



Russell Max White Jr.

November 28, 1934 - August 12, 2020

Russell Max White Jr. 85, of Saline, Michigan passed away peacefully on Wednesday, August 12, 2020, with his family by his side. Russ was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan on November 28, 1934, the only child of Russell Max White Sr, and Irene Eva (Pirkola) White. On July 29, 1961 Russ married his favorite EMU cheerleader, Sandra Ann Koval, and she survives.

Russ graduated from Dexter High School in 1952. After proudly serving his country in the U.S. Army from 1954-1956, Russ enrolled in the Occupation Therapy program at Eastern Michigan College. He graduated From Eastern Michigan University with a B.S. in Occupational Therapy in 1960, received his O.T. certification in 1961, and his M.A. from EMU in 1970. Russ was employed by the Michigan Department of Mental Health, Ypsilanti Regional Psychiatric Hospital, retiring after 30 years of service in 1991. There he served in many capacities in the Occupational, Industrial, and Activity Therapy department.

Russ is survived by Sandy, his wife of 59 years; three sons, Bradley of Saline, Brian of Saline, and Brandon (Sophia) of Canton; 11 grandchildren. Lauren (Patrick) Zetterholm, Adriane White, Bailey White, Maxwell White, Sophie White, Alexis White, Kennedy White, Brynn White, Danielle Nelson, Anthony (Brittney) Nelson, and Logan Nelson. He is also survived by his "brother" (in-law) Paul (Barbara) Koval and family, Michaela White, Monica (Finn) Hassing, and extended family Shanea Johnson and Maddox Marlow.

Russ was preceded in death by his parents Russell White Sr. and Irene White.

Russ enjoyed spending time with his family at his cabin in the woods in Atlanta, Michigan. Through the years Russ was always working on a project, from refinishing his home or cabin, building a new shed, or walking the grounds, maintaining his properties, all while planning his next project. Russ was very patriotic, and had a deep love for his country. Russ enjoyed going out for breakfast and people watching, reading his daily newspapers, doing his crossword puzzles, tending to his tomatoes, and watching and collecting classic movies. Borrowing from his video library was fondly known to family as going to "RussBuster Video". Russ also loved spending time with his longtime friends from Dexter, and their monthly "card club".

A Celebration of Life gathering will be held from 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. on Saturday, September 12, 2020, at his home at 1562 Bishop Rd, Saline, Michigan. To comply with COVID rules, this gathering will be held outdoors, and masks, social distancing, and other precautions will be observed.

Cremation has taken place, and interment of ashes will be held privately at Washtenong Memorial Park in Ann Arbor.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Wounded Warriors Project. To leave a memory you have of Russ, to sign his guestbook or for more information please visit www.rbfhsaline.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Russell Max White Jr.*

October 23, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ *Our condolences on the death of your husband, father, grand and great grandfather. We're hope your best memories of him stay with you forever.*

Ken and Sharon Snodgrass

Ken Snodgrass - August 18, 2020 at 08:58 AM



“ *You will be greatly missed my old friend. Rest peacefully now.*

Jim Goff - August 17, 2020 at 06:19 PM



“ *I will always remember Russ as a quiet, gentle, and dedicated family man. I have missed sitting on a bench in Meijer's catching up on the gossip while Sandy shopped. I feel Blessed to have known him and pray for his family during this time. Betty Elliott*

Betty Elliott - August 15, 2020 at 02:50 PM



I will always remember Russ at the Annual Saline Hospital Christmas Party when Sandy and I worked there. We had so much fun sitting together. God Bless Sandy and her family. ROY AND SHARON McGlone.

Sharon Mc Glone - August 17, 2020 at 04:13 PM

RT

Sandy, I learned of Russ's passing today and it saddens me. I have fond memories of both you and Russ. I'll never forget the time Russ and I paddled down the Raisin River in a Duck boat. Where lives pass, memories carry on forever. Thoughts and prayer are with you and the boys.

Richard L Tomshack - August 18, 2020 at 05:38 PM



*Sandy, Beth's and my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family - a long and loving marriage for you and a long and lasting friendship for Beth and I - 65 years, Beth still remembers your friendship in High School and how you welcomed her - I am sure those close to you know what an understanding person you are - may your find comfort with them and your family
Bill and Beth Unaitis APHS 1956*

Bill Unaitis - August 21, 2020 at 11:33 AM

DD

*Sandy, and family,
Seems like yesterday, I enjoyed working with Russ at YRPH. He was one of the nicest people I have ever known. He treated patients with respect, kindness, and attentive care. I never saw him in foul temper -- he was generous w/smiles. I have to admit to "husband envy"... I have had 3...obvious--they were nothing like Russ. His passing brings a tear to my eye, even tho- I hadn't seen him much since Ypsi...enjoyed seeing you at Saline hospital gatherings and was happy to have known you both. Glad to see you have the blessing of children, you and Russ go forth in them-- the planet needs more people like the Whites. (Hope I see you on "the other side,"--I am almost 76). Dianne Devens*

Dianne Devens - August 24, 2020 at 04:53 PM