



# Stephen Richard Kitchens

May 14, 1940 - September 21, 2022

KITCHENS, STEPHEN R. Age 82 September 21, 2022. "No man is a failure who has friends," Clarence Obody, It's a wonderful life, 1946

Like the character George Bailey, Steve had a wonderful life. Steve's all-time favorite movie is an uplifting story of family, love, hope, and building a foundation for those he loved. These are qualities that Steve built into the story of his own life. Steve was at his best in the context of his friends and family. Whether on the golf course, boating on Lake Huron, working in his yard, or watching Andy Griffith, Steve loved to share a Manhattan, a slightly off-color joke, or his opinions with those closest to his heart or whoever was sitting next to him. It's no wonder he was so successful in sales—his outgoing personality and warm smile drew people in. Steve built long term relationships with fraternity brothers, long distant neighbors, cousins, golfers, and boaters across the years.

Steve married his high school sweetheart, Roberta. Their 60 year marriage began with Roberta boldly asking this strikingly handsome older boy to the Sadie Hawkins dance. Through a five-year courtship, Mackinac Island honeymoon, and the birth of the three Kitchens girls, Steve built a legacy in his family. Steve's memory will live on in his children and grandchildren. Ask him who his favorite son-in-law is, and he'd reply, "John/Jon," of course! Each of his girls married a man named John/Jon and had two children- first a girl and then a boy. Steve was incredibly proud of his family and loved his six grandchildren wholeheartedly. His children and grandchildren include: Stacey and John Barry Carlson, parents of Sara and Spencer, Amanda and John David Hancock, parents of Elizabeth and John Patrick, and Holly and Jon Randall Tacoma, parents of Alexa and Jaron. Steve and Roberta celebrated their last wedding anniversary on September 1, 2022. Their life and love are an inspiration to their children and all who knew them.

We will forever remember Steve for his sense of humor, sweet tooth, and storytelling. His favorite stories often included his menu item of choice at restaurants from Michigan to Missouri and beyond. He enjoyed 82 years of life and was preceded in death by his parents, Stephen and Radie "Kitty" Kitchens, his brother Charles Kitchens, and sister

Doris Jacques.

Steve served in the National Guard. He served during and was forever marked by the 1967 Detroit Riots. He was deeply grateful for the support provided by the Salvation Army staffers and volunteers who braved violent conditions to serve the national guardsmen and others during and after the riots. Steve gave annually to the organization.

Memorial visitation will be held Saturday, October 1, 2022 from 11:00am until time of Memorial Service at 2:00pm at Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons 54880 Van Dyke at 25 Mile Rd. (SHELBY TOWNSHIP). In honor of Steve's life and in lieu of flowers, please give a memorial donation to The Salvation Army <https://www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/> Share memories with the family at their "On Line Guest Book" @ WujekCaclaterra.com.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

OCT 1. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons Inc, Shelby Township  
54880 Van Dyke  
Shelby Township, MI 48316

## Memorial Service

OCT 1. 2:00 PM (ET)

Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons Inc, Shelby Township  
54880 Van Dyke  
Shelby Township, MI 48316

# Tribute Wall



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Stephen Richard Kitchens.*



October 01, 2022 at 08:52 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Stephen Richard Kitchens.*



September 30, 2022 at 09:28 AM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Stephen Richard Kitchens.*



September 26, 2022 at 04:12 PM



“ *4 files added to the album Kitchens Family*



**Roberta** - September 22, 2022 at 04:36 PM

“ 7 files added to the album Uncle Steve



Roberta - September 22, 2022 at 02:58 PM



“ 15 files added to the album Uncle Steve



Cindy Geier - September 22, 2022 at 12:31 PM



“ Uncle Steve, I still cannot believe I am writing a tribute because of your passing. Words cannot describe the shock of learning this news. With extreme sadness in our hearts, try to understand the “why”....then grasp tight to all reminders of our faith – that God in His infinite wisdom always knows best.



Our family will pray for comfort to all those that loved you – so they will know that while He has taken you away from all of us here on earth, He has a beautiful new plan for you. You have left us with the memories of your smile, your laugh, and many of our conversations through a lifetime of events.

So many people have Uncles. But some are blessed to put their uncle in the category of someone who made indelible marks on their soul.

Cindy Geier - September 22, 2022 at 12:22 PM

AH

*Cindy this is such a beautiful tribute. I love you.*

**Amanda Hancock** - September 22, 2022 at 03:36 PM

JB

*Roberta and family I feel so very sorry for you all I only wish I could be there for you but please know you are in my thoughts and prayers and as you know I am only a phone call away much love from Texas*

**Judy Burnett** - September 22, 2022 at 03:59 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Stephen Richard Kitchens.*



September 22, 2022 at 11:47 AM

CE

“ *Me and my wife Carol have great memories of the times together with Steve and Roberta when they lived in Canadian Lakes. Steve will be missed by everyone that knew him. May he rest in peace.*  
*Chuck & Carol Edwards*

**Charles Edwards** - September 22, 2022 at 11:23 AM