

Ronald Wilczak

November 22, 1940 - October 16, 2015

Ronald "Ron" Wilczak passed away peacefully after a short illness on Oct. 16, 2015 with Marion, his loving and devoted wife of 52 years by his side and surrounded by family. Ronald Wilczak was born in Detroit, Michigan on November 22, 1940. He was the younger of two sons born to Eugene and Bernice Wilczak. Ron was raised in Detroit where he studied music at conservatory when he was young and attended a Jesuit high school associated with University of Detroit. After high school Ron studied business at University Of Detroit and met and married his wife Marion. They had two daughters, Susan and Cheryl whom they both cherished. Ron went into banking and was successful because of his intelligence, strength of character and friendly, engaging personality. The family lived on Grosse Ile, Michigan when the girls were young and then moved to a home in the country outside Fenton, Michigan when Ron was named President of First National Bank of Fenton. The family named their new home Whispering Oaks. It was a wonderful place to raise a family, surrounded by the special natural beauty of Michigan they all loved so much; it remains today much like a nature preserve. Ron had a deep and inquiring mind and a love of history and all things Michigan. He loved to take his family on vacation trips and one of his favorite places in the world was Mackinac Island. The Wilczak family enjoyed countless memories of the island, its history, culture and hospitality and those memories will endure in their hearts forever. Ron was also a very talented professional musician and delighted in entertaining audiences with his piano

playing, both in public and at home. He was a great athlete in many sports as a youth and especially tennis which he played as an adult. Ron loved antiques and artifacts and you could always find him at a flea market or antique shop with his friends, discussing history and art and culture, both high and popular. Ron will most of all be remembered as a supportive and loving husband and father, a mentor and counselor to countless friends and relatives, a source of strength, advice and guidance to all he met and knew. Ron was present in the lives of many and will be missed by many and it can be said with assurance that he made a difference and left this world a better place. Ron is preceded in death by his father Eugene and mother Bernice. Ron is survived by his wife Marion, daughter Susan Wilczak-Wood and her husband Michael Wood (Benton Harbor, MI), daughter Cheryl Wilczak (Chicago, IL), Brother Eugene and family (Howell MI), sister in law Julie (Salatrik) and her husband Lou Specogna and family, sister in law Gloria (Salatrik) and her husband Michael Regal and family, brother in law Mel Salatrik and his wife Ida and family, brother in law Ron Salatrik and his wife Gail and family, brother in law Andrew Salatrik and his wife Joanne and family along with countless friends, acquaintances and associates whose life he touched in so many ways. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 AM Mon. Oct. 19, 2015 at St. Rita Catholic Church of Holly, with Father David Blazek , Celebrant. Visitation will be form 2-9 PM Sat. and Sun. at the Dryer Funeral Home, Holly, with a Rosary prayed at 4:30 PM Sun. Burial will be in All Saints Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Mackinac State Historical Parks. www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com

Cemetery Details

All Saints

4401 Nelsey Rd.
Waterford, MI 48329

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 17. 2:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Dryer Funeral Home
101 First St
Holly, MI 48442
(248) 634-8291

Visitation

OCT 18. 2:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Dryer Funeral Home
101 First St
Holly, MI 48442
(248) 634-8291

Rosary

OCT 18. 4:30 PM (ET)

Dryer Funeral Home
101 First St
Holly, MI 48442
(248) 634-8291

Service

OCT 19. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Rita Catholic Church
Holly, MI

Tribute Wall



“ *Dryer Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ronald Wilczak*



Dryer Funeral Home, Inc. - October 19, 2015 at 02:28 PM



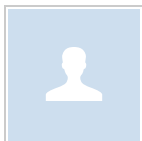
Such a great video that pays tribute to one of the nicest guys I know. We will surely miss you a great deal. You will always be in our hearts ,til we meet again.

Gail Salatrik - October 19, 2015 at 05:44 PM

CH

“ *My Condolences to the Wilczak Family - your in my thoughts and prayers.*
Chris

Chris - October 26, 2015 at 11:24 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Ronald Wilczak.*



October 19, 2015 at 11:34 AM

JC

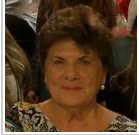
“ I am going to be missing Ron ,I would be called by him and his wife to do things for them at there house and Ron and i would always start out talking about the Detriot Tigers.And outhr sports but mostly the Tigers .He is very smart and i always thought if he was running the Detriot Tigers player we would a had a first place team .Ron and Marian are my best a freinds and we will always have some good memorys.Love you both. Jim and Linda Carr

james and linda carr - October 19, 2015 at 09:00 AM

E)

“ Ron was always my idol growing up. Everything thing he did from sports to music was always done to great perfection. Listening to him play his favorite song on the piano at his home on Waltham in Detroit..."Canadian Sunset"...well no one played it like Ronnie. Well this got me to take up the keyboard from piano to accordion. Later I would be called from time to time to play the accordion for his birthdays as well as his parents anniversaries. Ron would be there taking up a collection and playing his instruments along with me. He gave me the courage to do this and always told me Eddie don't worry half the people are drunk anyways. He was right and I kept that attitude even till today. He was the Jay Leno in our family which came second nature to him. He was always on the spot with his humor no matter what the issues where about. Sports he was into everything. Not only did he play with a great talent especially at the ballpark at the end of his street but his favorite pass time was listening to the Detroit Tigers. He was like the brother I never had and he treated me like his own brother. Ron watch over me till we meet again....God Bless You.....Ed Golda

Edward Golda (cousin) - October 18, 2015 at 10:28 PM



“ My sincere sympathy to Marion & her family. It has been many years since I have seen you both & I regret having lost touch with you after you moved away from Harper Woods. I wish you could get in touch with me, via email, at a later date? Love, Pam (Sellers) Hollebrands. Lphollebrands@aol.com.



Pamela Hollebrands - October 18, 2015 at 12:46 PM

BH

“ So sorry for your loss. I am wondering if your family is related to ours. My Mother is Helen (Bush) Cech and her parents are Anthony & Mary (Wilczak) Bush. Mary (Wilczak) Bush had a brother, who had a son Eugene, who was married to Peggy. They had two daughters. Eugene & Peggy lived in Bloomfield Hills and moved to Palm Springs, CA
All four of them have since passed on, except for the granddaughter, Monica Jane Doczi, who lives with her father. Let me know if we are related. bettyhouse1@comcast.net

Betty House - October 18, 2015 at 12:03 PM

BH

“ My mother Helen (Bush) Cech was the daughter of Anthony & Mary (Wilczak) Bush of Hamtramck, MI Mary (Wilczak) Bush's brother had a son Eugene who was married to Peggy. They lived in Bloomfield Hills and went to Palm Springs, CA. They had two daughters and all four of them have since passed. There is only a granddaughter of Eugene and Peggy living in California with her father. I am wondering if your family is any relation to my sister and me. My name is Betty House. My email is bettyhouse1@comcast.net
So sorry about your loss.

Betty House - October 18, 2015 at 11:40 AM

MF

“ *Mary and Michael Balos and family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Ronald Wilczak.*



Mary and Michael Balos and family - October 17, 2015 at 03:24 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ronald Wilczak.*



October 17, 2015 at 02:13 PM

LR

“ *Cousin Ron was fun to be around. Aunt Bernice had the boys and Mom had the girls. So that was our first close experience with boys until brother Ed came along. There were many times our families would be out at the grandparents farm in Memphis and us kids would go out to the pasture to get the cows or play in the hay lofts building forts and jumping off the top into the hay. And the great times at Sandy Bottom Beach cottage. Such fun! I remember sitting in the back room of their family home listening to him practice scales and music on the piano. Boring! But, it all paid off and we heard him play on a grand piano recently and it was great! I think he also played at the Holly Hotel. I'm sorry you had to go so early, Ron, but they must need another musician in Heaven. I will miss your cool/quiet sense of humor and your great smile. Our prayers for your families loss.*

Lori (Golda) Rogalski

Lori Rogalski - October 17, 2015 at 12:05 PM

GS

“ *Ron was a GREAT bocce ball player. A few years back, he and Ron (brother-in-law) won*

the award that year .They were on top of the mountain, an award, and even a picture of

the dynamic duo. Next year they lost right off the bat, before they knew what hit them. It

was really funny ! Ron will truly be missed greatly by all.



Gail & Ron Salatrik - October 17, 2015 at 11:23 AM

MG

“ *Maryann Golda purchased the Simply Elegant Sp
athiphyllum for the family of Ronald Wilczak.*



Maryann Golda - October 17, 2015 at 10:41 AM

MF

“ *Marion, Susan and Cheryl, our thoughts and
prayers are with you during this difficult time. I
will always remember my cousin Ron as
being handsome, with a winning smile and a
great sense of humor, and a gentleman with a
loving heart. My most recent wonderful memories of him was at my
nephews wedding a few years ago, when we reminisced of fun
times growing up with our Wilczak/Golda families and Ron
entertaining a grateful crowd with his piano expertise. He will live
forever in our hearts, Maryann Golda and other members of the
Golda family.*



Maryann Golda and family - October 17, 2015 at 10:00 AM

MM

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Mary Ann McKinnon - October 17, 2015 at 09:52 AM

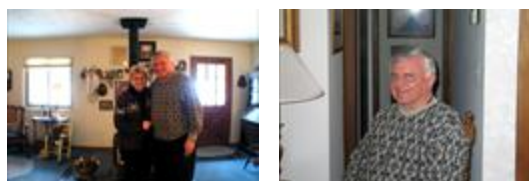
MM

“ This may be a duplicate, since I am not sure that my "share" story was actually completed. I have posted a couple of pictures taken at one of our quarterly get-togethers. I have known Ron and Marian for over 50 years. They had a strong marriage; the family was the highest priority for Ron. I saw how Marian cared for Ron during his illness, she is the model of a loving and supportive wife.

Mary Ann McKinnon - October 17, 2015 at 09:48 AM

MM

“ 2 files added to the album New Album Name



Mary Ann McKinnon - October 17, 2015 at 09:40 AM

DB

“ Doug & Patty Buchanan purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Ronald Wilczak.



Doug & Patty Buchanan - October 17, 2015 at 09:39 AM

MM

“ I have known Ron for almost 60 years. One of my fondest memories is our summer road trip to the UP in Gene's brand new Oldsmobile convertible. The Mackinac bridge had just opened and ride over the bridge with the top down was unforgettable. Someone once defined a friend as a person you would want on your side if you were fighting for your life. Ron was that kind of a man. He was always there if you needed a helping hand or some sage advice. He will be sorely missed.

Matthew C. McKinnon - October 17, 2015 at 09:09 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ronald Wilczak.



October 17, 2015 at 07:17 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ronald Wilczak.



October 16, 2015 at 07:02 PM

SH

“ *Sharon Anderson and Ronald Heck purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Ronald Wilczak.*



Sharon Anderson and Ronald Heck - October 16, 2015 at
04:00 PM