

Terry Lee Schamper

March 9, 1943 - May 5, 2026

Terry Lee Schamper, affectionately known as "Scamp," passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family on May 5, 2026, at the age of 83.

Born on March 9, 1943, in Holland, Michigan, to Margaret and Gordon Schamper, Terry grew up with a deep love for adventure, family, music, and community. The oldest of three brothers, Terry shared a lifelong bond with Dave and Rick. As a boy, he especially treasured spending time with his uncle Coly (Colin Moore), who was close to him in age. Together they enjoyed Tulip Time, adventures around Holland, and the carefree excitement of youth that Terry would always fondly remember.

From an early age, Terry dreamed of building an exciting, meaningful life, and he did exactly that. He worked hard, beginning as a young boy at Nelis' Tulip Farm. Over the years, he also worked for Dutch Boy Bread, Holland Furniture Company, and GE. Eventually, he found a career that truly fit his personality and passions when he became a police officer with the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department, a role he deeply loved and took great pride in.

In 1980, his career was cut short when his patrol car was hit by a drunk driver. Though he faced many challenges from this, he always taught his kids to focus on the positives in life and led by example.

His years in law enforcement opened doors to many other meaningful experiences. Terry proudly served as president of the FOP and organized and emceed their annual country and western music show at the Holland Civic Center, bringing together his love of people, entertainment, and community involvement.

Terry had also proudly served in the Army National Guard and had been a member of the Knights of Columbus and the American Legion Post 6 in Holland.

Though he had many interests, family was always at the center of who Terry was. He loved being a father to Dan (Janelle) Schamper, Rebecca (Chadrick) Mahaffey, and Rachel (Dave) Snyder; a grandfather to Liberty and Nadia Mahaffey, Greta Julius, and Jack and Charlie Snyder; and an uncle and relative to many. He showed his love not only through words, but through steady presence, loyalty, support, humor, and generosity. The love his family has for him is impossible to fully express.

Terry was previously married to Claudia Shosten, the mother of his children, with whom he shared many adventures and built a foundation his family would stand on. Later, he shared many happy years with Diane Roels, caring deeply for her and her family and treasuring their time together.

Known for his quirky and joyful personality, Terry brought energy and humor wherever he went. He loved working in his yard during warmer months, traveling, adventuring (even skydiving and bungee jumping!), listening to 1950s music, enjoying the excitement of casinos, and collecting unique treasures to proudly display in his home, especially clocks, which became one of his favorite collections.

Terry was also a friend to many, and faith remained a meaningful part of his

life, helping shape the values of family, kindness, and connection that mattered so much to him.

More than anything, Terry will be remembered for his big personality, his love of family, his storytelling, his humor, and the way he made people feel welcomed and cared for. He lived fully, loved deeply, and leaves behind countless memories that will continue to bring laughter and comfort to those who knew him.

Funeral services will be at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, 480 152nd Ave, Holland, MI 49424. Visitation at church, prior to the service will begin at 9:30 AM. Memorial Contributions may be given to American Legion Post 6, 10820 Paw Paw Dr, Holland, MI 49424.

Arrangements are by Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home, 315 East 16th Street, Holland, MI 49423. To leave condolences online, please visit www.langelandsterenbergh.com.

Cemetery Details

North Holland Cemetery

James Street and Beeline Road
Holland, MI 49424

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 27. 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM (ET)

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church
480 152nd Ave.
Holland, MI 49424

Funeral Service

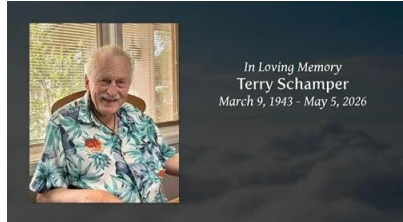
MAY 27. 11:00 AM (ET)

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church
480 152nd Ave.
Holland, MI 49424

Tribute Wall



“ *Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Terry Lee Schamper*



Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes - June 01 at 02:11 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Terry Lee Schamper.*



May 23 at 08:38 AM



“ 😊🙏 *for family! So many of us recall the accident. Blessings as you grieve and celebrate his life.....*

Graham Duryee - May 22 at 09:53 AM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Terry Lee Schamper.*



May 18 at 08:45 PM

DS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Dave Snyder - May 17 at 10:16 AM

BB

“ Donna Hayek.cleveland, Ohio obituary

barbara bell - May 15 at 09:38 AM

MV

“ I've known Terry for many years while serving as an Associate Member on the Board of the FOP. After the monthly meeting, we (Terry, Terry Foss and myself) would always go to Fricanos for pizza. Great Memories!!
Mary VanVels

Mary VanVels - May 14 at 02:12 PM

RS

I remember those days. He loved it and would look forward to that special time.
Wow, I've not thought about that in a long time. Thank you for sharing Mary ☐

Rachel Snyder - May 15 at 12:25 PM