



## Richard "Rick" Gancarz

September 11, 1949 - May 17, 2021

Richard "Rick" Gancarz aged 71 of Free Soil passed away on Monday, May 17, 2021 at his home. Rick was born on September 11, 1949 in Muskegon, the son of Joseph and Virginia (Feliczak) Gancarz and graduated from Free Soil High School with the class of 1968. On October 1, 1977, he married Rebecca "Becky" Hasenbank at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Scottville and they have celebrated 43 years together.

Rick worked in maintenance for Martin-Marietta in Manistee as a Welder Mechanic for over 35 years, retiring in 2006. During his employment, he was able to further his education at West Shore Community College graduating with a Skilled Trades degree, specializing in Welding. In his retirement he rarely stayed idle helping his son-in-law in his construction business and for his friends at Cold Stream Farm in Free Soil. Having been raised on a farm, if Rick were driving by a neighbor during the summertime and saw them in the fields haying, he was quick to stop and lend a hand. Rick was an avid collector of scrap metal and enjoyed tinkering with small engine repair, but mostly loved to spend time hunting, taking trips out west for Elk, bear hunts in the U.P., or tracking the mighty whitetail deer around his home.

Rick will be greatly missed by his wife Becky; his children Jeremy Gancarz (Miranda Kelley) of Manistee, David (Mandy) Gancarz of Custer, BethAnn (Adam) Kozicki, and Jennifer Gancarz all of Free Soil; his grandchildren Tori

Gancarz, Aeva and Rylee Schafer, Christina, and Ethen Gancarz, Maximus Kozicki, Allie, and Ivy Gancarz; his mother-in-law Ann Hasenbank of Free Soil; his sisters and brother Patricia (Dick) Grigsby and Sally (Clayton) Sawyer all of Grand Rapids, and John (Nancy) Gancarz of Free Soil; along with many nieces, nephews, cousins, and great friends. Rick was preceded in death by his parents Joseph and Virginia Gancarz.

Becky would like to note her appreciation for the assistance Hospice of Michigan, especially nurses Laurie and Clayton were able to provide.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated for Rick at 2:30 pm on Thursday, May 20 at St. John Cantius Catholic Church in Free Soil with Rev. Daniel DePew as celebrant. Burial will follow at St. John Cantius Cemetery. Friends may visit with his family on Wednesday evening from 6:00 – 8:00 pm at Wyman Funeral & Cremation Services in Scottville, and on Thursday afternoon from 2:00 until time of mass at the church. Those who wish to remember Rick with a memorial donation are asked to please consider Hospice of Michigan or the American Heart Association.

# Cemetery Details

## St. John Cantius Cemetery

Free Soil, MI 49411

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY **19**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wyman Funeral & Cremation Services - Stephens Funeral Home  
305 E. State St.  
Scottville, MI 49454  
(231) 757-3333  
wyman-stephens@sbcglobal.net  
<https://www.wymanfuneralservice.com>

## Visitation

MAY **20**. 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM (ET)

St. John Cantius Catholic Church  
2845 East Michigan Street  
Free Soil, MI 49411

## Funeral Mass

MAY **20**. 2:30 PM (ET)

St. John Cantius Catholic Church  
2845 East Michigan Street  
Free Soil, MI 49411



# Tribute Wall



“ *Wyman Funeral & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Richard "Rick" Gancarz*



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**Wyman Funeral & Cremation Services** - May 18, 2021 at 09:44 PM

WH

“ *With Love- James, Kristin, Evan & Logan Harvey purchased the Springtime Wishes for the family of Richard "Rick" Gancarz.*



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**With Love- James, Kristin, Evan & Logan Harvey** - May 20, 2021 at 10:04 AM

TP

“ *What memories we made while trying to grow up. You will be remembered. Stay strong Becky.  
Joe Bender aka Tom*

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**tom papes** - May 19, 2021 at 06:07 PM



“ *It made my real sad to see that "Rick" has passed away. I was his Swedish friend in the class of 1968. That year has meant a lot to me from then and on. Rick was a good friend at that time. My thoughts goes to his family.*

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**Lars Andersson** - May 19, 2021 at 12:59 PM

AA

“ May your memories of the wonderful times you shared with your loved one comfort you and your family, today and always.

American Heart Association - May 19, 2021 at 11:50 AM

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American Heart Association - May 19, 2021 at 11:50 AM

DS

“ Jeremy, I never knew your father and I were so close in age. I always liked him, he was so down to earth as well as a good father. My sympathy is truly with you and your family. I am very sorry for your lost.



Dorian and Melinda Seldon

Dorian & Melinda Seldon - May 19, 2021 at 07:51 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" Gancarz.



May 19, 2021 at 07:38 AM



“ Peaceful Wishes was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" Gancarz.



May 18, 2021 at 11:57 PM



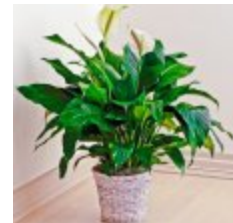
“ 40 files added to the album Life Tributes



Wyman Funeral & Cremation Services - May 18, 2021 at 09:42 PM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" Gancarz.



May 18, 2021 at 09:16 PM

JH

“ Our condolences to you Aunt Becky, Jeremy, David, BethAnn, and Jenny. Uncle Rick always had a warm smile for us whenever we crossed paths at church or one of the many family gatherings we had when we were younger. Kate and I have made a donation in Rick’s memory to the Hospice of Michigan organization. We’re so sorry for your loss.

Jon Hasenbank - May 18, 2021 at 05:24 PM



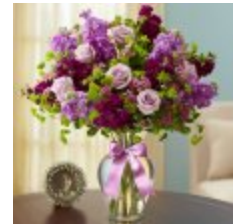
“ Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" Gancarz.



May 18, 2021 at 04:42 PM



“ Shades of Purple was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" Gancarz.



May 18, 2021 at 03:40 PM



“ European Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" Gancarz.



May 18, 2021 at 12:07 PM

AC

“ Sincere sympathy to you Becky and the family. When I would visit FreeSoil in the summer-time I could always count on Rick to stop over to visit. He was a quiet man, but always greeted me warmly. God will help you through this time and will continue to bless you with his love and care.....Love you all, Aunt Arlene Crofoot

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**Arlene Crofoot** - May 18, 2021 at 10:22 AM

SS

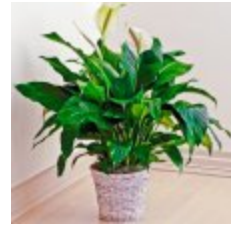
“ Sally and Clayton Sawyer purchased the Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Yellow and White for the family of Richard "Rick" Gancarz.



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**Sally and Clayton Sawyer** - May 18, 2021 at 08:36 AM

NG

“ Nancy Gancarz purchased the Floor Plant for Sympathy for the family of Richard "Rick" Gancarz.



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**Nancy Gancarz** - May 18, 2021 at 08:03 AM