



## Robert J. Schuitema

February 19, 1940 - March 24, 2025

Robert J. Schuitema, age 85 of Holland, MI and Lakewood Ranch, FL passed away Monday, March 24 due to injuries from a fall while working in his yard.

Bob was very proud of his Dutch heritage and the faith his parents passed on to him guided him throughout his life until the Lord called him home.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Patti (Becksvoort) Schuitema; children, Laurie (Don) Richards, Lynda Ellinger, and Chad (Stephanie) Schuitema. Grandchildren Elijah, Isaak, and Aaron Schuitema, sister Mary Bowers, in-laws Mike Becksvoort, Bill Wolters and Kathy Becksvoort. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews who knew him as a fun-loving uncle.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ralph and Josephine, sister Dorothy Cotey, brother Kenn, in-laws Owen Bowers, Dennis Cotey, Eloise Schuitema, Elaine Becksvoort, Tom Becksvoort and Lori (Becksvoort) Wolters.

He was a graduate of Grand Rapids Christian High School and then proudly served in the United States Army. He attended Aquinas College, which led him to a sales career. Along with his business partners, Bob's most rewarding venture was when they acquired 3 divisions of AFCO Industries. Bob served as president of the Holland location where he led the "A-Team" until his retirement.

Bob's zest for life, energy, and positive outlook were admired by all who knew him. Since he was a young boy, his passion was cars, and he continued to enjoy them as well as his classics during retirement. He and Patti also enjoyed 45 years of boating on Lake Michigan with family and friends.

A time of visitation will be from 6-8 pm Friday, May 30, 2025, at Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home, 315 East 16th Street, Holland. A service honoring Bob's life will be held at 11 am Saturday, May 31, 2025, also at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions can be made to Central Park Chapel, P.O. Box 341, Macatawa, MI 49423. [www.langelandsterenbergh.com](http://www.langelandsterenbergh.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY **30**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home  
315 E 16th St  
Holland, MI 49423-4213

## Memorial Service

MAY **31**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home  
315 E 16th St  
Holland, MI 49423-4213

# Tribute Wall

BW

“ About seven years ago, on a warm summer day, I were visiting my elderly dad at his assisted living residence when Bob called with an irresistible invitation: a visit to his “car barn.” There, we admired his beautifully detailed Studebaker Hawk, its classic lines and vintage charm standing out. Dad and Bob dove into a conversation about inline sizes and proper carburetor tuning, their shared passion for cars evident in their animated discussion. It was a joy to see dad so engaged, reminiscing about the golden age of automobiles. Bob, ever the gracious host, might have even offered a beer. It was a very good day and a testament to the simple pleasures of good company and shared interests. Forever grateful for the thoughtful invitation Bob!

Bill Wolters - May 29, 2025 at 12:46 PM

SD

“ Sincerely, Dianne purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Robert J. Schuitema.



Sincerely, Dianne - May 26, 2025 at 01:46 PM

IA

“ I will miss Bob's chats, emails, and letters with car photos. I never got that car ride he promised in the Jeepster and the Buick Coupe. Patti and family, I am so very sorry for your loss. My thoughts are with you all. I hope memories can bring smiles to your face and warm your hearts.

Ingrid Avery - April 01, 2025 at 02:09 PM

LE

“ Robert RIP its has been being a pleasure to being a friend all these years. Jan & Lynn Everse

Lynn Everse - March 30, 2025 at 03:34 PM

RB

“ Bob has been a wonderful friend for over 50 years, as well as a great business partner. We have many happy memories of traveling with Bob and Patti.  
Sending our love and prayers, Ray and Becky Bordelon

Ray and Becky Bordelon - March 29, 2025 at 01:05 PM

RS

So sorry to hear of Bob's passing. He was a great leader and was a mentor to us all for many years during our business careers. May he rest in peace. 🙏  
Rhonda Smith

Rhonda Smith - April 11, 2025 at 07:33 PM

PI

It is with great sadness that we have learned of Robert's passing. He was an outstanding member of the Willys Overland Jeepster Club.

He was particular in understanding the proper methods to repair and restore his beautiful car. His positive interaction and friendship with club members will be sadly missed.

Most sincerely,  
Peter G. "Pete" Mozzone, Pres & Newsletter Editor  
WOJC, Inc. (PA 501c7 Nonprofit Social Club)

Peter G. Mozzone, WOJC, Inc. - May 13, 2025 at 07:30 PM