



Arnold Grifka

June 20, 1945 - June 22, 2024

Arnold William Grifka, 79, passed away peacefully Saturday, June 22, 2024 at Autumnwood of Deckerville.

He was born on June 20, 1945 in Argyle to the late Leo and Angeline (Kucharczyk) Grifka. Arnie graduated from Ubyly High School in 1963 and joined the Army in October 1965. He served as an E4 Specialist in the Vietnam War and was honorably discharged in 1967. During his time enlisted, he received a National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Good Conduct Medal, and a Sharpshooter Rifle Award.

He married Mary (Conley) Smithers in 1981 in a backyard ceremony at their residence in Ubyly. He went on to spend the remainder of his life as a carpenter and owned and operated Valley Vinyl window business. He was an avid dog lover, hunter, euchre player and bird enthusiast.

Arnie is survived by his wife Mary Grifka, his children and stepchildren Tina (Bruno) Dobroske, Jeff Smithers, Mary (Chris) Forman, Barb (Jim) Crowell, Randy (Kay) Smithers, Sheila (Mac) Bouchelle, sisters in law Carol Grifka, and Sandi Grifka and his grandchildren Jenny Hiler, Lindy Bonter, Brandon Smithers, Kyle Smithers, Stacey Uselton, Jessica Pye, Jackie Pye, John Crowell, Raymond Crowell, Nicole McCarty, Nathan Forman, Brittany Zemer,

Justen Smithers, Sophie Dobroske and Claire Dobroske along with his many great grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents Leo and Angeline Grifka, two brothers Kenneth Grifka and Donald Grifka, sister Elaine Lasceski, his stepdaughter Judy (Smithers) Pye, his grandchild Jeremy Smithers and great grandchildren Michael McCarty Jr. and Noah Smithers.

Arnold's family will receive guests for visitation on Wednesday, June 26, 2024 from 3-8 pm at the Kaufman Funeral Home in Bad Axe. A scripture service will be offered at 7:30pm on Wednesday at the funeral home. A burial service with military honors will be held on Thursday, June 27, 2024 at 11 am at St. John's Catholic Cemetery in Ubly.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **26**. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Kaufman & Co. Funeral Home, Inc.
84 Westland Dr
Bad Axe, MI 48413
(989) 269-3000
kaufmanfuneralhome@gmail.com

Scripture Service

JUN **26**. 7:30 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Kaufman & Co. Funeral Home, Inc.
84 Westland Dr
Bad Axe, MI 48413
(989) 269-3000
kaufmanfuneralhome@gmail.com

Graveside service with Military Honors

JUN **27**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. John Church Cemetery
Ubly, MI

Tribute Wall

CL

“ Carol, Laura and Lynn purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Arnold Grifka.



Carol, Laura and Lynn - June 24, 2024 at 10:19 PM