



Walter W. Wurst

March 17, 1943 - April 28, 2021

Walter Willie Wurst of Saline, MI passed peacefully on Wednesday, April 28, 2021, at age 78. Walter was born March 17, 1943 in Detroit, Michigan to German immigrants, Walter, and Gertrude Wurst. He attended college at Michigan Tech. and Northern Michigan University where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Education and at Central Michigan University he earned a Master's Degree. Walter has two children, Elaine and Walter Wurst and was married to wife Delores Sell Wurst for more than 40 years. Walter worked for Ford Motor Company for most of his career as an engineer and retired after 30 years. Walter took pride in his work but took more pride in his family and his passions outside of work. Walter's passions included fishing, particularly fly fishing, as well as biking, sailing, camping, yoga, and wood working. Michigan, his lifelong home, provided him with the setting to savor the outdoors and water activities. He reveled in the solitude and peacefulness that fishing provided. Walter enjoyed catching fish (especially with flies he tied), but always released them so as not to remove them from nature. Every summer, his goal was to bike 1000 miles. In his youth, he even biked around the lower "mitten" of Michigan. Walter's artistry truly shone in his woodworking projects. There are many friends and family members who are blessed with his creations. Walter relished working in his yard. He always sported beautiful lawns and landscaping. His yard was nominated two times for the "Green Thumb Award". Walter gardened too; he grew flowers, vegetables, and herbs. His veggies and herbs were included in the amazing meals he would make for Delores and himself. Cooking was not only a love, but also a talent. Walter is survived by his adoring wife Delores; daughter, Elaine Wurst (Dan Lanham) of Carthage, MO; son, Walter Wurst (Sarah) of O'Fallon, MO; brother Ronald Wurst (Laurie) of Clarkston, MI; grandchildren, Janelle and Jayson Lanham and Samantha Wurst; and numerous in-laws, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. "Work to live, don't live to work" -Walter Wurst. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy in Traverse City. Immediate family will have a Casting Ceremony in June 2021. A memorial service is being planned for late summer, please check back for details. To leave a memory you have of Walter, to sign his guestbook or for more information, please visit www.rbfhsaline.com.

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Sarah Wurst - July 14, 2021 at 04:39 PM

KW

“ Dear Delores and family,
We have memories of going to your wedding reception and even prior to that. I'm honored that you let me help you with his care prior to his going into the Hospice facility. It felt good to be helpful. Your closeness in marriage was a great role model to all. You are strong and will get through this difficult time. You have so many good memories of your relationship that will help you get you through this difficult time. We keep you in prayer. Remember you can call any time day or night.

Your loving friends

Kathy and Tom Williams.

Kathy & Tom Williams - May 16, 2021 at 06:28 PM

GN

“ Delores, George and I are so very sorry to learn of Walters's passing away. The last time we saw Walter was at Busch's and he was his old friendly self! Back when we were neighbors in Saline we always said, "he's such a nice guy!" We remember Elaine and Wally riding their bikes up and down the street. I think Wally and our Patrick used to play together. I know this must be a very difficult time for you and I know you have many happy memories. We are thinking of you, Delores.

George and Cynthia Nachtrieb

George and Cynthia Nachtrieb - May 15, 2021 at 10:02 AM

MW

“ Dear Delores,
I have just learned of Walter's passing; I am glad to hear that it was peaceful for him. Please know that I am sending thoughts and prayers to you and your family during this challenging time. I fondly remember when you and Walter stopped in here at our place on the North Branch of the Au Sable River-he did love to fish, didn't he? Sending you prayers for peace and strength. Fondly, Marjie Roberts Warner

Marjorie J Warner - May 12, 2021 at 11:19 AM

GR

“ We have two great memories of Walter. First is that he took our son fishing for the first time at Mill Pond Park when Celyn was about 9 years old. Celyn still fishes today. The second is every summer when Walter and Delores went on vacation, they allowed our kids to pick as many zucchinis and tomatoes as they wanted. We will always miss Walter on his bicycle going past our front door. The Rogers.

Gareth A Rogers - May 10, 2021 at 08:06 PM

CH

“ We so enjoy having Delores and Walter as neighbors. Walter was such a kind, helpful, and friendly person. He will be sorely missed.

-The Hambletons



Claudia Hambleton - May 10, 2021 at 11:58 AM

JL

“ Delores, my prayers are with you as you begin a new life without Walter. I know it's not easy right now as you must be in such pain at losing him. I pray that eventually you will carry Walter and wonderful memories of him in your heart.
With Love,,
Judy Lynch-Sauer

Judith Lynch-Sauer - May 08, 2021 at 01:48 PM

DH

“ Delores, I have good memories of you and Walter at King of Kings. I can't imagine riding a bike a 1000 miles a summer

Dennis Hacker - May 08, 2021 at 11:48 AM

MG

“ *The Deep Water Aerobics class from the Saline Rec Center wishes to offer our sympathy to Walter's family. We met Walter several years ago when he brought his mother, Trudy, to our class. Once a week he spent his time with Mom in a water aerobics class. Trudy loved it. Even though she couldn't remember most of our names or the name of the exercise she worked right along with us. And Walter worked out too, always keeping an eye on his mom. We were all so impressed with Walter's devotion to his mother and her needs. He spent time with Mom in a water aerobics class! They were a sweet "couple" and we enjoyed knowing them. Our thoughts and prayers are with you as you grieve Walter's passing. Blessings...Mary Gregg*

Mary Gregg - May 08, 2021 at 10:09 AM

GH

“ *I always sensed that Walter was very supportive of Delores in her pursuit of music, flute lessons and recitals. He frequently attended the events that she was involved in including her church performances.*

If I met him in town , he was always friendly and took time to chat.

I know Walter will be missed by many and Delores's loss along with family is huge. I'm so sorry that it must feel that it was too soon.

Genie Hollander

Genie Hollander - May 07, 2021 at 01:16 PM

JC

“ *Walter was a long and loyal friend to me and my wife Ruth. We felt his caring and support for us along with his interest in what was happening in our lives. He shared his love of family and nature (particularly fishing, sailing and bike riding) and God. We send our condolences and love to Deloris and to his children and grandchildren. We miss him and carry him in our memories. Love, Jim Crowfoot and Ruth Carey*

Jim Crowfoot - May 06, 2021 at 10:48 AM

WR

“ *I worked with Walter at Ford Motor in the 90's and enjoyed running into him every now and then at Metzger's German Restaurant in retirement. So sorry to hear of his passing.*

Walt Radcliffe - April 30, 2021 at 01:42 PM

BR

“ I always bonded most with Walter on the river. We would often fly fish in the 7 bridges area along with Elk Rapids. We wouldn't always catch a fish but we always caught a great conversation. The other great thing is the man doesn't have a judgemental bone in his body. No matter what wierd phase I was in, he treated me as his own. He was kind, loving, funny, and I am honored to call him my uncle.

Brenton - April 30, 2021 at 01:17 AM