



## Walter E. Rothenberger

February 23, 1935 - May 18, 2024

ROTHENBERGER, Walter Erich. Age 89. May 18, 2024.

Beloved husband of Linda. Loving father of Marco (Carolyn) Liolli and Chris (Terri Proben) Liolli. Adored grandfather of Sophia Liolli, Grace Liolli and Maggie Liolli. Also survived by brother-in-law Alfred (Sandy) Brys, nieces, Erin and Aimee, his dear friends of 73 years, Alfons and Edith Jankowski; Cousin Elfrieda Haus as well as several cousins remaining in Germany. Preceded in death by his parents, Florentin and Barbara; brother Harold, and Linda's parents Alfred and Adelaide Brys.

Walter Erich Rothenberger, was born in 1935 in the town of Neulussheim, Germany. Soon after his birth he was baptized as a member of the Lutheran Church which would heavily influence and guide him throughout his entire life.

In 1953 at the age of 18, he emigrated alone to the US via the SS United States ocean liner to pursue a career in engineering while residing at his aunt's house in Detroit. He then served in the United States Army as a tool and die maker and was a proud veteran. Walter worked as a Metal Model designer at General Motors retiring after 30 years of loyal service.

He was a very active longtime member at Epiphany Lutheran Church in Detroit until its closure in 2009 when he would join and remain at St. John's

Lutheran Church in Fraser, Michigan.

Walter was a proud German-American and devoted many years of fellowship to the Metro Detroit German American Cultural Center where he served for numerous years as an executive officer of the Detroit Schwaben Unterstuezungs Verein Club.

Walter would spend 47 wonderful years with his beloved wife Linda. He would become a devoted father to Linda's sons, Marco and Chris. He enjoyed Sunday drives through the country, gardening, tinkering in the garage, and many walks with his dogs Santa, Jet, and Brando. In 1991 after a very thorough and well-planned reconnaissance trip , Walter and Linda purchased a home in Port Charlotte Florida and would spend the next 31 years enjoying their Michigan winters there. Walter also enjoyed returning to Germany to visit his mother and other family members and sharing his homes in Michigan and Florida.

With family, friends, neighbors and even strangers, Walter's kindness was evident on a daily basis. He was well known for always helping those in need, having a dog treat in his pocket in case he passed a dog on his walks, or leaving a bowl out to feed the neighborhood cats.

Walter will be truly missed by all whose lives he touched.

Memorial visitation Saturday June 1, 2024 from 3-8pm with memorial service 6:30pm at Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons, Inc. 36900 Schoenherr at Metro Parkway (16 Mile). In lieu of flowers donations appreciated to Disabled American Veterans. Inurnment Resurrection Cemetery. Please share memories with the family at their online guestbook @ WujekCalcaterra.com

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

JUN 1. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wujek - Calcaterra & Sons Inc - Sterling  
36900 SCHOENHERR RD  
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

## Memorial Service

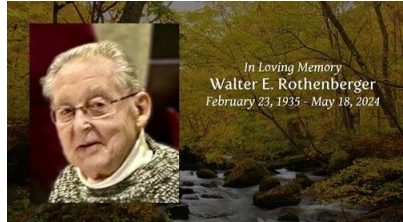
JUN 1. 6:30 PM (ET)

Wujek - Calcaterra & Sons Inc - Sterling  
36900 SCHOENHERR RD  
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

# Tribute Wall



“ *Wujek ~ Calcaterra & Sons, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Walter E. Rothenberger*



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**Wujek ~ Calcaterra & Sons, Inc.** - May 30, 2024 at 11:44 AM

JB

“ *What an amazing tribute to an amazing man. He was our neighbor and friend in Florida for 13 years. Over that time we came to know and love Walter and Linda, for the kind, funny, loving people they were. The world has lost a good man, may he rest in peace knowing how much he is loved and will be missed. Love, and friendship, Frank and JoAnn Burger*

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**JoAnn Burger** - June 09, 2024 at 10:21 AM

LG

“ *Linda and Ghazi Ghadaf purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Walter E. Rothenberger.*



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**Linda and Ghazi Ghadaf** - May 31, 2024 at 07:37 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Walter E. Rothenberger.*



May 31, 2024 at 06:00 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Walter E. Rothenberger.*



May 31, 2024 at 01:26 PM



“ *Walter Heck Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Walter E. Rothenberger.*



**Walter Heck Family** - May 29, 2024 at 09:10 PM



“ *Melissa, Kailyn, Beckett, Kinley purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Walter E. Rothenberger.*



**Melissa, Kailyn, Beckett, Kinley** - May 29, 2024 at 12:59 PM

MS

“ Michael S. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Walter E. Rothenberger.

Michael S. - May 26, 2024 at 12:40 AM

TP

“ Walter, Papa, Opa. A wise, kind, generous and gentle man is missed by all who know and love him. Papa welcomed me with open arms and the most heartwarming hugs! He has left a beautiful legacy and we are all better for having him in our lives. Rest easy, I'm sure there are lots of animals for you to feed in heaven❤️



Terri Proben - May 20, 2024 at 05:28 PM

LM

My buddy Walter was the greatest friend a person could have..despite him being 24 years my senior we instantly clicked..his wisdom and thoughtfulness made me a better person ..I will greatly miss him and our talks..god bless you Walter for everything you did for me..sadly lee marinaro

Lee marinaro - June 01, 2024 at 05:30 PM