



Russell Leroy Baugh

MAY 2, 1931 - NOV 23, 2013



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5



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Jackson-Russell Leroy Baugh, 82, died peacefully in his sleep with his wife at his side on November 23, 2013. Russ was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan on May 2, 1931 to the late Russell Bernard Baugh and Rozelle Winslow Baugh. Russ began his working career in 1948 as a steam locomotive fireman for the New York Central Railroad and became Michigan's youngest locomotive engineer. At age 25 he was severely injured in a private plane crash and his left arm was amputated. Determined to rebuild his life, Russ attended Jackson Community College, Michigan State University, and Detroit College of Law. In 1964 he entered private practice. He served Jackson County as a Friend of the Court clerk and investigator, assistant prosecuting attorney, probate judge, and circuit court administrator. From 1973 to 1984 he was the deputy and state court administrator. He was an instructor at the National Judicial College in Reno, NV and traveled throughout the US with a team of judges reorganizing major urban courts. Russ was a US Navy veteran for his service in the Michigan National Guard, serving during the Korean Conflict. Russ's passions included driving race cars and hydroplanes, flying, scuba diving and handicapping horses. He loved his lakeside home and spent many winters in the dry, sunny climates of Las Vegas, Nevada and Mesa, Arizona. Russ's integrity, sense of humor and warm demeanor gained the trust, love and respect of those whose lives he touched. His life and efforts to improve the lives of children are reflected in the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson, "The purpose of life is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well." Russ is survived by his wife of 37 years, Jann Ryan Baugh; his caregiver Angelina Day; his children Russell (Marcia) and Tammy; their children and grandchildren; and his brother-in-law James Ryan. Pursuant to Russ's request following a family service, he was buried with the late John and Ida Ryan, his parents-in-law, at Pine Plains



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Cemetery in Big Rapids, Michigan. Memorial contributions may be made to Disability Connections 409 Linden Ave. Jackson, Michigan 49203.



Tribute Wall

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RB

Rick Burnham posted:

Jann I was so sorry to hear of Russ' passing. He was a very special part of my life and that of my brothers after our father died in 1957. I have very fond memories of Russ from his racing days and later. He took us to Indianapolis for the 500 and

November 30 at 8:00 PM

KB

Kathy Braithwaite posted:

Dear Jann My heart goes out to you. Russ will be miss by many.Now Russ and Art can race again in heaven!! love Kathy

November 30 at 8:00 PM

AB

Ann Blackwell posted:

Jann...although our time at Highland wasn't very long, I remember the many chats we would have while caring for our loved one. I'm truly sorry for your loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Love, Ann Blackwell

November 30 at 8:00 PM

SH

Susan Howe posted:

Jann, my deepest condolences to you and the family. I worked with Russ as his assistant in the Jackson Circuit Court. He was always quick to laugh and always fair. He will be missed. (you may remember me as Suzi Wiegman)

November 30 at 8:00 PM

AJ

Angelina J Day posted:

My best friend. Will always love & cherish him. A blessing he was to know.

November 30 at 8:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Russell by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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