



Francis A. McGowan

July 27, 1925 - August 16, 2015

FRANCIS A. McGOWAN, age 90 of Port Hope, passed away Sunday, August 16, 2015 at Harbor Beach Community Hospital.

He was born on July 27, 1925 to the late Joseph and Jane (Meehan) McGowan. Frank and Barbara Roggenbuck were united in marriage on June 20, 1953 in Detroit.

Frank served in the US Marines. He served in the Pacific Theatre from August 28, 1943 to February 11, 1946 as a PFC in the 1st Battalion, 15th Marines, Sixth Marine Division in the Artillery. He fought in Guam, Marianas Islands, Okinawa, Ryuku Islands. He was also stationed in Tsingtao, China to repatriate Japanese soldiers following the war. Following the war, he received his GED from Cass Tech in Detroit and attended Wayne State University. He worked as a Sales Representative for many different advertising groups. Frank was part of the Detroit Round Table of Catholics, Jews and Protestants, a group focused on fostering religious and racial brotherhood. He also was active in the Detroit Irish Mafia, which was started by a group of UDM Law school graduates who shared similar backgrounds growing up during the Depression in poor Irish Catholic families.

Frank was a man of deep and abiding faith who was proud of his family, his heritage and his country, Frank typified the "Greatest Generation."

Frank is survived by his wife of 62 years: Barbara McGowan of Port Hope, children: Michael (Kelly) McGowan of Ann Arbor, Jane McGowan Benskey of Brighton, Patrick McGowan of Howell, Thomas McGowan of Howell, Kathleen (Rob) Bandfield of Howell, 13 grandchildren: Ryan and Garret McGowan, Rachel (Cameron), Matthew and Michael Benskey; Erin (Tommy) McGlinnen and Megan (Dom) Hayes, Makailey (Isaac) deAlmeida, Kyle, Colin and James Roberts and Sam and Katy Bandfield, 7 great grandchildren: Patrick, Emily, Lilly and Finn McGlinnen, Brigit and Jona DeAlmeida and his namesake and newest great grandchild, Francis Michael Hayes.

He was preceded in death by a daughter Brigit McGowan, sisters: Mary Theisen and Josie Brown, and his brother Hugh McGowan.

Funeral Mass for Frank will be Friday, August 21, 2015 at 11 am at Our Lady of Lake Huron Catholic Church, of the Holy Name of Mary Parish, with Fr. William Spencer officiating. Cremation will follow. Internment will take place at the OLLH Church Cemetery. Visitation for Frank will be Thursday, from 2-8pm at the Ramsey Funeral Home of Harbor Beach. Visitation on Friday will be at the church beginning at 10 am until time of services at 11 am. A Parish Vigil Service will take place Thursday at 7 pm at the funeral home. A Knights of Columbus Rosary will be held at 6:30 pm on Thursday.

Memorials can be given to the OLLH school.

Memories can be shared at www.RamseyFH.com

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **20**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Ramsey Funeral Home, Inc
425 State St
Harbor Beach, MI 48441
(989) 479-3407
<https://www.ramseyfh.com>

Visitation

AUG **21**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Our lady of Lake Huron Catholic Church
Harbor Beach, MI 48441

Mass

AUG **21**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Our lady of Lake Huron Catholic Church
Harbor Beach, MI 48441

Tribute Wall



“ *Francis A. McGowan*

October 04, 2023 at 01:24 PM



“ *John Benskey purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Francis A. McGowan.*



John Benskey - August 20, 2015 at 12:43 PM



“ *Rosemary P. purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Francis A. McGowan.*



Rosemary P. - August 20, 2015 at 11:08 AM



“ *Eric Simone & family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Francis A. McGowan.*



Eric Simone & family - August 18, 2015 at 11:09 PM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Francis A. McGowan.*



August 18, 2015 at 07:40 PM



“ *Mark and I were so saddened today to hear about Uncle Frank (my father's best and dearest lifelong (!) friend. I have let all the Uetz's know, we cannot believe Uncle Frank was 90! We all have such beautiful and true family memories of the love shared with your family. The huge warm, loving embrace and kiss to each one of us as we piled into the house each and every visit. Nothing but fun times and lots of loud laughter with the McGowan crowd. So much love shared. We always felt so special to be in Uncle Frank's company as well as Aunt Barbara and all of our awesome McGowan cousins. Rest in Peace, your faith was ever present and your light always shone.*
Love and hugs,
Dianne (Sammie) Heiss

Dianne Heiss - August 18, 2015 at 04:33 PM



“ *Ken and the employees at Lingenfelter Motorsports purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Francis A. McGowan.*



Ken and the employees at Lingenfelter Motorsports - August 18, 2015 at 02:38 PM



“ *Your Friends at NuStep Inc. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Francis A. McGowan.*



Your Friends at NuStep Inc. - August 18, 2015 at 02:33 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Francis A. McGowan.*



August 18, 2015 at 02:31 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Francis A. McGowan.*



August 18, 2015 at 02:10 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Francis A. McGowan.*



August 18, 2015 at 07:23 AM

JE

“ Please accept the condolences of the entire Eckstein Clan. Frank was a good man. A good Marine.

I was always amazed with his veterinary skills relative to "Jack" the rabbit. He could always tell when Jack was feeling a little under the weather and his solution was to release him into the veggie Garden for "therapy". I expect Frank, Lyle and Chandler will get together soon to continue their walks....

Joe and Terri Eckstein

Joe Eckstein - August 18, 2015 at 06:19 AM

DH

“ Our condolences to "cousin" Barbara and family. We were surprised to see the obituary while checking thumbnet.net. We always enjoyed it we we got to see Frank. He was always full of stories. Haven't seen much of you guys since Mom (Helene Gaffke Huber) died 15 years ago. We remember going to your house in Port Hope once where we met the big dogs. We may have seen you a couple of time since then at the Four Seasons or at a Gaffke reunion. The picture is just how we remember him!

Enough rambling. Sorry we cannot make it to the ceremonies. We just arrived back home in Texas a couple of weeks ago from Michigan.

Dave and Gail Huber

Dave Huber - August 17, 2015 at 07:27 PM

RY

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



ryan - August 17, 2015 at 02:17 PM