



## Alexander Velasco

January 15, 1920 - December 9, 2019

Alexander Velasco, Sr., 99, of Westland, MI, passed away peacefully on Monday, December 9, 2019. Born January 15, 1920 the eldest living son of Ignacio and Maria de Jesus (Contreras) Velasco of Detroit, MI. Alexander grew up in Detroit, Michigan, during the Great Depression and was taught that receiving an education was crucial to succeed. He was determined to go to college. After serving forty months in the Air Force during World War II, he made use of the Educational Benefits provided by the GI Bill and attended Wayne State University. He obtained a BA degree in Liberal Arts, a Masters degree in Education with a Secondary Education Teaching Certificate, and a few years later an Elementary School Teaching Certificate. He worked as a third grade teacher and high school Spanish teacher for fourteen years before he earned a Masters Degree in counseling from Indiana University. He finished his career as a high school Language Arts teacher and guidance counselor for Detroit Public Schools. He was preceded in death by his wife of 58 years, Rosina (Purpura) Velasco, they were married on December 18, 1943 at St. Michael Church in Buffalo, NY, son Raymond Velasco, brother Peter (Kathleen) Velasco, brother Robert (Rose) Velasco, brother Richard (Joan & Maria) Velasco, brother John (Lois) Velasco, and brother Rudolf Velasco and his significant other, the late Rene Flesher. He is survived by five children, Alexander (Charmaine) Velasco of Troy, MI, Gloria (Ralph) Mason of Dewitt, MI, Edward (Sandy) Velasco of Lapeer, MI, Margo (Michael) Moulton of Clawson, MI, and Mary (Ronald) Umfleet of Westland, MI; Daughter in law,

Virginia Velasco of Westland, MI; Brothers, Arthur (Gayle) Velasco of Hiawasse,GA, George (Carole) Velasco of Rochester Hills,MI; Sister Margarita (Rafael) Jimenez, and sister in law Juanita Velasco, 20 Grandchildren and 24 Great Grandchildren.

Alexander was a devout Catholic volunteering many hours of his time over many years, on several committees, and clubs at St. Theodore/St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy Catholic Church. He enjoyed reading, stamp collection, researching history and culture, playing cards and chess, but most importantly he loved to spend time with his cherished family and friends. His determination was exemplified by his favorite saying: "Querer es poder ~ If there is a will there is a way".

Visitation Wednesday, December 11th 4-9 PM at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 Ann Arbor Rd. W. (btwn Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth. Rosary Wednesday 7 PM. In state Thursday, December 12th 9:30 AM until the 10 AM Funeral Mass at St. Mary Cause of Our Joy, 8200 N. Joy Rd., Westland. Private Interment Great Lakes National Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Penrickton Center for Blind, 26530 Eureka Rd., Taylor, MI 48180. To share a memory, please use the Share a Memory tab on this web page.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 11. 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Plymouth  
46401 Ann Arbor Road West  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
(734) 459-2250  
plymouth@vermeulenfh.com

## Rosary

DEC 11. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Plymouth  
46401 Ann Arbor Road West  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
(734) 459-2250  
plymouth@vermeulenfh.com

## In state

DEC 12. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy  
8200 Wayne Road  
Westland, MI 48185

## Funeral Mass

DEC 12. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy  
8200 Wayne Road  
Westland, MI 48185

# Tribute Wall



“ *Alexander Velasco*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *Ghirardelli & Fruit Condolences Gift Basket was purchased for the family of Alexander Velasco.*



December 11, 2019 at 06:22 PM

LE

“*Mary, Ron, and all members of Alexander's Family and Friends, I want to first share from my heart, that Alexander was one of the most kind, considerate, intelligent, happy, gentile, and spiritual individuals, that I have ever met! I was blessed, and privileged, to be a part of his loving family life, and his loving spiritual life, while attending both Divine Savior and Saint Mary Cause of our Joy Churches in Westland and the surrounding Area.*

*Alexander and I, for years, participated, together, in a beautiful/spiritual Rosary Group at both churches, and almost every Sunday, after our celebration, shared happy, friendship time together, whether it was enjoying hot coffee and donuts together at church, or sharing a full breakfast together, always at Alexander's choice and desire, as we just knew he had a special spiritual insight into the best place to be, in order to share a loving/special breakfast and communication together!*

*Alexander was truly, special, as a loving father, a loving grandfather, and a loving friend!*

*I would be remiss, if I did not share, with everyone, that Alexander shared his home, with our Rosary Group, whenever, we could not attend in our church, for which speaks wonders about Alexander's compassion, and loving and caring attitude for all whom he loved and for the strong beautiful spirituality, that he always, always carried in is heart!*

*We all Loved Alexander, and will truly miss him, but I will never, ever, forget what he meant to me, and to all who had the pleasure of knowing him!*

*May God Bless Alexander Forever!*

*Love, Lawrence Edick*

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**Lawrence Edick** - December 11, 2019 at 02:47 PM

YA

“ Your friends at Cummins Allison purchased the D  
elightful Dieffenbachia for the family of Alexander  
Velasco.



Your friends at Cummins Allison - December 11, 2019 at 01:22  
PM

LF

“ Love, Richard & Joan Velasco Family purchased  
the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of  
Alexander Velasco.



Love, Richard & Joan Velasco Family - December 11, 2019 at  
11:14 AM

RF

“ Ronnier Needham and the Roanldo family  
purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for  
the family of Alexander Velasco.



Ronnier Needham and the Roanldo family - December 11,  
2019 at 10:51 AM

VV

“ Virginia and Mike Velasco purchased the Divine L  
ight for the family of Alexander Velasco.



Virginia and Mike Velasco - December 11, 2019 at 09:36 AM

KB

“ *Ken, Marcia, and Joe Buczek purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Alexander Velasco.*



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**Ken, Marcia, and Joe Buczek** - December 11, 2019 at 09:28 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Alexander Velasco.*



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December 11, 2019 at 09:23 AM

FF

“ *From Your Rosewood Family purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Alexander Velasco.*



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**From Your Rosewood Family** - December 11, 2019 at 09:09 AM

KB

“ Uncle Al was more than uncle. He was the Patriarch of the Ignacio and Maria Velasco Family. A perfectly imperfect man who lead by example, fostering a life of learning through formal and informal education. He lived by his frequent quotes of "Querer es Poder" and "Mi casa es su casa". He opened discussions with "Let me ask you this..." He was a thinker who emphasized knowing the significance of history and the impact on today AND tomorrow. A teacher to the end. I will always remember him for his kindness, encouragement, example and love. I hope his spirit is with family that have gone before him.  
Vaya con Dios!  
Love, Karen



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**Karen Velasco Brennan** - December 10, 2019 at 10:12 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Alexander Velasco.



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December 10, 2019 at 09:15 PM