



Walter "Wally" Wilczynski

February 21, 1932 - January 25, 2021

Walter "Wally" J. Wilczynski, 88, of Traverse City, went to his eternal rest on January 25, 2021.

Wally was born in Detroit on February 21, 1932 to the late Walter and Bessie (Podzorski). On June 9, 1951, Wally married his forever companion, best friend and high school sweetheart, Joann Woloszyk, at the Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church in Detroit.

Walter owned/operated Van Dyke Meat Co. in the Poletown area of Detroit until 1973. He prided himself on the more than 1,000 pounds of fresh kielbasa he produced during Easter and Christmas every year; customers would line the sidewalk waiting for their holiday orders. He retired from the Wolverine Packing Company in 1994, where he provided meat and poultry to stores throughout Michigan. He was an avid Detroit Red Wings fan and was proud of the season tickets he held at Joe Louis Arena for many seasons. In 2003 he and his beloved wife decided to make Traverse City their home. Wally was an active parishioner at St. Patrick Catholic Church and spent many hours working in his yard and in his kitchen cooking and baking. Above all, besides his Faith, his family was everything to him. He loved to reminisce and he loved to laugh.

Walter will always be remembered for being happy and sharing his happiness with strangers and friends alike. To know him was to know that there was always a smile on his face and that wonderful trait of his will be greatly missed.

Wally is survived by his wife of 70 years, from whom he was inseparable, as well as his children; Michael (Janelle), Kathleen (Kent) and Brian (Maureen), his grandchildren; Matthew (Joanna), Andrew (Sarah), Elyse (Eastman), Zachary (Cailin), Emily (Taylor), Marcie, Neil (Hali); step grandchildren; Kelly (Scott) and Elizabeth. Great grandchildren Winter and Martin, and step great grandchildren Colter and Lyla, sister Marcy Stiefel, as well as many nieces, nephews and longtime Saint Patrick Parish friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents and his sister Dolores Sheldon.

A Mass of Christian burial will take place Saturday January 30, 2021 at St. Patrick Catholic Church at 11:00am.

Those wishing an expression of sympathy may wish to consider a contribution to the St. Patrick Church Food Pantry.

Please visit www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com to share your memories with the family.

Comments



“ [VIDEO] Mass of Christian Burial - St. Patricks Catholic Church



Funeral Mass - January 30 at 10:43 PM



“ My biggest memory of Mr Wilczynski, was during our college years. He took us to so many Wings games in those years and was always a lot of fun to be around. He was a gracious host and always supportive of us in young adulthood. He was a great man, hard working, kind, he always loved his family. My thoughts and prayers and condolences are with you. While you'll miss him now one day there will be a homecoming with him in Heaven.

Ken Casolari - January 30 at 01:15 PM



“ I will always remember him as a quiet, gentle man. Rest In Peace Uncle Wally.

Megan Dentlinger - January 29 at 08:57 PM



“ I loved Uncle Wally. I remember him as one with a great smile and a good conversationalist. My visits to see him and my Aunt Joann definitely not often enough. However, they always treated us well and showed us a good time.

chris woloszyk - January 29 at 08:12 PM



Mike & family

So sorry to learn about the passing of your dad. You and your family are in my thoughts & prayers during this difficult time. Miss you guys..
Take Good Care, Cathy Kantowski

Catherine Kantowski - January 29 at 04:18 PM



I have nothing but good memories of my Uncle Wally. He was so gracious, kind and outgoing. He always made you feel special and loved in every encounter. A true gentleman in every sense of the word. I particularly enjoyed visiting with him and my Aunt Joann in Traverse City. They always treated us like royalty with special meals and no shortage of stories and laughter. He was a man of great character, faith and dedication to his family. I have admired him and my Aunt for the many years and proud to call him my uncle. The world was a better place because of him -- and it will miss him.

Maryann Daddow - January 27 at 12:14 PM



It is really hard when such a special person gets called home by Jesus. We will miss Walter greatly. His smile, his calm demeanor and his way of alerting you to a deal he found. Our hearts and prayers go out to Joann and his family. Hugs to all of you.

Kelly & Mary Lou Beauchamp

Kelly & Mary Lou Beauchamp - January 27 at 08:01 PM



I'll miss saying hi to you at mass every Saturday evening. You were a good man Walter and you'll be missed greatly. Bob & Char

Bob and Char Crosby - January 27 at 08:30 PM



My Uncle Wally was a kind and fun man! All though I haven't seen him in a few years, I have great memories growing up with Him and his family. We had great times at family Holidays, Sunday dinners, and all of the birthday parties. We had so many fun times at Point Lookout, building our own cottage and spending time with cousins as well as Aunt Joann and Uncle Wally. He has a very special place in my heart! I will remember him fondly forever. My condolences to Aunt Joann and all the family. Love and miss you! Marcianne Daly

Marcianne Daly - January 31 at 03:22 PM