



## Dr. Alan James Knight

June 17, 1950 - September 26, 2016

Knight, Alan James, September 26, 2016 age 66 of Westland. Beloved son of Rita and the late Donald J. Knight. Loving brother of Robert Knight, Diane Balsara and Richard Knight. Dear uncle of Bret and Blake Balsara. Fascinated with the piano as a young child, Alan became an accomplished pianist as a student in grade school, loving classical music. His fervor for his music found him accepted into Interlochen Arts Academy in Interlochen Michigan; graduating in 1968. He completed his Bachelor's at Michigan State, 1974, and taught high school music. His deep faith drew him to working as a music director for the Catholic Archdiocese for the remainder of his career. He obtained his Master of Music at The University of Michigan in 1991. An overseas trip to tour the organs of Spain further increased his passion to develop his skills. He was a continual student with diverse interests. Alan proudly completed his Doctorate in Organ Performance from the University of Michigan in 2007. Until he retired in 2012 he was the Music Director in Westland, MI, at SS. Simon and Jude; passionately contributing to the services his expertise and love of the Church, expressing his devotion through his music. Despite his many accomplishments his greatest pleasure and his gift was the many students he mentored through the years. He felt great delight in seeing their progress. Alan was tireless in giving his time and energy to all who needed it and did so with kindness, compassion and a wit all his own. Visitation Friday 2-8 PM at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 980 N. Newburgh Road (between Ford Road and Cherry Hill) Westland. Scripture

Service 7 PM. Memorial Mass Saturday 10 AM at SS. Simon and Jude Catholic Church, 32500 Palmer Road, Westland. Memorial contributions may be made to SS. Simon and Jude Catholic Church for St. Vincent DePaul Society. To share a memory, please use the Share a Memory tab on this web page.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **30**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Westland  
980 North Newburgh Road  
Westland, MI 48185  
(734) 326-1300  
westland@vermeulenfh.com

## Memorial Mass

OCT **1**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

SS Simon & Jude Catholic Church  
32500 Palmer Road  
Westland, MI 48185

# Tribute Wall

NF

“ Alan was kind to me.

Nicholas Field - February 23, 2024 at 12:37 PM



“ Dr. Alan James Knight

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM

DE

“ Our 1st choir director ~1995 @St. Joseph Catholic Church, Dexter, MI  
Alan performed for our September 30, 1995 wedding @St. Joseph Church, Dexter, MI  
Don & Gwen Evich

Don Evich - October 24, 2016 at 12:07 PM

AB

“ Dr. Alan was a neighbor of mine for a few wonderful years and we worked on the same team in our community. I'll miss him at our functions playing music for our enjoyment. My thoughts and prayers are with the entire family, wishing you all peace that brings comfort today and courage to face the tomorrows and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts! Please accept my heartfelt condolences at this sad time!  
My deepest sympathy  
Annie Busby

Annie Busby - October 01, 2016 at 07:56 AM

JR

“ Alan you will always be in my thoughts. When you decided that you would make the 4th of July gathering a must on your list of things to do, nothing would stop you even if you had to bring in a driver from Florida. You were a true gentleman and a scholar. Your disease took away your ability to play your music but it never could take it from your soul. You will be missed for many 4ths to come. My heartfelt condolences to your family.

*Jon Robb*

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**Jon Robb** - September 29, 2016 at 04:12 PM

JR

“ Please accept my condolences for the loss of your brother Alan . I to have recently suffered the loss of a love one ....I have found comfort in Prayer as I know you will.  
May your cherished memories with Alan give you comfort at this time of sorrow.

*Joseph Randazzo*

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**Joseph. Randazzo** - September 29, 2016 at 07:33 AM

JS

“ I'm sorry I didn't know about Alan. He and I had so much fun at UM when we were there. I will never forget his quest for knowledge, all the questions he asked, and his unconditional support of his friends, he kept asking me about my musical endeavors. God keep you close in our hearts, dear dear Alan.

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**Joy Schroeder** - September 28, 2016 at 10:41 PM

ML

“ Mitch & Annette Lyle purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dr. Alan James Knight.



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**Mitch & Annette Lyle** - September 28, 2016 at 05:46 PM

CD

“ Rita.  
Your son that you loved so much is safe within God's care and you are safe within the love of those who care so much for you.

*Thinking of you with deepest sympathy.*

*Cajy & Antonetta Demello*

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**Cajy and Antonetta Demello** - September 28, 2016 at 01:22 PM

TD

“ The University of Michigan Organ Department purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dr. Alan James Knight.



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**The University of Michigan Organ Department** - September 28, 2016 at 05:47 AM

CS

“ I am a Minister of Jehovah's Witnesses my wife and I would like to give you and your family our deepest sympathy for the lost of your loved one. We would like to leave you with these words of encouragement from Gods word the Bible. At Job 14:14 it ask the question, "If a man dies, shall he live again?," The bible makes the promise: Your dead love ones will live...They will rise up. The bible also says, The righteous themselves will possess the earth and they will reside forever upon it. Isaiah 26:19;Psalms 37:29. May you find comfort in these scriptures and in the loving memories of your loved one. If you have any questions or concerns about the lost of your loved one feel free to email us at [ctksdk@yahoo.com](mailto:ctksdk@yahoo.com)  
Sincerely, Carlos & Sandy

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**Carlos and Sandy** - September 27, 2016 at 09:03 PM