



Donald M. Grifka

March 9, 1953 - December 26, 2020

Donald M. Grifka, age 67, of Bad Axe, passed away peacefully on Saturday, December 26, 2020 at McLaren Bay Regional Hospital in Bay City after a short and stoic battle from an unexpected illness.

Don was born March 9, 1953 in Bad Axe, to the late Leo and Angeline (Kucharczyk) Grifka. He married Sandra Glaza on November 9, 1974 at St. John's Catholic Church in Ubly, MI.

Don graduated from Ubly High School. He spent all of his life in the custom construction industry and owned and operated Don's Quality Cabinets for 35 years. He loved creating custom designs and his memory will live on through the many homes he remodeled and enhanced with his creative touch. Some of his favorite hobbies included bow hunting, spending time outside, canning with his wife, smoking meats, making sausages and sharing it all with his friends and family. He loved being "papa" to Maddy and JoJo and spending quality time with them. Snuggle time with papa was always the best. He was also project manager for his kids many different projects and ideas.

Donald is survived by his wife of 46 years, Sandra; son Justin Grifka and his wife Kayla (Cregeur) of Essexville, MI; two daughters, Lindsay Grifka and her significant other Martin Dunstheimer of Las Vegas, NV; Chelsea Grifka of South Haven, MI; two granddaughters, Madelyn and Jordyn Grifka; and his

mother-in-law, Delores Glaza of Bad Axe.

He is also survived by two brothers, Kenneth Grifka and his wife Carol of Bad Axe, Arnold Grifka and his wife Mary of Ubly; one sister, Elaine Lasceski and her husband Dennis of Fillion, along with many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents Leo and Angeline Grifka and his father-in-law Walter Glaza.

In keeping with Don's wishes, cremation has taken place. A private memorial service will be held at a later date.

"...and that" :)

Tribute Wall



“ *Donald M. Grifka*

January 28, 2023 at 01:32 PM



“ *My condolences go out to you Sandy, and your kids. I haven't cried in a long time, but tears were shed when I learned of the news of his passing. Don is one of the few people I really connected with over the years, and it troubles me that we didn't stay in contact when we moved from Badaxe. I don't think there is anyone with a bigger heart than Don. We were strangers in a new community, and Don welcomed us with open arms. There were no strangers in Don's world, and I will always remember his generosity in the 3 short years we spent in the Thumb. I have lived in many places around the world, but have never experienced neighbors like yourselves, and the others who live around you.*

The memories of Don will live on. Don introduced me to Black Russians, and every time I drink one I think about him, and will continue to do so. Don was larger than life, and he left us way to early. Rest in Peace my friend.....

Gerard Candrian - December 30, 2020 at 12:08 PM



“ *Our condolences to you Sandy & your family. Our thoughts & prayers are with all of you. I am picturing your “kids” as they looked when they were in my kdg class- I'm sure they have changed. They were great kids!*

Doralyn & Duane Cubitt - December 30, 2020 at 10:51 AM

DS

“ So sorry to hear about Don. Don and I lived next to each other in Ugly. One memory I have of Don is when we were in kindergarten. On our rugs, resting. Don moved over and gave me a kiss on my cheek. Mrs. Sweeney did see him and she wasn't happy. Life was so simple and happy. It was sweet. From Deb Jaroch Szczepanski

Deb Jaroch Szczepanski - December 29, 2020 at 09:11 PM

MR

I am so sorry for your loss, Sandy. I first got to know Don when he worked for Larry Kanaby and did an addition to our house. He was a lot of fun to be around. Blessings to you and all the family.

Margo Roth

Margo Roth - December 31, 2020 at 04:03 PM

SN

Sandy I am so sorry for your loss. My prayers are with you. Sharon Nowicki

sharon Nowicki - January 08, 2021 at 04:09 PM

FK

“ Sandy and family, my condolences for your loss. Don was a good guy and will be missed!
Hugs Fran Kanaby

Fran Kanaby - December 29, 2020 at 08:56 PM

LK

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Don was a hardworking person. We go back many years. We will miss him!

Larry Kanaby - December 29, 2020 at 08:49 PM

RC

“ Sandy and Family-Rich and I just read about Don's passing and are so sorry.We send our sincere condolences at this time 🙏

Rich and Rhonda

Rhonda Cook - December 29, 2020 at 05:11 PM

MT

“ Don a d I had golfed together for many years at Century Oaks. His friendship through the years was a part of my life that was important. It is with deepest sympathy we send that hopefully will comfort you and your family at this time of loss.

Mike Terrill - December 29, 2020 at 08:26 AM

LS

“ Sandy and Family, so sorry to hear of Don passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you
Len @ Sue Czewski

Len @ Sue - December 28, 2020 at 03:49 PM

BC

“ So sorry for your loss. Don was a good man, a hard worker. Deb and I send our sincere condolences.... Blessings Always, Bill Cleland

Bill Cleland - December 28, 2020 at 03:12 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Donald M. Grifka.



December 28, 2020 at 08:59 AM