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Edward John Frank "Ed" Herrelko II



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Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Spring Lake Chapel
213 East Savidge
Spring Lake, Michigan

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Edward Herrelko Obituary

Edward "Ed" John Frank Herrelko II passed away peacefully on Sunday, Jan. 14, 2024. Ed was born on Sept. 3, 1943, in San Diego, California to Edward John Frank Herrelko and Wynnie (Thomas) Herrelko.

Ed moved around the United States and developed a life of travel, adventure and exploring new spaces because his father was in the service. After years of moving, Ed's family settled in Pennsylvania where he grew up and fished the lakes, streams and rivers near his home. He developed a love for fishing and became an excellent caster and fly-fisher with a passion for the outdoors, blue skies and natural waters – streams, rivers and lakes. He loved competition and made-up contests: who could catch the most fish, who could catch the biggest fish, who could catch the grand slam!

Ed served in the United States Air Force from 1961-1965. When he returned to the States, he attended the University of Maryland for undergraduate studies.

Ed was a true leader in business and in life. He was proud of his family and taught them that no matter your commitment, it is important to "Suit up and show up! Be on time! You only have one opportunity to make a first impression!" These messages were learned well by his son and step-children.

Ed was a leader and mentor to all he encountered. His leadership skills were exemplary as he led major corporations with thousands of employees, customers and suppliers. He treated each person the same, was tough and demanding, but always honest, direct, and respectful. He taught all business associates to think out of the box and be creative and to bring forward solutions, not problems.

Ed joined Raytheon Corporation in 1972 and rose to Executive Vice President of their Caloric Division responsible for marketing, sales, logistics, product, and R&D. He was recruited from Raytheon and joined Whirlpool Corporation in 1989, where he was able to demonstrate his outstanding skills in strategy development that led to the creation of the Whirlpool North American Appliance Group. In short order, Ed earned the title of Vice President of Group Sales & Distribution for Whirlpool North American Appliance Group and then he was relocated to Europe to lead Whirlpool Corporation's European team as Senior Vice President of Sales, Marketing and Logistics in Comerio, Italy.

Ed knew his biggest legacy was not his accomplishments in the corporate world, but the boys-to-men he helped raise in the program of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). He was grateful for the many men he sponsored and most proud of his 50 years of sobriety and the fine individuals he mentored and friendships he built in the Spring Lake and Grand Haven area as many members exclaimed after they met Ed, "I want to be like Ed!" It was his pleasure and honor to encourage, mentor, listen to and offer wisdom and advice. He was always there for everyone; he never passed judgment. In the last years he especially enjoyed deep conversation, laughter and his weekly cribbage competition with his dear friend, Francis Nawrocki.

Ed is survived by his wife, Jody (Bussard) Herrelko; son, Edward III (Amy) Herrelko; step-son, John (Amber) Sielski; step-daughter, Jane (Nick Bennett) Sielski; granddaughter, Alexandria Herrelko; step-grandson, Patrick Sielski, and one brother, Tom (Linda)

Herrelko. He is also survived by several cousins, nieces and nephews.

The family will always remember Ed standing on the front of a boat, fishing as the sun goes down on the river with his keen eye on the rippling current. His guide calls out that it is time to call it a day – and, Ed turns around with a sly grin, a twinkle in his eye and says softly, "Just one more cast!"

The family wishes to thank Dawn and her excellent team at Dogwood Shores Assisted Living Facility for their very special care and compassion toward Ed in his final months. They also recognize Hospice of North Ottawa Community for their exceptional medical attention and advice.

The family is being served by The Spring Lake Chapel of Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services, Spring Lake, Michigan. Share memories with the family at their online guest book at www.sytsemafh.com.

Per Ed's request no service will take place. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating in Ed's memory to the Tri-Cities Alano Club of Grand Haven, 419 Fulton St., Grand Haven, MI 49417: (www.tri-citiesalanoclub.org) or, The Little Red House Adult Day Services & Care, 311 East Exchange St., Spring Lake, MI 49456: (www.thelittleredhouse.org).



To plant trees in memory, please visit the [Sympathy Store](#).

Published by Grand Haven Tribune on Jan. 15, 2024.

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for Edward Herrelko**

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3 Entries



John G. Bryson April 21, 2024

We just became aware of Ed;s passing. Please accept our very sincere sympathy. We send our love. Claire & John (Greg) Bryson 616 294 3474



Michael Piraino January 18, 2024

Ed was the Best! I respected and admired him, and counted him as a friend. Prayers for him and Jody. Sincerely Michael Piraino



Marla Veit January 17, 2024

Oh my goodness! So sorry for your loss. Hugs and love,
Marla

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[Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Spring Lake Chapel](#)

213 East Savidge, Spring Lake, MI 49456

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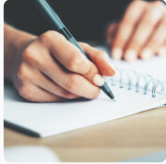
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