



Raymond Kaczmarski

January 5, 1939 - March 18, 2023

Raymond Kaczmarski passed away on March 18 at age 84. He was born at home in Detroit to two wonderful parents, Bruno and Helen. He was married to his loving wife, Evelyn (Czarnota) for 30 years prior to her death in 1995.

Ray is survived by his sons, Douglas and James (Karla), his grandsons Jonathon (Anna), Daniel, and Michael; Alice Czarnota (widow of brother-in-law, John); niece Jan Czarnota Berlin (Carl); nephews Kris Czarnota and Father Paul Czarnota; great nephew Matt Berlin (Hailey); great niece Katie Berlin Standiford (Julian); great-great nephew Clark Berlin Standiford, other relatives and friends; and his companion Norma Prall.

After earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration at the University of Detroit, Ray began a 38-year career with the Detroit Public Schools, serving as a Business Education Supervisor for 30 years. Ray also served as President of the Michigan Business Education Association and was the author of textbooks in business math and finance.

Ray was a devoted father and enjoyed the company and humor of his grandsons and would have liked to see what their lives as adults might have been. He was thankful that his in-law family continued to involve him in family activities. He enjoyed the daily visits with his long-time companion, Norma, and sharing a common interest in food, books, movies, and travel.

Always willing to lend a hand, Ray served St. Anne parish as a lector and volunteered at the Annual Sausage Fest; he was a soccer coach for his sons; and he judged economics contests for the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA).

Ray was an avid golfer and was excited about his first hole in one. When asked about his second hole in one, replied “It was no big deal.” He had other diverse interests: writing short stories, reading fiction, singing in the church choir, watching ice hockey, researching family history, watching old movies, reading business publications, trying new recipes, and travelling in the U.S. and Europe. Never bored, he simply ran out of time to do all he wanted to do.

In lieu of flowers, Ray asked that memorial contributions be made in his name to a religious or civic organization whose efforts aid the poor in the Detroit area.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **22.** 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Scripture Service

MAR **22.** 7:00 PM (ET)

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

Instate

MAR **23.** 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Anne Catholic Church
32000 Mound Rd
Warren, MI 48092

Mass of the Christian Burial

MAR **23.** 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Anne Catholic Church
32000 Mound Rd
Warren, MI 48092

Tribute Wall



“ *Raymond Kaczmarski*

October 23, 2023 at 04:00 AM



“ *Lois Wheeler lit a candle in memory of Raymond Kaczmarski*



Lois Wheeler - March 27, 2023 at 03:28 PM



“ *Raymond Kaczmarkski was an excellent husband, father, teacher, educator, supervisor of business education for DPS; he was a writer of technical books, and he was an awesome friend. His care of the students, his leading of those under him, his direction to his secretaries, and I was one for 20 years, were all done with forethought, planning, caring and done correctly. He will be missed by so many who could count on his interest in their well-being as time passed. His light will shine in halls of education, in hearts of friends, through his sons and their offspring as well as the many cousins. He will be missed.*

Lois Wheeler

Lois Wheeler - March 27, 2023 at 03:27 PM

MM

“ I am saddened to hear of Ray's passing. I fondly remember the camaraderie we shared at Detroit Mercy's Calihan Hall watching Titan Basketball. Ray was a loyal university supporter and a Man of Great Faith.

May Raymond Kaczmarek be Resting-in-Peace.

*Mark Mikula.
Rochester Hills*

Mark Mikula - March 26, 2023 at 06:35 AM

SG

“ I have a photo a young man smiling on the steps of Holy Trinity church attending the wedding of my parents in 1951. It was my cousin, Ray. He was 13. Years later I remember his wedding to Evelyn, running through the hall, causing a ruckus. Being informed by him that I was a hellion, which I had to look up.

Ray was always interested in what plans I had, my naïve politics, playing ping-pong on the massive table in his basement. He had a cache of recipes he shared with me. I have never mastered the chrusciki recipe he and Evelyn tried to teach me.

He was so extremely proud of the books he wrote, the computer he constructed, talking about Jim and Douglas. I enjoyed the Sunday trips to Alvina Road. Ciocia Helen sending him off to Kowalski's for sausage. I will miss those long telephone conversations, about life, about Poland. His search for his family history. His love of family. He was my good friend ...

Stan Galinski

Stan Galinski - March 22, 2023 at 08:40 AM

PM

“ I met Ray when I was a teenager several decades ago. He was the neighbor of my friend, and was always nice to a pair of most-likely annoying kids. I only interacted with him a few dozen times, the last of which was just a few years ago, but he was friendly every time. He always struck me as a great guy, the kind anyone would love to have as a neighbor and friend, and I know he'll be missed by all of those close to him.

Pran Mukherjee - March 21, 2023 at 09:15 PM

RC

As a teacher, in DPS, I concur, that Ray was someone who cared about so many, he even attended my husband's funeral. I missed seeing and talking with him at our Annual Retired Teacher's Business luncheons. To his family and friends he was truly an example of a life well lived.

Rosemary Clinkscale - March 22, 2023 at 04:30 AM

JL

“ Ray was someone who cared about many. He was a friend who kept in touch after retirement and always had a kind word of encouragement. I will miss talking with him about our golf games and will fondly remember how he so enjoyed telling me about his trip to St. Andrews. He will be missed and I will keep his family in my prayers.

Joanne LaBrecque

Joanne LaBrecque - March 21, 2023 at 05:45 PM

LM

“ I have been Doug's friend for nearly 30 years and during those years had the great pleasure of meeting up with Doug's Dad during these University of Detroit fund raising events for the school along with other honorable charities. I could tell instantly what a kind and caring person Doug Dad was and fine character. Such people seem to be rare these days.

When Doug's Dad was taken ill-, I could tell from Doug's voice how much he loved his Dad and how much he will miss him. Too many tears... But we must be thankful that we had someone in our lives that shaped us to the person we are... Others are not as fortunate to have this opportunity. We are blessed to have someone like Doug's Dad in our lives

Louis meyers - March 20, 2023 at 09:01 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Raymond Kaczmariski.



March 20, 2023 at 08:44 PM

DC

“ Ray was my colleague and mentor while we worked together as Business Education curriculum supervisors for Detroit Public Schools. He welcomed me when I joined the department and gave me much needed advice and support. Even before I joined him as a curriculum supervisor, I respected him as a leader in our curriculum, statewide and nationally. I truly second the remarks about Ray that have been written in the tribute by Maurice Henderson. Ray meant so much to all of us. He and I kept in touch after we both retired. Sometimes he would call just to see how my family was doing. He also told me about his family, especially his grandchildren. DPS Business Education teachers always knew they could call Ray for guidance. We will miss him.
Praying for comfort for the family,
Delores S. Cotton

Delores S. Cotton - March 20, 2023 at 04:59 PM

BA

“ Business Professionals of America purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Raymond Kaczmariski.



Business Professionals of America - March 20, 2023 at 04:56 PM

DO

“ Detroit Retired Business Educators Org. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Raymond Kaczmariski.



Detroit Retired Business Educators Org. - March 20, 2023 at 04:36 PM

MH

“ The entire Michigan Business Professionals of America (BPA) organization is deeply saddened to hear about Ray's passing. Ray was a mentor to so many business educators throughout the entire State of Michigan. Everyone I have shared the news with immediately respond with statements such as "Ray was a great friend." or "Ray was a mentor of mine." or "Ray was the best of the best." or "Ray is the one who hired me for my job.”

Ray touched the lives of so many students and teachers throughout Detroit and throughout the state. He volunteered as a competitive event for BPA for more than 20 years after he retired from DPS. He would go above and beyond the call of duty to make sure students had quality, detailed, sufficient feedback in order to improve their skills.

I am proud to call Ray a friend and mentor of more than 30 years. I will miss him greatly. He always provided great feedback, encouragement and support. I will miss being able to call him for advice.

We will continue to keep the entire family in our thoughts and prayers.

Maurice S. Henderson, State Director, Business Professionals of America.

Maurice S. Henderson - March 20, 2023 at 04:21 PM

RK

“ I worked next door to Ray in the Detroit Public Schools Center for most of 25 years—during the golden years when we were encouraged to do things for children. One of my great joys was helping with his annual Distributive Education luncheon, put on by students for students with adjudicated rolls for a sit-down luncheon for 750 student workers and their sponsors in Cobo Hall. Spectacular. That was Ray, spectacular—a scholar, servant leader utterly devoted to the children of Detroit. DPS Best.

Ronald Kar - March 20, 2023 at 02:15 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Raymond Kaczmariski.



March 20, 2023 at 12:38 PM

PW

“ Ray, my cousin, was a true family man. Through him and his parents, we had a large family to call our own. My sincere condolences to Doug, Jim and their families.
Patricia Galinski Wardrop

Patricia Gainski Wardrop - March 19, 2023 at 08:22 PM

SM

“ Ray was a wonderful next door neighbor for nearly 32 years. He put up with all kinds of shenanigans from our four kids and generously offered advice to a each of them. We had long chats on our porch and always the first to give compliments on the flowers that were planted in the spring. I swear he planted tomatoes on the side of his garage just so our granddaughters could pick them! Every year he was overflowing with tomatoes and I'd say Ray you have to plant fewer next year, we'd go back and forth and of course he'd plant the same amount. Love you Ray, thanks for being a wonderful neighbor!

Sharon Mott - March 19, 2023 at 07:20 PM

LM

I have been Doug's friend for nearly 30 years and during those years had the great pleasure of meeting up with Doug's Dad during these University of Detroit fund raising events for the school along with other honorable charities. I could tell instantly what a kind and caring person Doug Dad was and fine character. Such people seem to be rare these days.

When Doug's Dad was taken ill-, I could tell from Doug's voice how much he loved his Dad and how much he will miss him. Too many tears... But we must be thankful that we had someone in our lives that shaped us to the person we are... Others are not as fortunate to have this opportunity. We are blessed to have someone like Doug's Dad in our lives

Louis meyers - March 20, 2023 at 01:51 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Raymond Kaczmariski.



March 19, 2023 at 06:11 PM