



Edward F. Havlik

March 26, 1944 - November 3, 2018

EDWARD F. HAVLIK, 74 Edward F. Havlik, born March 26, 1944, died peacefully at his home in Holland, Michigan on November 3, 2018, surrounded by family and a lifetime of friends. Ed is survived by his wife, Nancy (Garnhart) Havlik; children: Laurie and Andy Bulson of Inverness, IL, Matthew Havlik of Holland, MI, and John and Kristi Havlik of Missoula, MT; 7 grandchildren: Drew, Maddy, and Jack Bulson, Paloma and Levi Havlik, and Gwyn and Jack Finn Havlik. He is also survived by two sisters, Laverne Lehman and Loretta Karnik, sisters and brothers-in-laws, Mary Ropar, Georgianna and Fritz Heinke, Joe Galbraith, and Jack and Phyllis Garnhart and numerous nieces, nephews, and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Helena Leach and Ed Havlik, his mother-in-law, Janet Garnhart, beloved sister, Jean Havlik, and brothers and sister-in-law, Joseph Karnik, Donald Lehman, Steve Ropar, Gaye Galbraith, and Mike Garnhart. A real estate developer, homebuilder, and consultant, Ed attended Northern Michigan University from 1962-1967 and was president of the student body. He eventually served as President of the Board, an Emeritus Trustee, and was designated a distinguished alumni in 1983. After graduating with a degree in business administration, he went on to work for a national retail chain before becoming a sales manager for an international homebuilder. In his first year, his division sold over 1800 homes. He went on to acquire Chicago based homebuilder United Development from Urban Development in 1980 and over many decades, he built thousands of homes and developed real

estate in Illinois Michigan, Arizona, Ohio, Tennessee, and Colorado, but his favorite home was the one he built and shared on the shores of Lake Michigan with his family. Later in life, Ed became an advocate for education of the underprivileged, earning a Doctor of Letters from Jordan College. He also enjoyed his work serving on the board of Comfort Research and mentoring many young entrepreneurs in business. Known as "insufferably enthusiastic," Ed carried with him a "life is good" attitude during all seasons of his life — the ebbs and the flows, the highs and the lows. Nothing was more important to him than caring and investing in his beloved family and friends whether by mentoring, cooking, celebrating life's events, golfing, or being curious about their interests, successes, and learnings. He loved adventure in traveling, from skiing and hunting trips, to motorcycle adventures around the globe, to bareboating and scuba adventures, to fishing—whether on the big lake chasing salmon and perch or on Western rivers chasing white water and trout, no adventure was missed with his beloved family and friends. Ed also never saw a sunset, inversion, or green flash that he didn't appreciate, value, and capture in a photo. Visitation will be Thursday, November 8, 4:00pm-7:00pm (EASTERN TIME) at Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home, 315 E. 16th Street, Holland 49423. The Havlik family will be holding a private memorial celebration in memory of Ed. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Hospice of Holland.

Tribute Wall



“ *Edward F. Havlik* ”

August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM



“ *"Ed was a good neighbor in 1970 and a good friend after that. May God be with you. Jim MacIntosh"* ”

Jim MacIntosh - December 13, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *"Ed was a good friend, so intelligent and loving, never felt anything less than love from Ed. Will miss him, and hope I see him later. Nancy and her kids will go on with his spirit in their veins."* ”

michael tubbs - November 11, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *"I was sorry to learn of Ed's passing. I met him when he attended NMU in Marquette and again as he returned to serve on the NMU Board of Control. He was so devoted to everything that he participated in and his love for family was the best. RIP Ed. You deserve a wonderful afterlife. Connie Williams"* ”

Connie Williams - November 09, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *"Havlik Family, Thank you for sharing memories of Ed at his visitation. I felt a special bond with Ed, which meant the world to me. It was great seeing all of you again, and meeting the rest of your families. Ed will be greatly missed by all who knew him. His smile said it all."* ”

Doug - November 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

DR

“We are grateful recipients of Ed's generosity and friendship. May peace enter your lives. Our prayers are with you.”

Dr - November 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

ST

“So sorry to read of Ed's passing. Will always remember his great smile as he walked into work in the mornings. Our deepest sympathy to the family.”

Shirley Thompson - November 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

LK

“Dear Nancy and family, my heart goes out to you for losing a wonderful person much too early. I will never forget meeting you and Ed at sunset on the beach of Anna Maria Island. What followed was a wonderful and special friendship over the years that I will forever cherish. The beautiful memories of our good times together will stay in our hearts.”

Liane Klein - November 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

DR

“It was such a great experience for me to develop a life-long friendship with Ed when we were at Northern Michigan University (NMU) together. We wound up being Phi Theta Pi fraternity brothers, where he was my "Little Brother" as a pledge in our fraternity. As you likely know, Ed went on to do so many great things for many years for NMU. We maintained our friendship for all these many years. He was such a special friend and Ed was always there for so many people when they needed his friendship, his advice, and his wisdom. God Bless Ed, and God Bless all his family members as they deal with his passing.”

Dr - November 07, 2018 at 12:00 AM

LB

“Deepest sympathies...appreciated knowing Ed over the years and deepest prayers for family. God Bless Larry Branscombe”

Larry Branscombe - November 07, 2018 at 12:00 AM

SK

“I was sorry to hear of Ed's passing. He was an impressive guy. My sympathy to his family. I also thought his sunset photos were his peace within. May prayers to be lifted up for his family. Fellow RB classmate. Sharon”

Sharon Kinst - November 06, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JM

“With deepest sympathy to a fellow RBHS grad. I will miss his sunset photos.”

JAMES MANN - November 06, 2018 at 12:00 AM

BW

“Dear Nancy and Family, my deepest sympathy to all. Although we lost touch over the years I always will remember the good times with Ed and family and through our high school years. I too will remember his smile and friendship. May you rest in peace my friend.”

Bill Waitek - November 06, 2018 at 12:00 AM