Royal Oak streets apart. Although I didn't see him as often, I know he carried that gentle warmth and kindness through his adult years. I will always remember Tom fondly.*

Kathy Conley Heikkila

kathleen heikkila - August 19, 2016 at 12:28 PM

JW

“ My prayers for the Forti Family. I worked with "Forti" in the Central Office and CWA Local 4009. He was always willing to help anyone and everyone! The smile, the jokes would make my day when I was new to the job. Thank you for sharing him with all of us.

jetty wells - August 19, 2016 at 11:50 AM

DU

“ Like so many others I had the privilege of knowing this "once in a generation" man. There are many great memories that will forever be instilled in my mind. Not to mention a mentor for being a true role model of a "family man". Man could you light up a room with your smile and energy, people loved you my dear friend. Thank you for allowing me growing up the honor of being a part of your family, and to me personally a second father. There will come a time and a place where we will continue our friendship. I will never forget you my brother, I love you and your wonderful family.

Darrin, Traci, Brock, and Brody Uhlig

darrin uhlig - August 19, 2016 at 10:00 AM

SS

“ Sincere Sympathy, Holly & Ray Shroyer purchased the Basket of Joy for the family of Thomas J. Forti.



Sincere Sympathy, Holly & Ray Shroyer - August 19, 2016 at 09:12 AM

LB

“ Tom was a vital part of our annual Christmas party, He will be so missed. He had a voice and a laugh I would recognize when he entered a room. He stayed so close to his family this is a great loss too soon for us all. We all loved you Tom Rest in Heaven, you have earned it. We know God loves you cause he took you early.

Linda and Jim Barnhart - August 18, 2016 at 05:14 PM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Thomas J. Forti.



August 18, 2016 at 01:51 PM

KB

“ Someone so special will never be forgotten. Our heartfelt condolences go out to you and your family. We will surely miss the presence of a truly loveable and kind man. With Love, Kim, Joletta and Kyle Belton



Kimberly Belton - August 18, 2016 at 01:43 PM

L(

“ Love, Dana Marranta & Katie Hoyer (Johnston) purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Thomas J. Forti.



Love, Dana Marranta & Katie Hoyer (Johnston) - August 18, 2016 at 01:42 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Thomas J. Forti.*



August 18, 2016 at 11:05 AM



“ *Dear Sharon, John, Amy and family,
You have the sincerest sympathy of the Zimmerman family in the loss of your dear husband, father, and grandfather. The news of your loss saddened all of us. Your Tom will be remembered as a great family man, a nice friend, and a super sports enthusiast! There must be bleachers and a lawnchair with "Tom 40" on them in heaven! Take good care of each other. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.
Sincerely,
Cathy Zimmerman & Family*

Catherine Naas Zimmerman - August 17, 2016 at 10:24 PM



“ *Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of Thomas J. Forti.*



August 17, 2016 at 10:15 PM

MB

“ Sorry for your loss. I am sure I will see him at the ATT tent, watching the softball games, rain or shine, in heaven. Wonderful memories at the Lockview Motel in the Soo and other places in the mid-west. Always a smile and never a bad word about anyone.
Marilou and Tom Barszczowski

Marilou and Tom Barszczowski - August 17, 2016 at 05:07 PM

RW

“ So many are deeply saddened this day. My prayers to the family of Tom, (my Bell coworker and friend). I'm sure the bells are ringing in heaven this day. (Michigan Bell, Ameritech, SBC, AT&T) I have many nice memories of Tom at work and I remember having a good time with the family and friends of Tom's at the Forti's home for a July 4th party by the golf course with all the fireworks from the Red Run golf course. We are lucky to have known Tom and he will bring smiles, stories and laughs for years to come in all our lives. Signed,
Robin Wilkie Royal Oak Garage Clerk, Royal Oak MI

Robin Wilkie1 - August 17, 2016 at 04:00 PM

KH

“ Greg and I were fortunate to have shared our parenting years with Sharon and Tom. From T-ball to that first dorm room at college, we were side by side. Tom was the most wonderful mentor to our youth. Greg, Rachel and I send our hugs and love to Sharon, John and Amy. We can't come Friday, but you are in our thoughts. Tom's example will live on through the generation he so faithfully nurtured by his joyful example.

Kris, Greg and Rachel Hood - August 17, 2016 at 01:36 PM

KH

“ Kris, Greg And Rachel Hood sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas J. Forti



Kris, Greg and Rachel Hood - August 17, 2016 at 01:26 PM

JS

“ We will never forget that incredible smile. We have known Forti for almost 40 years, through work, children and sports. So many of us have been touched by Tom and his family, Royal Oak has lost part of its soul this week.

Jack and Kathy Sawtell

Jack and Kathy Sawtell - August 17, 2016 at 07:27 AM

PE

“ I'll always remember Tom, Mr. Nichols and myself being kicked out of a baseball game at Andover when the umpire had heard enough of our act. You'll be missed my friend.....

Paul Engelberts

Paul Engelberts - August 16, 2016 at 05:44 PM

ED

“ The Forti family is part of the fabric...the heart and soul of Royal Oak. Their contributions to the city, sports and education are evident in so many things we take for granted. Our sincerest condolences to Sharon, John and Amy and the entire Forti family. Tom will be missed.

Bob and Ellen Doster

Ellen Doster - August 16, 2016 at 04:45 PM



“ *Basket of Joy was purchased for the family of Thomas J. Forti.*



August 16, 2016 at 11:27 AM



“ *Dear Sharon, John and Amy,*

Tom was an amazing man, and I have many fond memories growing up with John & Amy and having the chance to be around him. Whether it be the amazing 4th of July parties, sitting around watching sports on the weekends or even having the privilege to have him as a baseball coach - there's really too many memories to list! Tom was always a blast to be around and his sense of humor was second to none. I will miss him dearly and in some ways he showed me what it was like to be a real man. IE, provide for your family, have work ethic and most importantly how to be a good husband and father. I learned a ton from watching him interact with others so I will forever be thankful that he was a part of my life. The entire Forti family are in my prayers, and I just wanted you all to know how much Tom meant to me.

*With love,
Roger Dowie*

Roger Dowie - August 16, 2016 at 10:52 AM

NO

“ It's been a long since we've seen each but Tom was one of the special people you meet in your life, always had a smile on his face. I was lucky to have known him and call him my friend. My heart felt sympathy Sharon and family.

Peace to you my Friend,
Nick OBranchovic sr.

Nick OBranchovic - August 16, 2016 at 10:49 AM

TW

“ Dear Sharon, John, and Amy,
We have so many wonderful memories of Tom. We will always hold him close to our heart. He loved his family so much. We are so very sorry.

Love,
Theresa and John Weir

Theresa Weir - August 16, 2016 at 10:38 AM

RV

“ Tom was a wonderful friend to my family, he and Sharon were there for me in good and bad times. Love your whole family so much!
Praying for all of you 🙏❤️

Retta Valko - August 16, 2016 at 09:57 AM

CH

“ What an amazing man and what a remarkable life he had. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.
Brian and Carol Harbert

carol harbert - August 16, 2016 at 08:57 AM

CC

“ Cheri Wendland Cooper sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas J. Forti



Cheri Wendland Cooper - August 15, 2016 at 09:31 PM

CC

“ Cheri Wendland Cooper lit a candle in memory of Thomas J. Forti



Cheri Wendland Cooper - August 15, 2016 at 09:29 PM

PA

“ Sharon - Bruce & I are so, so sorry for this very sad news of Tom's passing. There are no words that can express the feelings we have but I can say that there is not one memory of Tom where he is not laughing or happy. He was very happy with his family, that was obvious! We wish you and all the kids peace and love at this very difficult time. Take care of yourselves, you know Tom would want that. Love, Bruce & Pat Allen

Pat Allen - August 15, 2016 at 05:21 PM

JB

“ There are no words I can say to express the sadness I feel for all of you. Tom was such a special person. Always had a smile on his face and never a bad thing to say about anyone. He had a great laugh and sense of humor. He will be forever missed by all the people lucky enough to have known him. I will never forget all the good times we had in our younger days. RIP Tom. Love and prayers to all of the Forti family.

Janice Blain - August 15, 2016 at 05:13 PM

RS

My deepest sympathy to Sharon, John, Amy, and the whole family on the loss of one of the neatest person on this earth. just recalling the 4th of July parties, playing softball with Tom, starting the Kimball Football Boosters, riding my bike over to the Forti's and sit and talk for hours, sharing with Mary all the e-mail jokes Tom would send her, and Tom setting up the phone in my garage which is still working. I am truly going to miss this great man.

Roger Siwajek

Roger Siwajek - August 19, 2016 at 10:33 AM