

IN MEMORIAM

GARY RICHARDS



Gary L. Richards
July 1, 1942 - October 9, 2021

Gary Richards
Saginaw Twp., Michigan

Loving husband, father, grandfather, and friend passed away on October 9, 2021. Born on July 1, 1942 to Don and Elizabeth Richards, Gary brought happiness and joy to so many people.

Gary is survived by his wife Betty; his children, Karrie (Scott) Koudelka, Kevin (Dawn) Richards, Kimberly (Justin) Back, Kenny Richards, Scott (Danielle) Bloniarczyk, Jason (Mandi) Bloniarczyk, and Kerri Wissmueller; his grandchildren, Chris (Sara) and Kevin Koudelka, Sierra and Jacob Richards, Alyse and Mason Back, Makayla, Morgan, Mya, Rylan Bloniarczyk, and Charlie Schiefer; and his siblings, Bonnie Richards, Bob Arsenault, Patty Smith, Randy (Trish) Paine, Jimmy (Cathy) Paine, Jack (Diane) Paine, Tom Paine, Joy (Don) Aldridge, special sisters-in-law, Debra Templeton, and Brenda Arsenault. Gary was preceded in death by his sister, Sherri Neveau.

Gary had been passionate about so many things – family was always first. Beyond family, he was a pillar and advocate for amateur boxing for over 50 years. In June 2021, he received the prestigious Julius Piazza Memorial Trophy where the Piazza family commented, “Gary’s impact on the world of amateur boxing is truly incredible, and I am confident that Michigan’s strong reputation as a leader in amateur boxing is a direct reflection of his efforts over the past 50 years.”

As a lasting memorial, the East Michigan Golden Gloves is creating the Gary Richards Family Education Scholarship which will be awarded each year to a qualified boxer from the East Michigan Golden Gloves that is going to continue academically at an accredited college or trade school.

Gary was also passionate for local short-track racing, where he followed in his father’s footsteps as a flag man and then as a co-owner for the TriCity Motor Speedway in Auburn, MI, as well as the director of the Standish Speedway. Gary was employed at General Motors for 31 years retiring in 1993.

Funeral Service will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 16, 2021 at St. John’s Lutheran Church, 4705 Brockway Rd. Rev. Andy Retberg will officiate. Honoring Gary’s wishes cremation will follow. Friends may visit at The Snow Funeral Home, 3775 N. Center Rd., (between Shattuck and McCarty), where the family will be present on Friday from 3:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and on Saturday at the church from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service. Those planning an expression of sympathy, envelopes for donating to the Gary Richards Family Education Scholarship or the donor’s favorite charity will be available at the funeral home. Gary has enriched so many lives over the last 79 years. His passion and joy will be deeply missed.