



Richard David Dilley

January 11, 1946 - December 17, 2025

Richard David Dilley, age 79, of Oakland Township, MI, passed away peacefully on December 17, 2025, taking with him all the enormous love he felt from family near and far in the preceding weeks.

Richard was born in Mount Clemens, MI, in January of 1946; though his future wife, Barbara Schnell (then of Armada, MI), would be born in the same hospital just two short weeks later, it took another 15 years for them to meet and become friends in high school geometry class. Richard graduated from Utica High School in 1964 and proudly served in the U.S. Army 1965-1968, spending one year in Vietnam, and earned his accounting degree from Western Michigan University in 1972. During his service, he and Barbara fell in love through hundreds of handwritten letters wherein they carefully planned their shared future and built a solid foundation based on hopes, dreams, and shared values. Together, they raised three children, of whom he was endlessly proud.

Richard worked as a CPA and corporate controller, balancing the demands of restructuring businesses and extensive work travel along with family life. He rarely took vacation but learned to enjoy travel later in life, experiencing many adventures with Barbara, his brother Lowell, and his sister-in-law Ruth. One of his proudest accomplishments in retirement was taking the lead on personally contacting every classmate to encourage attendance at his 50th high school

reunion in 2014, leading to a successful weekend for all who came to celebrate.

Voted 'cutest dimples' as a high school athlete, he never lost that endearing smile, and though thoughtful and rational, could be counted on to bring a silly face and laughter to any situation. He could also be quiet and reserved, but would instantly cheer and light up at the sight of his dearly cherished grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He enjoyed golf, Motown music, crossword puzzles, jigsaw puzzles, Scrabble, Yahtzee, Trivial Pursuit, and beamed the best smile during the most heartwarming and human moments of any film.

He was preceded in death by his parents Karl and I. Lucille Dilley; his siblings Larry Dilley, Ila Potapa, Wanda Topous, Jerry Dilley, Lowell Dilley, and Roger Dilley; his father and mother-in-law, Raymond and Virginia Schnell; his brothers-in-law Frederick Topous, Gerald Potapa, Ronald Taylor, William Love, and Michael Masakowski; and his sisters-in-law Lee Dilley and Joann Love.

In addition to numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family, Richard is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 57 and a half years, Barbara; his children Scott (Michelle) Dilley, Dr. Debra (Adam) Burbach, and Denise Dilley; his grandchildren Bryan (Katelyn) Dalton, Alex (Katie) Dalton, and Abby Burbach; his great-grandsons Leo Dalton, Liam Dalton, Xander Dalton, Kayden Dalton, and Bennett Dalton; his sisters-in-law Charlotte Dilley and Ruth Dilley; and his sisters-in-law Rosemary Norman, Nancy Masakowski, and Susan Taylor, who lovingly cared for him and provided both him and Barbara companionship and comfort during his final years with dementia.

Should you wish to make a donation in his memory, it may be directed to the Alzheimer's Association (alz.org) or Wounded Warrior Project

(woundedwarriorproject.org).

Visitation Saturday, January 3rd, 9:00am-12:00pm with a 12:00pm funeral service at Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons 54880 Van Dyke at 25 Mile Rd. (SHELBY TOWNSHIP). Celebratory luncheon to follow at Cherry Creek Golf Club, 52000 Cherry Creek Dr, Shelby Township, from 1:00pm-4:00pm. Private Burial at Great Lakes National Cemetery to follow on a later date.

Share memories with the family at their "On Line Guest Book"@
WujekCalcaterra.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 3. 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons - Shelby Township
54880 VanDyke Ave
Shelby Township, MI 48316

Funeral Service

JAN 3. 12:00 PM (ET)

Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons - Shelby Township
54880 VanDyke Ave
Shelby Township, MI 48316

Memorial Luncheon

JAN 3. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Cherry Creek Golf Club
52000 Cherry Creek Blvd.
Shelby Twp., MI 48316

Tribute Wall

YF

“ Your Dewey Lake weekend friends purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Richard David Dilley.



Your Dewey Lake weekend friends - December 31, 2025 at 04:31 PM

YF

“ Your Dewey Lake weekend friends planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard David Dilley.

Your Dewey Lake weekend friends - December 31, 2025 at 04:31 PM

ST

“ I will miss my dear brother in law Richard. He was very special to me and our family. I will always remember our times watching the cowboy shows and laughing! Love Susie XO

Susie Taylor - December 31, 2025 at 02:07 PM

TS

“ Tom and Lila Stephens purchased the Beautiful i n Blue for the family of Richard David Dilley.



Tom and Lila Stephens - December 31, 2025 at 02:05 PM

TS

“ Tom and Lila Stephens planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard David Dilley.

Tom and Lila Stephens - December 31, 2025 at 02:05 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Richard David Dilley.



December 31, 2025 at 01:11 PM

YW

“ Yours in Christ, WCTC planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard David Dilley.

Yours in Christ, WCTC - December 31, 2025 at 01:11 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Richard David Dilley.



December 31, 2025 at 12:12 PM

GB

“ Dick was a special guy who always brought energy and enthusiasm to any event. I was privileged to share memories with him in the UHS class of '64.
My thoughts and condolences go to Barb and Family.

Gary Barnard

Gary Barnard - December 24, 2025 at 03:10 PM

WS

“ Richard was such a great boss to me and many others. He was a great problem solver and even with all the stress he had - he managed to keep a great sense of humor! I am glad to read he enjoyed retirement & family time! Hugs 🤗 to his entire family- hopefully during the holidays you can feel him with you! Sending prayers to you!

Wendy Spiot - December 22, 2025 at 07:35 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Richard David Dilley.



December 20, 2025 at 04:06 PM

JF

“ John and Terry Snellenberger and family. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard David Dilley.

John and Terry Snellenberger and family. - December 20, 2025 at 04:06 PM

NS

“ *Barb...my deepest sympathy. thank you so much for the call. I appreciate it so very much. Time and distance have separated us, but Dick's spirit has never left me. I have so many great memories of him and the things we did together as kids.*

Norbert Schluessler - December 20, 2025 at 01:19 PM