



Robert William De Claire

May 21, 1935 - November 24, 2022

Robert (Bob) William DeClaire, age 87, of Higgins Lake, formerly of St. Clair Shores, passed away on November 24, 2022 at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City, MI. Bob was born May 21, 1935 in Detroit, Michigan to the late Donald and Helen (Bagley) DeClaire. He married Fay Ann Martin on July 9, 1960 at St. Basil Catholic Church in East Detroit, MI.

Bob's early career started at 8 years old working at his family's grocery store, D & H Market, in St Clair Shores, MI. At the age of 15 he worked for the US Post Office as a substitute Mail Carrier. After Graduation from South Lake High School in 1952. He served in the Army Reserves and went to Lawrence Technological University at night and studied Engineering.

Bob was employed with General Electric Carboly in Warren, Mi for 19 years. He started as a Draftsman and eventually worked in the experimental Man-Made Diamond Lab. He helped develop the process for Man-Made Diamonds. He was promoted to the Purchasing Department and was a Tool Buyer until the plant closed in 1972. He was employed with The Budd Company in Detroit, MI from 1972-1997. He was the Head Buyer for Tooling, Machinery and Productive Materials for 25 years before retiring on his 62nd birthday. The highlight of his career was going to Europe to tour supplier plants for special projects.

Post retirement Bob served as the Secretary for the Roscommon Rotary Club for 13 years. He was elected to the Coor School Board and served a 7 year term. He was the Secretary for his local Dock Association for many years and he was also a member of the Knights of Columbus. Bob and his wife Fay also volunteered at St Vincent De Paul for many years.

Bob and Fay enjoyed their retirement boating on Higgins Lake, Traveling and spending time with family and friends. His pride and joy was his family especially his Grandchildren. He also enjoyed Fishing, Hunting, Camping and building Model Boats. Bob is survived by his loving wife of 62 years Fay DeClaire, Children; Susan (Steven) Vansteel, William (Brenda) DeClaire, Michelle (James) Skoney. Grandchildren; Victoria Skoney, Michael Skoney, Marissa Skoney. Step Grandchildren; Clay (Kali) Vansteel, Russell (Caitlin) Vansteel. Step Great Grandchildren; Reagan and Rylee Vansteel. Sisters; Judy (Paul) Rupersburg, Janet (Danny) Tinnette and several Nieces and Nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and nephew Steven Tinnette.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, November 29th from 2-7 pm with a Service at 4:00 pm. Wasik Funeral Home, 35259 23 Mile Road, New Baltimore, MI. Interment at Resurrection Cemetery in Clinton Township, MI on Wednesday, November 30. Memorial donations may be made to the American Heart Association, Alzheimer's Association & St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Cemetery

18201 Clinton River Road
Clinton Township, MI 48035

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **29**. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - New Baltimore
35259-23 Mile Road
New Baltimore, MI 48047
(586) 725-0177
<https://www.gendernalikfh.com/>

Funeral Service

NOV **29**. 4:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - New Baltimore
35259-23 Mile Road
New Baltimore, MI 48047
(586) 725-0177
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Tribute Wall



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Robert William De Claire.*



November 28, 2022 at 08:53 PM



“ *I and my wife met Bob (and Fay) 10 years ago when we joined the dock association. Bob was always kind and considerate. I as I worked with Bob to assume the duties of treasurer of the dock association, some years later, he was so helpful in transitioning the duties to me. I loved hearing his stories about his working days and he was so proud of his accomplishments, especially his Europe trips, and it was easy to see that he just enjoyed the people that he met thru his career. and his family. God's blessing and peace to Fay and family during this time of sorrow and remembrance. Lynn and Shirley Bragg*

Lynn Bragg - November 28, 2022 at 12:58 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Robert William De Claire.*



November 28, 2022 at 11:00 AM

TK

“ I met Bob & Fay over 25 years ago when they were looking for a retirement home in the Higgins Lake area. I advised them that I knew of a home for sale in our neighborhood, which they have called home for over 25 years. We have all been truly blessed to be friends and neighbors. Suffice to say, Bob & Fay are loved by all. Bob directed our Higgins Lake Dock Association with utmost integrity and a big heart. Bob loved to tell stories about Fay, his children and his work. My favorite was how he saved the day by using his contacts to obtain an emergency piece of equipment that was needed to keep a plant running. You all know the story I'm sure. It is with a heavy heart that Kim & I offer our condolences to the entire family. Bob will be greatly missed and remebered for many years to come. May God Bless Bob and the entire De Claire family!

Tim & Kim Kopacka & family

Timothy Kopacka - November 28, 2022 at 10:19 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Robert William De Claire.



November 28, 2022 at 12:06 AM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Robert William De Claire.



November 27, 2022 at 03:22 PM