



Francis "Pat" McGow

July 2, 1934 - November 5, 2022

Francis "Pat" McGow was born on July 2, 1934 to Francis and Mary McGow in Highland, Illinois. His father was a mortician. His mother was a schoolteacher. He had a younger brother, John Michael McGow, who died at age 15 from a hunting accident which was a loss that stayed with Pat for his entire life.

Pat graduated from Highland High School, attended the University of Illinois, and graduated from Southern Illinois University with a Bachelor's degree in Business. Soon after graduating from college, he enlisted in the United States Army and served his country while stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. He met his wife and best friend Mary Ruth Groves at a dance in Gillespie, Illinois in 1953 and they were married in 1957. They enjoyed 64 years of marriage before her death in December 2021. They had three children: John Michael McGow (Lizy), Patrick McGow (Donna) and Megan Crays (John), with seven grandchildren: Alec, Zachary (deceased), Ashley, Devyn, Connor, Anakin and Quinn, and one great granddaughter: Mia all of whom brought him great pride and joy.

After leaving the Army, Pat worked for Goodyear Tire Company before joining Ford Motor Company. He spent over 30 years with Ford Motor Company in various sales and management positions in the St. Louis, Missouri District Sales Office and Detroit. In 1982, he and his family moved to Plymouth, Michigan where he lived for the past 40 years.

Pat was a proud and loyal Ford employee and he always wore his blue oval pin on his suits even after retirement. He was an avid reader who loved World

War II history books and films. He shared his love of WWII films and Dracula films with his children. He was a gun collector and deer hunter who looked forward to his hunting trips to Missouri each fall. He enjoyed dinners and drinks with friends and family, especially the summer camping trips in Missouri in the early years and winters in Marco Island, Florida later in life.

He was a dedicated husband and caregiver to his wife, especially in the last decade when she battled debilitating ailments and dementia. The care he gave to her was inspiring as theirs was a true love affair.

Pat enjoyed good health for most of his 88 years. He passed away in his sleep on Saturday, November 5th after a brief battle with cancer.

There will be a Memorial Visitation Wednesday, November 16th from 4-7 PM at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 Ann Arbor Road West (between Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. He will be in state Thursday, November 17th 9:30 AM until the 10:00 AM Funeral Mass at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, 47650 North Territorial Road, Plymouth. To share a memory, please use the Share a Memory tab on this webpage.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

NOV **16.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

In state

NOV **17.** 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church
47650 North Territorial Road
Plymouth, MI 48170

Funeral Mass

NOV **17.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church
47650 North Territorial Road
Plymouth, MI 48170

Tribute Wall



“ Francis "Pat" McGow

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Francis "Pat" McGow.



November 16, 2022 at 09:03 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Francis "Pat" McGow.



November 15, 2022 at 05:18 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Francis "Pat" McGow.



November 14, 2022 at 12:33 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Francis "Pat" McGow.*



November 14, 2022 at 10:54 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Francis "Pat" McGow.*



November 14, 2022 at 10:05 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Francis "Pat" McGow.*



November 11, 2022 at 01:12 PM



“ *Words cannot possibly express the deep sorrow that we feel for the loss of our beloved friend and his wife Mary. Over the last 60 years we have shared so many joyous occasions. Watching our families grow to adulthood to become such wonderful caring adults, and then came our marvelous grandchildren. All the wonderful visits, and time in Florida. You will be so missed by our family. God's Blessings. Love, Barbara Buschart and Family*

Barbara Buschart - November 11, 2022 at 12:05 PM

DK

“ Feel fortunate to have been friends with Pat & M R. We enjoyed many Ford functions like the Detroit Grand Prix. Tailgating at MSU, the Ice Sculptures & Hot Air Balloon Festival in Plymouth, meeting at Marco Island, having them stay with us on the ocean side are just a few of the good times we shared over the years. Good memories.

Donna Koller - November 10, 2022 at 10:37 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Francis "Pat" McGow.



November 10, 2022 at 03:49 PM

BN

“ We always enjoyed being around Pat talking about Ford Motor which we had in common. We would go out to dinner as well as visit at our homes for many years. He was a great friend.
Bob & Barbara Nader

Bob & Barbara Nader - November 09, 2022 at 09:06 PM

BL

“ Just wanted to tell Pat my best buddy that I'm really going to miss those off the cuff phone calls I would get from him a couple times a week! We had the same political views and a lot of others! Good nite Pat and always remember TTH iii



Bud labruyere - November 09, 2022 at 08:31 PM