



Fredric Joseph Schulte

October 19, 1939 - February 18, 2022

A Life Well Lived...

Born on the Eastside in Grosse Pointe the always fun, usually happy and seemingly larger than

life “Husband, Dad, Grandpa and just plain Uncle” Fred has left this world now for a better place. As a youngster he grew up in the wholesome radio era, listening to The Lone Ranger,

and living in an Ozzie and Harriet neighborhood, playing sports, games and enjoying a carefree

yet almost too quaint childhood. The second of three boys, followed later by two younger sisters, all enrolled in private, Catholic School, Fred enjoyed time away from the nuns in the

post war boom as he rock ‘n rolled into the fabulous fifties. His record collection and taste in

music was vast, as was his baseball card collection (so we’ve been told) however those iconic

Topps sports cards were somehow accidentally discarded over time. Benny Goodman and Sing,

Sing Swing music transitioned to his AM car radio during his teenage years working as a bagger

at the local A & P, and smoking Lucky Strikes.

Cruisin’ through the Village and on the Hill this Austin High School Class of 1957 jock excelled

on the basketball court, until an underclassman named Dave Debusschere knocked him off of

the starting rotation. (Debusschere would go on to be a college stand out, play in the MLB and

later NBA Hall of Famer) The lanky 6’2” Fred still made friends easily and after graduating he

then motored his way to Notre Dame for a year. Too much fun? Well maybe. A more

grounded

University of Detroit seemed to be a better fit for Fred as he transferred back home achieving a

BA in 1962 in Philosophy.... What to do with that???

Like his father before him, this Titan was good in finance, and Detroit Bank & Trust Co. was

hiring so he signed up. Somewhere around this time Fred was attending a friend's wedding

when a pretty girl, with another beau, caught his eye on the dancefloor. Here the actual facts of

the events are unclear but, according to Betty, it was "love" at first sight and Betty became Fred's steady. A storybook whirlwind romance soon followed with a November 9th

wedding in

1963. Then Registered Nurse Bettyanne Gruber and Banker to be Fred Schulte spent the next

58 years together, just as it was meant to be. Uncle Sam got him not too long later as he was

drafted into the Army Reserves, rising to the rank of Sergeant. D.B.& T. was good to them as

they began to raise a family in a little ranch house in Roseville.

Along the way, there was always time for fun, rides in the car to faraway places like Gaylord,

and weekend adventures in the country. How about catching a double-feature at the Gratiot

Drive-In? And bowling leagues, golf leagues, softball, basketball and later coaching, scouting,

camping and volunteering for every imaginable school function was in the cards. Speaking of

cards, late night euchre, pinochle and bridge get-togethers with close friends and family were

regularly in the cards! How about real-life "now vintage" Twister games with friends on the floor

in the family room on Heritage Road in Sterling Heights? Complete with Bob Dylan, The Chad

Mitchell Trio, Peter Paul & Mary and Herb Alpert & the Tijuana Brass on the stereo, grasshoppers in the blender and cold shrimp cocktail passed around that quad-level

corner lot

house, but only among the adult guests. How exotic the '60s and '70s were living right across

the street from Margaret Black Elementary School!

Each morning would start with Dad getting ready for work, putting on a suit and tie while Mom

made lunch and off the kids went to school but not before the kiss goodbye and the famous

drive-by wave that Fred would do every single day by that red front door. Even when the bank

later became Comerica and the branch was in the opposite direction, Fred still drove the longer

way around the front of the house to wave to us all at the front door.

A word about work, houses and cars..... Because Fred was such an honest and trustworthy

person, he seemed to have a special skill that immediately gained the confidence of whomever

he was with. This was true with lots of his friends, most of his relatives and certainly all of his

in-laws. Everybody trusted Fred. After all, he was tall, married to Betty and he was a banker.

Later we discovered that there was much more to it, that he was a man of his word and an excellent judge of character. In fact after 32 years with the bank he was able to retire not because he had to but because his own skills of loan approval were taken away by off-site bean-counters and committees. The old-time ability to give a good guy a break, or a loan was

no longer the way of the big-business banks. Time for this philosophy major to buy a bookstore!

Speaking of buying, have you ever met a person who has purchased a house sight unseen, just

because he knows the person who owns it, and he was a good person? Fred did that. And that

place was the beloved Naubinway cottage, UP North.

And he repeated this sort of transaction many times with family, friends and customers over the

years. Fred was thrifty. He knew a good deal though, and acted conservatively before he pounced. Grandpa Gruber's Chevy Bel Aire, the '70 Dodge Dart, Harry Slater's '61

Cadillac, the

jeweler's Mercury Capri- all second-hand cars that Fred bought because he knew the owners

were good people who took care of their things. And then there were those "executive car deals," ushered in by friends. A few come to mind such as an AMC Matador wagon, a

Dodge Spirit & the Chrysler Sebring, which was the last car Fred drove. Sometimes he did not even know the color, features or even the make and model of the car until he'd bring it home! Always though, a reasonable price and undoubtedly some interesting back story to tell. As time marched on and Mike, Matt and Kathy came along, grew-up and eventually moved out to start families of their own, Fred and Betty settled down. NOT! They became empty nesters and were constantly on the go throughout the 80s, 90s and 2000s when grandchildren began arriving. Dozens of cruise ship vacations, many weeks of relaxing time in the U.P., lots of winter months in Florida and the constant planning that was always underway for the next trip or visit with friends and family to some new place yet to be explored. Now known as the first people ever to move from Sterling Heights back south to Warren, Fred enjoyed condo living in his later years watching sports, still playing games and always available for advice, a talk on the phone with the grandkids or working on some collection or another that needed organizing. Stamps, coins, classic novels, whatever! Even later on as his mobility was challenged he still wanted to participate, and always wanted to win. Though sometimes frustrated by his physical limitations, his mental capacity did not diminish. He was known via inner circles for coordinating an overly complicated NCAA March Madness betting pool, a tradition for some 15+ years. He last swung a golf club in the summer of '21, was fiercely competitive in words with friends online, and was difficult to beat in scrabble and rummy cube, right up until the end. A regular dose of Labatt's Blue helped him along. So many great stories. So many wonderful memories. And an awful lot of living life in

between. He

certainly had his moments, and who here hasn't been punned by Fred? Now commonly referred

to as the "Schulte Humor," plays on words, a bit of sarcasm and quick witted replies are unique

traits that Fred possessed. Thank God some of these traits, along with a healthy dose of integrity, trust and honesty have been spread out among the rest of us. RIP DAD.

Beloved husband of Betty for 58 years. Loving father of Michael (Jacquelyn), Matthew (Ellen),

and Kathryn (Jason) Dale. Cherished grandfather of Allison, David, Eric, Faythe, Chase, and

Alexander Dale. Dearest brother of John, Paul, Linda Flaherty, and the late Ann (John) Puppi.

Treasured uncle of Terry (Jeff) Zelenak, Tim (Barbara) McCaffrey, Nancy (Mark) Golazewski,

(Susan) and the late James McCaffrey, Barbara (Tom) Brege, Dan (Mindy) McCaffrey, Judy

(John) Farrell, Colleen (Jerome) Kunert, Ken (Becky) McCaffrey, Joe (Beth) McCaffrey, MaryAnne McCaffrey, Kevin (Lisa) McCaffrey, Sheila (Dan) McLean, Sharon (Thomas) Alred,

Anne (Brian) Minbirole, John (Jenny) Gruber, Greg (Jackie) Gruber, Andrew Flaherty, Christian

(Ashley) Flaherty, Joseph (Jemilah) Flaherty and Nicholas Puppi, and dozens and dozens of

great and great-great nieces and nephews. Preceded in death by his parents, Alfred and Margaret.

**In lieu of flowers, donations to the Capuchin Mission Association or the Capuchin Soup Kitchen would be greatly appreciated, www.cskdetroit.org **

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **24.** 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Mandziuk and Son Funeral Directors, Inc. - Sterling Heights
3801 18 Mile Rd
Sterling Heights, MI 48314

Scripture Service

FEB **24.** 5:00 PM (ET)

Mandziuk and Son Funeral Directors, Inc. - Sterling Heights
3801 18 Mile Rd
Sterling Heights, MI 48314

Instate

FEB **25.** 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM (ET)

St. Rene Goupil Catholic Church
35955 Ryan Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48310

Mass of the Resurrection

FEB **25.** 9:30 AM (ET)

St. Rene Goupil Catholic Church
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Sterling Heights, MI 48310

Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful Dreams* was purchased for the family of Fredric Joseph Schulte.



February 24 at 01:46 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Fredric Joseph Schulte.



February 24 at 08:56 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Fredric Joseph Schulte.



February 23 at 12:14 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Fredric Joseph Schulte.



February 22 at 04:33 PM



“ *Heart's Companion Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Fredric Joseph Schulte.



February 22 at 02:00 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Fredric Joseph Schulte.*



February 22 at 01:17 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Fredric Joseph Schulte.*



February 22 at 10:45 AM

JP

“ *John & Nick Puppi purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Fredric Joseph Schulte.*



John & Nick Puppi - February 21 at 11:16 AM

MR

“ *I will forever remember Fred, his gentle spirit, his quick wit and great humor and his tolerance for a kid that always invaded his home. He will be greatly missed, may he Rest In Peace. Prayers for all of you during this hard time of transition- I will carry you in my thoughts and prayers. I will be there in spirit- sending hugs from afar. “Frances Mary”*

Mary Frances Ross - February 21 at 10:24 AM

BC

“ *On behalf of the Capuchin brothers I offer my deepest sympathies on the passing of Frederic. It is truly humbling to receive memorial donations in honor of his life. Please be assured of the brother's prayers for the entire Schulte family during this great time of grief. May perpetual light shine upon Frederic.*

Br Nick Blattner Ofm Capuchin - February 21 at 10:06 AM

GC

“ Beneath grief's crushing load, may Fred's loving spirit comfort you, knowing his woes are over. I am thankful our paths crossed as neighbors over the years. His humor and smile touched my heart. Being a Christian, we have hope--the way to Heaven lies through the valley of the shadow of death. Fred is the victor! Fred is home with our Lord and Savior. My prayers and thoughts are with Betty and her Family!

Warm Hugs, Gail C. and Dally

Gail Caldarea - February 21 at 08:20 AM

FH

“ Sorry for the families loss of a beloved husband, father and grandfather; our thoughts and prayers are with you in this time of sorrow.

Fran Heatley - February 20 at 02:42 PM

VD

“ Veronica Dale lit a candle in memory of Fredric Joseph Schulte



Veronica Dale - February 20 at 02:04 PM

VD

“ Fred was part of a very blessed group: the grandparents of the first infant to be adopted into the Jason Dale family. We four—Tom, me, Betty and Fred –were among the first to hold little Alex, to welcome and love him, and to be there for the mileposts in his life. Fred was the tall quiet presence at the baptism, the confirmation, and the many band concerts, family barbeques, and holiday celebrations we shared. We will miss him. I trust in the Lord that the three of us grandparents who remain will soon be joining Fred in God's arms. There all of us will celebrate again the beautiful people who live together in Him.
Vernie Dale. Kathy's mother-in-law

Veronica Dale - February 20 at 02:00 PM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Fredric Joseph Schulte.



February 20 at 12:44 PM

JD

“ Fred lived every day as the model of a person who has earned the utmost respect. 2 things illustrated this to me right away. One was when I asked for his and Betty's blessing for me asking Kathy to marry me. I thought I'd play the nice guy card and tell Fred I would pay for the wedding and he would not have to. He called my punk-ass 25-year-old bluff telling me "Oh, I know" without missing a beat! I love that about him, but even more impressive was our wedding day. Kathy tells me that, to calm her nerves before walking down the aisle, Fred told her that if she was scared or had any doubts he would walk her right out of that church. Forget what people expected or convention dictated - all that mattered was his daughter's best interest. THAT is how a parent cares for their child. Fred will always be THE standard for how to love and care for a family.

Jason Dale - February 19 at 10:17 PM

NG

“ So blessed to have had Fred in my life. His dry understated humor was awesome. Always so clever! Supportive, encouraging, interested, and caring - a truly great man. You will be missed. Rest in peace Uncle.
Nancy Golaszewski

Nancy Golaszewski - February 19 at 10:09 PM

KD

“ As the only girl and the youngest I have some personal memories that no one else does. I remember him gently brushing out the tangles in my hair when I was little. And of course, walking me down the aisle and dancing with me at my wedding. Oh, how we agonized over which song to pick!
I will miss him every day and be thankful for every moment and everything he gave me.
I know I will hear it many times (and say myself) that he is at peace now and in a better place. He is with God now, but I also know he'll be forever in my heart.

Kathy Dale - February 19 at 09:19 PM

OA

“ We are saddened to learn of the passing of our neighbor Mr. Fredric Joseph Schulte. We offer our condolences to family and friends along with love and light. We knew Fred as a good human. May fond memories serve to lighten our paths going forward. Owen/Pauline
Sincerely

Owen/pauline allen - February 19 at 06:37 PM

MS

“ This is part of a journal I kept. I have to mention one final coach. His name is Fred Schulte, my dad. When I was much younger and there was no one to coach my team, he stepped up and coached. When there was no one to umpire the games, he bought a chest protector and clicker and got abused by fans and coaches alike. I learned baseball, basketball, football, and golf from him. I remember I wanted to play quarterback, he agreed to help create and coach the team. I remember some of his “crazy” ideas.... Before a big game, he would have us listen to music to relax us. This was in the 1970’s and he would get out the 8 track player and turn on ABBA and Neil Diamond? Really?? Who back then would have thought ABBA and Neil Diamond would stand the test of time? Who would have thought that this same idea would be used many years later in my schools? He gave us “Happy Grams” (though it may have been moms idea). I don’t think that Derek, Debbie, and Syndee called them happy grams, but they sure encouraged us to send notes of gratitude. I think my dad would say one of my worst coaching requests was getting him to coach a high school basketball rec team. For that team, I asked him to sign up as the coach because we needed an adult’s signature on the sign-up form. After he agreed, I told him he would have to show up at every game. Once again, he agreed(after telling me that that wasn’t what he originally signed up to do.) Unfortunately, none of us on the team wanted a coach, and we didn’t listen very well to him. But he came out to every game, he kept score, he managed the substitutions, and when we listened to him, we did better. Thank you, dad. Love Mike

Mike Schulte - February 19 at 04:59 PM

MC

“ Margaret Casey lit a candle in memory of Fredric Joseph Schulte



Margaret Casey - February 18 at 05:02 PM