



## Norman Merrill Francis

September 7, 1934 - May 30, 2021

Norman "Norm" Merrill Francis, a man who dedicated his life to educating children, died peacefully on Sunday, May 30, 2021. Norm was born September 7, 1934, in New York, the son of Carlton and Daisy Francis. After proudly earning a Master's Degree in Special Education, Norm began his career, he worked for the Eaton Intermediate School District, the State of Michigan, and after retirement as a realtor and helping people with their taxes. Norm was a man who enjoyed staying busy. Over his career Norm earned numerous awards for his dedication to his profession. After retiring he began volunteering on the Barry County Board of Mental health. Outside of work Norm was a very loving, joyful, understanding, prankster, father, grandfather, significant other, and friend. He was always willing to help people in need. Norm had a passion for his convertibles, he loved going for rides around town. He also enjoyed playing cards, camping, enjoying his home on Algonquin Lake, and traveling with his significant other Beverley throughout the United States. The couple wintered in the Sarasota area in Florida, where they created a large network of friends. Above all Norm will be remembered for his love for his family and his profession.

Norm is survived by his significant other, Beverley Black; children, Chris (Danielle) Francis, Mark (Renee) Francis, Raymond Francis, Diane (Paul) Mapes, Travis (Jennifer) Black; 10 grandchildren; brother, Gilbert Francis. He was predeceased by his wife, Janet Francis; brother, Duane Francis; and his

parents.

Friends are encouraged to support Norm's family. Funeral services are Friday, June 11, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at the Pray Funeral Home Gardens in Charlotte with Reverend Raymond Francis officiating. Visitation is Thursday, June 10, 2021, from 6-8:00 p.m. at Pray Funeral Home. Mask, group capacity, and distancing guidelines will be practiced. The funeral will be webcast so you may watch it from any computer, smartphone, or mobile device that has internet access. Go to [www.prayfuneral.com](http://www.prayfuneral.com), click on Norm's tribute, then click on Photos and Videos from your computer (or Media from your smart phone). If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Norm on his Tribute Page at [www.PrayFuneral.com](http://www.PrayFuneral.com). The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 10. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home  
401 W. Seminary St.  
Charlotte, MI 48813

## Funeral Ceremony

JUN 11. 2:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home Gardens  
401 W. Seminary St.  
Charlotte, MI 48813

# Tribute Wall



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Webcast in memory of Norman Merrill Francis



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Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - June 11, 2021 at 10:03 AM



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Norman Merrill Francis



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Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - June 08, 2021 at 10:19 PM

MI

“ Norm will always be a great example of a gentleman to me. Patient kind and warm. Also a jokster, and a hell of a partner in cards.



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Mike Di Iacovo - June 10, 2021 at 06:14 PM



“ Ron Paré purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Norman Merrill Francis.



Ron Paré - June 09, 2021 at 10:09 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Norman Merrill Francis.



June 09, 2021 at 02:28 PM



“ 48 files added to the album Life Tributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - June 08, 2021 at 10:10 PM

MO

“ I met Norm during my real estate years and found hm to be one of the nicest men to work with - always kind, fun, and just a joy..so sorry to hear of your dad’s passing, Mark. May God be with you during this most difficult time and May the memories you shared forever be with you comforting your days ahead...

Maureen Orman - June 05, 2021 at 04:03 AM

DF

“ Duane Francis Family.Kay,Pat,John,Steve,Kristy,Tom purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Norman Merrill Francis.



Duane Francis Family.Kay,Pat,John,Steve,Kristy,Tom - June 03, 2021 at 02:17 PM



“ We first met Norm playing cards in Florida. Remembering him as a quiet gentle man with a great smile and twinkle in his eye. Kept me wondering what was he thinking with that smile and twinkle? He will be greatly missed.

Judy Justice - June 03, 2021 at 08:37 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Norman Merrill Francis.



June 01, 2021 at 08:02 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Norman Merrill Francis.*



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June 01, 2021 at 05:30 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Norman Merrill Francis.*



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June 01, 2021 at 04:29 PM



“ *In all the years that Norm has been my landlord, he has been kind, generous, and supportive. We established a friendship because through the tough times, he was always there to lend advice and I respect him for his support. Rest in peace Mr. Norm Francis and rejoice in heaven in the arms of the Lord.*  
*Delia McGregor & Kegan*

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**Delia McGregor** - June 01, 2021 at 01:44 PM