



Edward Dominic Smendzuik

April 11, 1953 - July 19, 2020

Edward Dominic Smendzuik of Birmingham, Michigan passed away on July 19, 2020. He was 67 years old. A natural storyteller of sharp wit, Ed was a source of stability for family and friends, always willing to lend a hand in times of need.

Ed was born on April 11, 1953 in Hamtramck, Michigan. A graduate of St. Florian High School, he was a multitalented athlete, particularly excelling on the basketball court. A dedicated caddie at Detroit Golf Club, Ed was awarded the prestigious Evans Scholarship to attend Michigan State University (Go Green!) and completed his business degree. Ed made lifelong friends as part of the Evans Scholars program and was an active alum. He earned his MBA from Wayne State University while juggling a successful career in Telecommunication Sales. Ed was an accomplished distance runner in his adult life and was particularly proud of his completion of the renowned Bolder Boulder race and the Detroit Free Press Marathon. As a loving, involved father, Ed became a leader in the Birmingham-Bloomfield youth soccer community as a coach to his kids, and eventually as an administrator and referee. He cherished time with his children, with particularly fond memories of YMCA weekend campouts and ski trips. From his propensity for whistling show tunes, to his reputation amongst neighbors as the man who enjoyed shoveling snow in his shorts, Ed was truly one of a kind, and will be deeply missed.

Ed is survived by his wife of 42 years, Connie, his daughter Mary Elizabeth Smendzuik, and his sons David (Caitlin) Smendzuik and Thomas Smendzuik. He is also survived by his siblings Julianne (William) Smendzuik-O'Brien, John (Bonnie) Smendzuik, and Marilyn (Robert) Rice. He joins in heaven his parents Edward and Stephany.

A private burial service will be held at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Detroit. Friends are invited to join the family for a celebration of life, Thursday, July 23, 2020, 5-8pm, at the pavilion at Springdale Park, 316 Strathmore Rd, Bloomfield Hills, MI. All guests are asked to wear a mask, respect social distancing practices and make responsible decisions regarding any COVID-19 symptoms.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Evans Scholars Foundation can be made by mail to the Evans Scholars Foundation, 2501 Patriot Blvd, Glenview, IL 60026 or online: https://secure2.convio.net/wgaesf/site/Donation2?df_id=1520&1520.donation=form1&mfc_pref=T&pw_id=1521

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUL **23**. 5:00 PM (ET)

Springdale Park
316 Strathmore Rd
Bloomfield Twp, MI 48304

Tribute Wall

RD

“Loved the guy he was sooooo funny. I sat next to him at Lucent he was my "word smith" when i was responding to telcom bids. He was great at taking a thought and making it sound intelligent on paper. I know he loved his family and always spoke in the highest regard about them. Miss you Buddy.

Robert Dziatczak - September 02, 2020 at 12:48 PM

JU

“Just about a month since you left us, dear Ed. Have been thinking about you and your lovely family and praying you are with the Lord.

You were Big Ed to so many, but I realized one thing during this period of reflection ... I'm the only one who can call you my "little" brother. So, farewell and Godspeed, little brother. I look forward to when we will next meet in Our Father's house.

Love and hugs.
Julie

Julie - August 16, 2020 at 03:26 AM



“Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Edward Dominic Smendzuik.



July 23, 2020 at 02:40 PM

HS

“I am very saddened to hear about Ed's passing. Ed was one of my classmates at St. Florian, Class of 71'. I remember Ed as someone you can look up to, and not only because he was tall. Ed was also a "straight shooter", and not only in basketball! He was always pleasant and friendly, and I always thought he'd do well in life as his Bio attests. My sincere condolences to the Smendzuik family. Ed will always be remembered and forever missed. Henry A. Szybowicz, Class of 71'

Henry A. Szybowicz - July 23, 2020 at 12:09 PM

RS

Shocked and sadden by the passing of Ed...a true gentleman no doubt...my condolences to his sister Marilyn a former classmate of mine and to his entire family ..and all his classmates of St. Florian 71'

Raymond Szukala - July 25, 2020 at 10:50 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Edward Dominic Smendzuik.*



July 23, 2020 at 09:06 AM

KG

“ *Loving condolences to Ed's sisters and dear friends of mine -- Julie and Marilyn. Heard many wonderful stories about their brother Ed, his wife and children, and Ed's days at Saint Florian. Praying for the entire family.*

Kathleen Gillespie - July 23, 2020 at 09:01 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Edward Dominic Smendzuik.*



July 22, 2020 at 08:14 PM

PS

“ *I was a fellow classmate of Ed's from St Florians, class of 1971. Ed enjoyed attending many of the 54 consecutive monthly outings we shared, especially the Senior skip day events we had shared at Belle Isle! You will be remembered Edward!*

Paul Guzdek Sr - July 22, 2020 at 11:08 AM



“ *I share in the sadness if Ed's passing and have fond memories of him, from high school to our recent monthly get togethers. My deepest condolences to his family, may you take comfort in the memories of a life shared.*



Mary Holt - July 22, 2020 at 10:04 AM

DK

“ I had the pleasure of knowing Ed. I remember him on the basketball team at St. Florian. He was a very good player since he was so tall. When I was in his class he wrote his class assignments PERFECTLY. I think he was a great guy. Too tall for the desks and always laughing and loved his smile.

Deborah Kennedy - July 21, 2020 at 11:52 PM

JF

“ Ed made quite an impression on me and my Evans Scholar freshmen class back in 1975. With our heads spinning, entering that place called college, it was easy to look up to Ed, literally and figuratively. He was a great leader (“BIG BROTHER”) and always made time to give us advice when needed. Using far more than words, Ed led by example and packed a lot of life into a 24 hour period. He was a man of action, and if you wanted something, you needed to “get off the dime and go get it”. I think Webster’s Dictionary had Ed’s picture next to the word Multi-tasker. Whether in the classroom, on the athletic field, at work or social arena, we learned the lesson to work hard, be well rounded and make fun memories along the way (a good lesson for college and life). I send my heartfelt condolences to Connie, and the entire Smendzuik family at this difficult time. These words from the Lord as he greeted our brother will bring much comfort to us all “Well done Ed my good and faithful servant.”

Jim Fazzini

Jim Fazzini - July 21, 2020 at 10:17 PM

JC

“ Although we haven't crossed paths or communicated in over 30 years, I was saddened to hear of Ed's passing. A great friend and classmate from St Florian, the Best school in Hamtramck. We roamed the halls together, sweated together on the football field and basketball court. Just a lot of fun back then. As Regina Zawadzki mentioned in this guest book, it doesn't seem that long ago, fastest 49 years ever!!!

My condolences to the family.... keeping you in my thoughts and prayers

John Czarnecki (Great class of 1971)

John Czarnecki - July 21, 2020 at 08:15 PM

KB

“ I am saddened to hear of the passing of a very good friend all through the 12 years of schooling at St. Florians. Ed will be missed but the memories of him will always live on.
RIP Ed.....
Sincerely: Kenneth M. Balicki

Kenneth M Balicki - July 21, 2020 at 07:23 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Edward Dominic Smendzuik.



July 21, 2020 at 07:12 PM

MO

“ Such a nice guy and St. Florian alumnus. Condolences to the family. 🕊️ Ochab Family.

Margaret Ochab- Ohryn - July 21, 2020 at 03:34 PM

RL

“ Ed was such a shining star in our class at St. Florian. I was always amazed by his intelligence, maturity, sportsmanship and sense of humor. It doesn't seem that long ago. I am so grateful to have been able to reconnect at our class outings. I extend my deepest sympathy to his wife and to his children as well as to his sisters and brother. I know that your loss is profound. Keeping you all in my prayers. Regina (Zawadzki) Lesko (Class of 1971).

Regina Zawadzki Lesko - July 21, 2020 at 12:34 PM

DO

“ Very sorry to hear of Ed's passing. I knew him through St. Florian and MSU. It was nice seeing him at the get-togethers with former St. Florian classmates in recent years. My sincere condolences to Connie and their children and other family members. Dianne Odrobina

Dianne Odrobina - July 21, 2020 at 12:04 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Edward Dominic Smendzuik.*



July 21, 2020 at 10:42 AM

BA

“ *Easy Ed, Uncle Eddie, Tall Drink of Water... Known by so many tags. A very close friend, confidante and partner in crime(s) he was fun on road trips to Chicago, Toronto, the UP and of course East Lansing. We caddies together at the Detroit Golf Club and both attended MSU on caddy scholarships. A lifelong friend for more than 52 years. So many stories and experiences to recall could fill a book. At this time I feel deep sorrow for losing such a tight friend. Myra and I are sending love and support to Connie (KK), M.E., Dave, and Tom; and to Ed's siblings Julie, John and Marilyn. Peace, brother!*

Bill Alliston - July 20, 2020 at 07:17 PM

KH

“ *I grew up as a very close friend of Mary Elizabeth's and spent countless hours in the Smendzuik house growing up. He was such a fun dad! I remember sleepovers where he would carry us around sandwiched in their pullout mattress ("mattress rides"), tell the funniest awful dad jokes, and cook us breakfast at Uncle Eddie's restaurant. The menu included spaghetti, Wheaties, and pancakes. In my 8 year old opinion, Uncle Eddie's deserved a Michelin star! He was also my soccer coach for a season in 6th grade where we scored NO goals for all 10 games. We did have two 0-0 ties! He somehow made it a really fun season anyway. I'll always remember him and am thankful that I got to know such a funny and unique dad!*



Kristin Demorest Hayes - July 20, 2020 at 06:18 PM