



Dennis James Popa

August 30, 1950 - January 29, 2012

Dennis J. Popa, age 61, January 29, 2012. After complication of a near fatal automobile accident. Formerly of Canton, Michigan. Pre-deceased by parents, Mike D. and Julia M. Popa, loving husband of Marla P. McClendon-Popa, brother of Michael S. (deceased), Richard J. (Tina P.). Uncle of Michael R. Popa and Nicholas R. Popa, Cleve (Amie) McClendon. Great uncle to Alannah McClendon. Father-in-law Billy V. McClendon and Mother-in-law Marceline S. McClendon. Brother-in-law Van McClendon (friend Carol Farmer). Also friend of many. Visitation Friday 1 pm-9 pm at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 West Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, Michigan (Between Sheldon and Beck). Funeral Service Saturday 10am at Vermeulen Funeral Home, burial at Glen Eden Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations requested to The American Diabetes Association. Dennis was a former employee of the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home. To leave a message of condolence or share a memory with the family, please click on the view and send condolence link on this page.

Tribute Wall



“ *Dennis James Popa*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *I'm sorry for your loss. Death is our common enemy as it affects all of us. I therefore want to encourage the family to take heart and be hopeful in the promise by God, that he will wipe every tear and no more will be any death again. Death will be brought to nothing, Isaiah 25:8 and 1Corinthians 15:28. God by means of Jesus will call and all that died will hear his voice and come out. John 5:25. We have an opportunity to see our dead loved ones come back to life again and never to die. What a wonderful moment that will be!*

Peggy - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM



“ *I will miss my life-long friend. My prayers are with the Popa family.*

Carol Ann Rubus (Parrinello) - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM



“ *Our deepest and most sincere condolences to you Marla... We truly know how much you loved your Dennis and you surely showed it many times before and since his accident. Please know that God will see you through your troubled and sorrowful time. Our prayers are with you daily. Love you R.I.P. Denny, you were a wonderful husband and friend to our Marla.*

Dorothy & Paul Brown - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

LL

“ Marla, I'm so sorry for the loss of your husband. Prayers and hugs going out for you. Hope you will feel a little better with each passing day. All your old friends are 'here' for you as much as possible!
Love, Lynn

Lynn (Overstreet) Laseter - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

BM

“ Rick, our deepest sympathy to you and the Popa family.

Bernie and Mary McDonnell - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

PW

“ Marla, Rick & family: So sorry to hear about the loss of Denny. My family (Bragiel) lived a couple of doors down from the Popa's on St. Mary's St years ago. Such a nice family. Haven't seen Denny in years but always really liked him. So tragic ! God Bless you all and may he give you peace in the days ahead.

patti (bragiel) wenski & ralph wenski - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

MS

“ Rick, sorry to hear the news about Dennis. I always enjoyed working a funeral with Dennis (and you) when we did work at Griffin. I loved the story telling and judging from the folks that have responded on this message site, I was not the only one who enjoyed hearing of the OLGH days and the DC adventures. I am honored to say I worked along side a true gentleman and I say that on behalf of all of us at Public Funeral Car Service.

Michael Saunders - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

SC

“ Marla, you have our heartfelt sympathies. Denny was an amazing, kind, gentle man who adored you. He is now watching over you and will always be with you. ONE DAY AT A TIME We love you

San, Denny & Christopher - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

BC

“ My condolences to the Popa family. I was a classmate of Denny's at Cathedral. So sad to hear of his loss.

Bob Collinash - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

LD

“ I was really saddened to hear of Denny's passing. I was also a classmate of Denny's at OLGH and Detroit Cathedral and while we were not close friends he always treated me well and was extremely popular at both schools. I last saw him at WSU in 1969. I send my deepest condolences to his family.

Larry Davignon - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

MD

“ I was a classmate of Denny's from OLGH and DC. I am sorry to hear of his passing. I do remember one story from DC football with Dennis. He was the QB and I a RB in a football game where DC was being throttled. He continued calling my number for plays (with little success!). I finally told him to keep the ball and run it himself as I had all the fun I could have. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife and family. Mike D.

Mike Drewyor - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

DV

“ Dear Rick, I am so sorry for the loss of your brother Denny. I have enjoyed hearing all of your memories about Denny, though I never met him, I feel that I know him! I am praying for you and your family, May God be with you today and always.

Donna Vezina - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

C'

“ so sorry to lose our friend

carl galietti '68 - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

J'

“ To the Popa Family - With our prayers and deepest sympathy with the passing of my friend, Denny. Good times remembered at the Roz-Lee after softball. Until we meet again -

Jim McCracken, Class of '69 - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

BT

“ My deepest sympathies to the Popa's. Our family lived directly behind the Popa's and for many years we cut through their backyard to get to Our Lady Gate of Heaven church and school. Great people, great neighbors.

Bob Tatus - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

JH

“ I am sincerely sorry to all of the Popa family for your loss and will remember Dennis in my prayers.

Joanne Parrinello Holmes - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

MM

“ We were shocked to learn of Dennis' passing. We would like to extend our deepest sympathies to all his family members. Our family has known the Popa Boys for many many years and are very sadden by his death. Our prayers and memories are with all of you. May Dennis rest in peace.

Mr. Mitchie and Darlene Mitchie - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

TR

“ MARLA, MAY I EXTEND MY MOST HEART FELT SYMPATHY , TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.I WAS A CLASS MATE OF DENNY'S FOR JUST THE 8TH GRADE AT OLGH.GOD BLESS YOU AND YOU WILL BE IN MY PRAYERS.

TOM RENAUD - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

AR

“ May the hope at Isaiah 25:8 bring the Popa family much comfort, here God assures us that death will be swallowed up or removed from all the earth. This is something that we can look forward to in the near future.

ariel - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

DL

“ I have fond memories of Denny from our neighborhood. My 1st vague connection was when I was 2ish. My brother would drop me off in my stroller, so Mrs. Popa could watch me, as Don, played baseball along with Michael, Denny’s older brother, at the school playground across the street from the Popas. Denny was part of my school class, and of course was one of the nuns favorite kids. Who could not like this blonde boy with his sweet smile? If I think of Denny from that time, he is on the Gate Of Heaven basketball court, making the “sign of the cross” as he shoots for the hoop, and make it, he did! Life brought many changes for all of us, and I lost contact with Denny after the 70’s. I was fortunate to have a phone conversation with him before the school reunion I could not make. It was with a heavy heart that I followed the updates of his last year. I was always amazed how positive Marla was with his care, and future. It was such a lovely testament to Love and Caring in a marriage. To Marla, Rick and family: I have you in my thoughts and prayers for the coming days and months. To my school mates at OLGH: we all share this wonderful connection, and with heavy hearts, we say goodbye to a part of our childhood: Denny Popa

Denise (Buksar) Linsky - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

JC

“ Dear Marla and Family, My thoughts and prayers are with you. Denny was a classmate of mine at OLGH. I moved from the neighborhood in 1966, but I would see Denny at WSU and then again when your family had the bar in Lincoln Park. My husband and I would have a drink there occasionally and visit with him. I have wonderful memories of him growing up. He was a very kind and fun loving person. I'm so glad I got to visit with him at the reunion. May he rest in God's peace. God bless you.

Jane Banas Colwell - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

NK

“ Denny is now at peace and hopefully his family will find peace too. My sincerest condolences to you all. Denny was a very special person! So sorry for your loss.

Nancy Miller Katz - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

FJ

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. Frances Bock OLGH

Frances Bock Janis - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

DE

“ Sorry to hear of Denny's passing. Have very fond memories from our years at Our Lady Gate of Heaven. Thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Debby - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

DT

“ So sad to lose such a great guy. Denny was just a year older than me and was always nice to us "little kids" at OLGH. Our families were close as Denny's older brother Mike was about the same age as my brothers, Tom and Tim Taylor and they shared the common bond of suffering from polio as little kids. Denny Popa was really good guy. Your former Free Press paperboy, Dave

Dave Taylor - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

KA

“ Rick, I am very sorry for the loss of your brother. I have enjoyed hearing your stories about him when you were kids.

Kara - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM

JA

“ So Sorry for your familys loss. My prayers are with all of you.

Janice - December 12, 2014 at 10:14 AM