



## Raymond Alexander Longuski

November 30, 1957 - March 17, 2017

Raymond Alexander Longuski, 59, of Traverse City met Jesus, face to face, on Friday, March 17, 2017 at Munson Medical Center. He was surrounded by an overflowing room of family and friends during his final hours.

Raymond was born on Saturday, November 30, 1957 to the late Raymond E. and Virginia (Smutzki) Longuski in Dearborn, MI. He was the youngest sibling of seven, having six older sisters. The large family grew up together in his birthplace, and summers were enjoyed at the nearby Camp Dearborn. After high school, Raymond went to work for the United States Postal Service. He retired in 2013 after 32 years of service. Many residents of Traverse City will remember Raymond as the fun guy at the right window in the Union Street Post Office; typically smiling and singing.

Raymond will be remembered for his love of Christ. He played an active role at St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church as a lector and Eucharistic minister. Raymond could also be found at Munson Medical Center providing Eucharist to the sick. He had a generous and caring heart, and was always willing to put the needs of others before his own.

Raymond was passionate about numerous aspects of life. Nothing was more important to him than his children. Raymond was indescribably proud of his children's unique character, which mirrored his own, and constantly bragged of their early life accomplishments. Raymond regularly displayed his Polish heritage through food, attire, and resourcefulness. He took in countless Detroit Tiger baseball games, many being at Tiger Stadium and Comerica Park. His love for music encompassed a wide variety of genres, from classic rock to jazz. His favorite bands included Phil Collins, David Bowie, Steeley Dan and George Benson. A majority of his last 15 years were enjoyed with his life partner, Rebecca Stocking. They were united through faith, and experienced many concerts, games, and events together.

Raymond is survived by his son Raymond J. Longuski of Frisco, CO; daughter Sarah Longuski of Detroit, MI; sisters Charlene (Bob) Gerwatewski, Holly Steffes, Stephanie

(Tom) Longuski-Roy, Janine (Charles) Chronicle, Alison (Chris) Hamilton and Andrea Spanberger, Goddaughter Molly Milligan, and life partner Rebecca Stocking.

Raymond was preceded in death by his parents Raymond E. and Virginia (Smutzki) Longuski and Godson Bruce Tofil.

A visitation will be held on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home with a Liturgy of the Word starting at 7pm. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 11 a.m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, with visitation beginning at 10 a.m. and a Rosary held at 10:30 a.m. Father James will officiate services.

Those wishing an expression of sympathy may direct contributions to the Father Fred Foundation, 826 Hastings Street, Traverse City, MI 49686.

# Events

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**MAR 21** **Visitation for friends and family** 05:00PM - 08:00PM

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Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home

305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

**MAR 22** **Visitation for friends and family** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

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St. Joseph Catholic Church

12675 Center Road, Traverse City, MI, US, 49686

**MAR 22** **Mass of Christian Burial** 11:00AM

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22

St. Joseph Catholic Church

12675 Center Road, Traverse City, MI, US, 49686

# Comments

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“ Ray,  
I'm so thankful for all the fun I had with you and my brother Phill.  
I will miss you. I will never forget you. Some of the very best times of my life were together with you in those so important formative years, I think we were like 10 - 14 years old - living high up on "Snob Hill" in the summertime in Camp Dearborn with the Panek family and yours across the street from us. What fun we had, endless laughing, teasing girls at the Canteen - dances - french fries – black cherry ice cream - campfires – three legged races – potato sack races. We were untouchable and above it all laughing and laughing and laughing- thanks Ray you were a good friend - rest in peace - see you on the other side - save some room for me on that toboggan I'm gonna jump in there I don't care what I have to hold onto.

**Juan Carbonell** - March 24, 2017 at 11:08 PM

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“ Ray will be missed at St. Joe's. Always had a smile for all. Becky you are in my prayers along with the family.  
Debbie Rough

**Debbie Rough** - March 23, 2017 at 07:10 PM

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“ We will miss Ray laughter so much. He was always the one to bring the fun at all our family gatherings. Becky I'm so sorry for your loss. Ray was always loving and caring to our family, he will be missed dearly. He will always have a special place in our hearts.



**The Hentschel family** - March 22, 2017 at 08:02 AM



“ Love, Beth, David, Brooke, Cheyenne, Owen and Juan

**The Hentschel family** - March 22, 2017 at 08:03 AM

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“ Sending our deepest condolences to Karen, Ray, Sarah and family. You are in our thoughts and prayers.  
Sincerely,  
The Detloff Family

**Shari** - March 21, 2017 at 06:16 PM

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“ I am sorry so for your loss our families shared great times out at Camp Dearborn. "We didn't know we were making memories we just knew we were having fun" (quotediary.me)

Love to you all.  
Your cousin,  
Joy Rutkowski

**Joy Rutkowski** - March 21, 2017 at 06:10 AM

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“ So sorry for your loss. I remember Ray from Bryant. He had a paper route and I sometimes subbed for him. He loved music and every time I was at the house he would put on some 45's. Great sense of humor and always fun to be around. I was one of the lucky ones to have known him. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Bruce and Nichole Hamilton

**Bruce Hamilton** - March 20, 2017 at 08:03 PM

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“ Raymond you were a special person and will be missed. One of my children's fondest memories is hanging with you at Marshall and Bea's Anniversary Party.  
Love always.  
Mary Alice

**Mary Alice** - March 20, 2017 at 07:50 PM

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“ Rest in peace Ray Steely Dan greatest hits are waiting play them loud miss u love brother in law BOB

**Bob Gerwatowski** - March 20, 2017 at 07:02 PM

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“ I went to school with Raymond. I remember him fondly. He was always friendly, looked for me to go out of his way to tease me about my nose. Lol! RIP Raymond you are a friend of mine!

**Michele Delich** - March 20, 2017 at 12:42 PM

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“ Becky, we are very sorry to hear about Ray. Bill enjoyed working with him at the post office and I enjoyed meeting him on severe occasions. He gave a very loving eulogy for your mom that eluded his love for her and for his Lord. You have been very blessed to have loved twice in your life. May your memories of both be possitive and sustaining.

May Ray rest in peace and enjoy all the promises in heaven that Our God has said we would have if we follow Him.

Blessing

Bill and Vicki Wadsworth

**vicki wadsworth** - March 20, 2017 at 07:09 AM

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“ Uncle Raymond,  
You will remain in our hearts forever. Our family has forever changed here on earth but heaven has gained an incredible soul. Your strength, perseverance, heart and let's not forget your exceptional party skills were always on point! You will be deeply missed.

With all my love from your very first niece,  
Deanna Rae

**Deanna Arella** - March 19, 2017 at 10:09 PM

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“ I first met Ray through our sons who were good friends. I then worked with him at the Post Office where he was a window clerk. Customers loved him because he always made their visits so much fun. When the supervisor would forget to open the front doors in the morning Ray would get on the intercom and sing the Paul McCartney song "someone's knocking on the door. Somebody's ringing the bell. Do me a favor- open the door and let them in." He always had us in stitches. He has a wonderful and funny soul. He is missed and will rest in peace in heaven.

**Cindy McCormick** - March 19, 2017 at 06:37 PM

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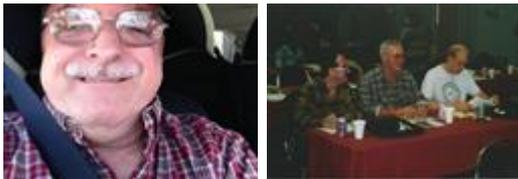
“ I am deeply sadden to hear about my friend Raymond. We went to school together. We were best friends in high school but lost touch after graduation. I often thought of Raymond especially when Bowie would be playing on the radio. I spoke to Raymond about 10 years ago. It was like we never lost touch. His sense of humor had me laughing and as he talked about his children I could hear how proud he was of his son & daughter - he was a very proud dad. Rest in peace my friend. My deepest sympathy to his family.

**Nancy Hollenback** - March 19, 2017 at 05:55 PM

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“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



**Pat Ryan** - March 19, 2017 at 10:22 AM

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“ I am shocked and gutted to hear of Ray's passing. But, my second thought was, Heaven is in for a time now...Harvey, Tom, Pete, and Ray running around loose up there together! The Angels certainly have their hands full now! There isn't enough Internet space to record the antics.... Selfishly...there goes yet another laugh from my life. My condolences to "His Loving Sisters", RayJ and Sally, Becky, and all who Ray loved.

Pat Ryan

**Pat Ryan** - March 19, 2017 at 10:16 AM



“ I remember Raymond mostly as a very little boy with six wild and crazy sisters! Even then Raymond was full of fiestiness and personality, no stranger to anyone! He was a survivor and from what it sounds like, a good friend to many and a good man to all. RIP, Raymond.

**lisa** - March 18, 2017 at 10:19 PM

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“ Ray was 10 years old when I first met him, and consequently married his second oldest sister, Holly. One of the fondest memories I have is taking him to see a Tiger's baseball game and telling him about my favorite player, Al Kaline. We went two more times and he truly loved it. Miss you Ray...you're with your beloved mom and dad again.



**Jon Steffes** - March 18, 2017 at 09:19 PM

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“ Ray was always a blast to be around. We went to many concerts together. Ray was a great guy and would do anything for anyone. I will miss him deeply and send my prayers to his family and friends.

**ryan wright** - March 18, 2017 at 05:48 PM



“ Thank you Ryan

**Rebecca Stocking** - March 19, 2017 at 12:20 AM



“ We will miss Rays great smile and great personality,  
rest in peace our friend  
Gary&Dee Moore

**gmoore** - March 19, 2017 at 05:55 PM



“ A special friend and co- worker.. We are grateful to have Ray in our lives... happy for the parties, concerts, cherry fest, dinners and union conventions, conversations, baptism and laughs. Becky... you are his angel and now he is yours. He loved you dearly as he loved Ray J and Sara. Michelle

**Michelle Arntz** - March 21, 2017 at 06:04 PM

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“ Raymond was fond of his music. He often made cassette tapes for his friends. Cassette Players are no longer in cars. I still have cassettes that Ray made. Ray's song has ended his melody will stay with us till the end of our days.

**Chris Hamilton** - March 18, 2017 at 12:09 PM