



Robert A. Harrell

AUG 19, 1944 - MAY 13, 2023



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Robert A. Harrell

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Robert Alva Harrell, age 78, passed away unexpectedly in Montague, MI, on Saturday, May 13, 2023. Bob was born on August 19, 1944, in Detroit, MI to Alva and Jennie (Virga) Harrell, and he grew up in East Detroit. He worked as a chemist at Sherman Laboratories in Detroit, and later for General Motors before changing career paths and moving into the restaurant industry. He owned and operated The Whitehouse Restaurant in Clare, MI, then Marvel Freeze in Harrison, MI, and over the course of his career he owned and operated nine different McDonald's restaurants in West Michigan before retiring in 2014. Bob was driven and detail-oriented, but also generous and well-loved by his employees over the years. Bob married the former Clara Basham on May 27, 1988, and they spent 35 wonderful years together. Bob enjoyed spending winters with Clara in Big Pine Key, FL, as well as going on many other trips throughout the years, visiting many places in the U.S. as well as going on a few cruises to Italy and Great Britain. Bob at one point was the President of the White Lake Community Foundation, and currently was a member and usher at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Big Pine Key, FL. He was a member of the Muskegon Country Antique Auto Club and enjoyed driving his 1962 Ford Thunderbird and 1954 Chevy Bel Air convertible in the parades. He enjoyed gardening, cooking, photography, and going on walks at the beach or hikes in the woods. He loved all animals, especially his cats. More than anything, he loved spending time with his children and grandchildren. Bob will be lovingly remembered by his wife, Clara Harrell; five children: Anne Marie Harrell, Rob (Dawn) Harrell, Julie Harrell, Tracy King, and Jeff (Pam) King; 12 grandchildren: Kyle, Kyra, Hannah, Lucas, Josh, Brianna, Mara, Micah, Elissa, Anna Mei, Jenna, and Levi; one great-granddaughter, Stella; two brothers: Ben (Allison) Harrell and Jerry (Barb) Harrell; and many cousins and nieces. A FUNERAL MASS will be taking place for Robert at 11:00 AM on Friday, May 19, 2023, at St. James Catholic Church in



Obituary

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Montague. VISITATION will be taking place from 5:00-7:00 PM on Thursday, May 18, 2023, at The Lee Chapel of Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services, 6291 Harvey St, Norton Shores, MI, 49444, as well as an hour prior to the Mass on Friday. Memorial Contributions can be made out to Ronald McDonald House Charities West Michigan. Please sign the family's online guestbook and share memories with the family at sytsemafh.com



Events

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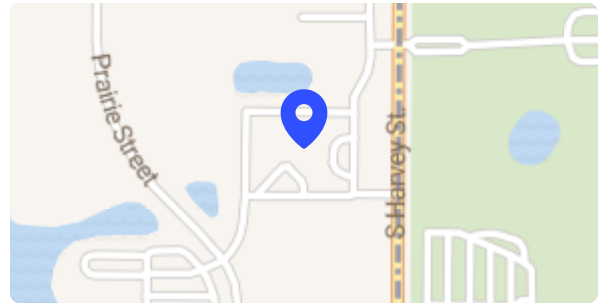
Visitation

 **Thursday**, May 18, 2023

 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET


 **Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Lee Chapel**

6291 Harvey St., Norton Shores MI 49444



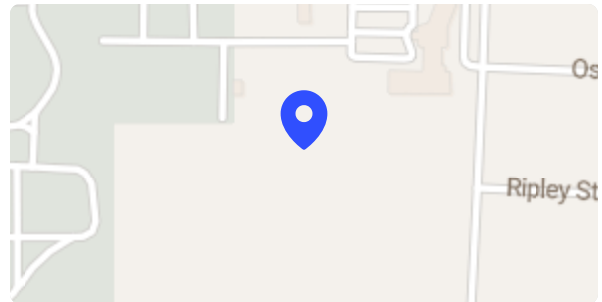
Funeral Mass

 **Friday**, May 19, 2023

 11:00 AM ET

 **St. James Catholic Church**

5149 Dowling St., Montague MI 49437





Tribute Wall

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DC

Dna Contracting posted:

Welcome to DNA Contracting We are known for our high-quality craftsmanship and a broad range of building services. Whether it's constructing robust concrete driveways, elegant patios, or functional sidewalks, we bring your vision to life with precision and skill. Our commitment extends beyond concrete, offering services in landscaping, carpentry, and more, ensuring we meet all your residential and commercial project needs. concrete companies johnson city tnPhone: 423-560-6105Business email : aaron@dnacontractingttn.comWebsite: <https://dnacontractingttn.com/>

December 1 at 5:13 AM

DC

Dna Contracting shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.



Welcome to DNA Contracting We are known for our high-quality craftsmanship and a broad range of building services. Whether it's constructing robust concrete driveways, elegant patios, or functional sidewalks, we bring your vision to life with precision and skill. Our commitment extends beyond concrete, offering services in landscaping, carpentry, and more, ensuring we meet all your residential and commercial project needs. concrete companies johnson city tnPhone: 423-560-6105Business email : aaron@dnacontractingttn.comWebsite: <https://dnacontractingttn.com/>

December 1 at 5:13 AM

JW

Jane Wightman posted:

Clara, my condolences to you and your family. I enjoyed working for Bob years ago in the Whitehall & Fremont stores. He was a most respectful and gracious person. Praying God's peace for you. Jane Wightman

July 28 at 6:42 AM

RL

Robert Lancaster posted:

Clara, I am so sorry to hear about Bob's passing! He was a kind man and a lot of fun to usher at St. Peter church. RIP, my friend.

May 27 at 2:28 PM



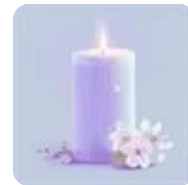
Tribute Wall

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Donna Lahey lit a candle in honor of Robert.



May 26 at 12:57 PM

DL Donna Lahey May 26 at 1:01 PM

Bob was such a gentle soul. He will be truly missed at our parish down here on Big Pine Key it's been a pleasure watching Clara and Bob enjoy their life and family gives me great hope and inspiration for the future. Thank You rest in peace ❤️



Anonymous sent a Country Basket Blooms to the Harrell family.



May 18 at 5:55 AM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Harrell family.



May 18 at 5:03 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert.



May 18 at 2:36 AM



Kelly posted:

My memories of Uncle Bob are of his warmth, his smile and his wit. He was always kind to us as children and his smile won't be forgotten! My favorite memory of him is when all the brothers (Bob, Ben, Jerry) would go for a walk after family dinners at Grandmas house. My heart is with you all right now. Kelly

May 18 at 2:29 AM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous sent an Ocean Breeze Spray to the Harrell family.

May 17 at 12:06 PM



Anonymous sent a Basket of Memories to the Harrell family.

May 17 at 10:02 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert.

May 17 at 10:02 AM



Anonymous sent a Serene Retreat to the Harrell family.

May 17 at 5:52 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert.

May 17 at 5:52 AM



Rob, Dawn, Josh & Brianna sent a Lavender Reflections Spray to the Harrell family.

May 16 at 4:07 PM





Tribute Wall

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Benjamin Harrell sent a Strength & Solace Spray to the Harrell family.

May 16 at 12:15 PM



Anonymous sent a Crystal Cross Bouquet to the Harrell family.

May 16 at 5:39 AM



Tracy, Mara, Micah, Elissa, Anna sent a Treasured Lilies Spray to the Harrell family.

May 16 at 4:29 AM



Anonymous sent a Blue Caribbean Bouquet to the Harrell family.

May 15 at 8:02 PM





Media

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Dna Contracting shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

December 1 at 5:13 AM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Robert by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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