



Dennis Francis Zaluski

January 11, 1938 - December 24, 2023

Dennis Francis Zaluski of Sterling Heights, Michigan

Beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend passed away on Sunday, December 24, 2023 at the Villa at City Center Healthcare in Warren, Michigan. He was 85 years old. Dennis Francis Zaluski was born on January 11, 1938 in Hamtramck, Michigan to Francis Anthony and Helen (Kublin) Zaluski.

Dennis attended St. John the Evangelist Catholic Elementary School in Detroit and served on the school safety patrol. As a Boy Scout, he earned Tenderfoot and Second Class ranks. Dennis was a proud graduate of the Sweetest Heart of Mary Catholic High School in Detroit in 1955. In 1957, he met Shirley Caza. They began dating and fell in love. They were married at St. Bartholomew Catholic Church on Thanksgiving Day, November 23, 1961 and have been honeymooners ever since. Dennis volunteered for

military service when President Kennedy requested additional critical skills trades for our country's national defense. Weeks after he was married, he served as a Federal Reservist, completing basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, Bravo Company. He began a long-loved career as a tool and die maker with Fisher Body, a division of General Motors, retiring 41 years later. Dennis was quite mechanically skilled and enjoyed working with tools. His family and friends knew he could fix almost anything. If it couldn't be immediately repaired, he would redesign it with improved materials so it would keep working indefinitely. In 1977, he was a founding supporter of St. Jane Frances de Chantal Catholic Church in Sterling Heights and a faithful rosary group member. As a child growing up during World War II, he developed a deep sense of patriotism and a keen interest in this period's history. For decades, Dennis volunteered at the Yankee Air Museum in Belleville. Over the years, Dennis and Shirley traveled extensively, enjoying the incredible diversity and unique traditions the world has to offer. He will forever be remembered for his unconditional devotion for his beloved wife and cherished family.

Surviving are his wife of 62 years, Shirley Anne Zaluski; his children: Shirley

(Craig)

Sloan of Hartland, Dennis Anthony Zaluski of Sterling Heights, and Denise Zaluski of

Hamtramck; his grandchildren: Camille Sloan, Cameron (Beth Ann) Sloan, Joseph

Zaluski, Calvin Seruga, and Estelle Seruga; his sister and maid of honor, Beverly

(Robert "Bob") Jenceleski; his Godchildren: Jerome P. Lasinski, Kenneth Dupack, David

Sadowski, and Barbara Hagan. Also surviving are extended family and many dear

friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Francis and Helen Zaluski; and his best man,

Ronald Sadowski.

His paternal grandparents were Boleslaw and Franciszka (Zakrzewska) Zaluski. His

maternal grandparents were Karol (known as Charles Michalski) and Caroline (Sobel)

Kublin. All of his grandparents were born in Poland and immigrated to the United States.

Dennis believed in sharing our nation's history with future generations. Please consider a memorial contribution to the Yankee Air Museum, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, 47884 D. Street, Belleville, MI 48111. <https://yankeeairmuseum.org/support/>

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

JAN 11. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Mandziuk & Son Funeral Directors, Inc. - Sterling Heights
3801 18 Mile Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48314
(586) 997-3838

Memorial Service

JAN 11. 11:00 AM (ET)

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3801 18 Mile Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48314
(586) 997-3838

Tribute Wall

DS

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



David Sadowski - January 10, 2024 at 03:51 PM

DS

“ Uncle Dennis, my Godfather, was a constant presence in my life growing up. He was my Dad's best friend. My Dad made sure I listened to the advice Dennis gave me. Maybe because I wouldn't listen to my Dad. But also because Dennis had a calm, compassionate wisdom all his own. Certainly my Dad listened to him, especially on the topic of boats. Every year on my birthday, Dennis and Shirley would come to our house to celebrate, the tradition the same— burgers from Travis, Dennis sharing memories from when he was my age, and playing Trivial Pursuit (the original 1981 version, of course). Only in later years did the game switch to Scrabble, and even then, I didn't stand a chance. In the Summer, we got together at Gull Island. And every time, Dennis there early, pirate flag raised, would march out into the water to greet our arriving boat and show my Dad how to properly anchor it. Around July 4, Dennis would take us out on the lake to watch the fireworks, a truly stunning experience, the shockwaves pulsing on the water. As shocking, Dennis told me all about his Plymouth Fury and how many transmissions he blew through. So mechanically minded, helping me fix a power window was simple work. My printed instructions from the internet made great drop cloths for debris. But beyond all the adventures, the games, the stories (usually about my Dad) and jokes (same), Dennis always reminded me that I was loved. For a growing young man, that's the most important thing I could hear.

David Sadowski - January 10, 2024 at 03:26 PM

CS

“*Pepe always looked for ways to love, support, and care for every member of his dear family. I feel eternally grateful to have him as my incredible grandfather.*

I have numerous splendid moments that I cherish in my heart spent with Pepe throughout my childhood. I fondly reminisce about spending gorgeous summer days boating on Lake St. Claire. To this day, eating the famous "Sea Ray" potatoes brings me back to these blissful days on Metro Beach and Gull Island. I also remember spending countless hours happily playing Pinochle, Euchre, and various other board games with my sweet Meme and Pepe. I also treasure memories from family gatherings celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, and holidays spent together.

Even though we all greatly miss him, I feel blessed that he is now able to shine down on all of us from above in heaven.

We all love you Pepe with all our hearts!



Camille Sloan - December 30, 2023 at 08:59 PM

B(

“ Our Mother brought us up to LOVE each other and to be there when most needed. He was that kind of Brother to me. I have a heck of a lot of memories to share but, this is not the time or place to share them all. The best memory to share is HE TAUGHT HIS SISTER TO DRIVE A CAR. His instructions were clear and to the point. While driving on East State Fair there came a curve in the road. I had stopped for a red light and my Brother said... You do know what to do next when the light changes? You do know how to handle that curve? I said - Yes! just follow the curve.... Well, there came out a laughing smirky smile as I drove straight forward and never curve the car.... Lucky there was no accident. He never yelled at me... never told me how stupid I was... Just made me feel even more confident in my driving ability.... Love YOU very much Den - I MISS YOU DEEPLY.....



BEVERLY ANNE JENCELESKI (ZALUSKI) - December 30, 2023 at 08:24 AM