



John Irving Gillis Sr.

September 19, 1927 - September 12, 2023

HOLLY - John I. Gillis, Sr., age 95, a resident of Holly for the past 18 years and formerly of Croswell passed away peacefully on Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at the Shelby Health & Rehabilitation Center in Shelby Township. He was born on September 19, 1927 in Detroit, a son of the late William and Anna (Osmensky) Gillis.

John proudly served his country in the U.S. Army in WWII. He married Marie L. Vanzielegem on September 9, 1950 in Detroit. She preceded him in death on October 8, 1996. John later married Martha Jane Taylor on November 5, 2005. She also preceded him in death on January 14, 2022.

John retired from General Motors after many years of service. He was a former member of the St. Denis Catholic Church in Lexington. John was a member of the VFW, American Legion, AMVETS and the Moose Lodge. He is survived by his daughter-in-law, Cheryl Gillis; three grandchildren, Anthony, Matt and Raquel (Hensley) John and two great grandchildren; also several nieces and nephews.

John was preceded in death by his son, James "Jimmy" Joseph Gillis on April 17, 1978 and his son, John I. Gillis, Jr. in March of 2023.

Funeral Mass will be held at 10 A.M. on Friday, September 29, 2023 at the Ave Maria Parish- St. Denis Catholic Church in Lexington, with visiting at the church from 9- 10 A.M. on Friday. Fr. Donald J. Eppenbrock will officiate. Interment with Military Rites provided by the Croswell American Legion will follow in the St. Denis Cemetery.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **29**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Denis Catholic Church
5366 Main St.
Lexington, MI 48450
(810) 359-5400
<http://www.avemariaparishmi.com>

Service

SEP **29**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Denis Catholic Church
5366 Main St.
Lexington, MI 48450
(810) 359-5400
<http://www.avemariaparishmi.com>

Tribute Wall

DM

“ 1 file added to the album *John Gillis Family*



Debbie Morrison - September 17, 2023 at 10:07 PM

SG

“ 2 files added to the album *John Gillis Family*



Sefora M Gillies - September 16, 2023 at 10:57 AM

FM

Nice pictures. My deepest sympathy to the family ❤️

fabiola mantilla - September 27, 2023 at 03:15 PM

SG

“ 1 file added to the album *John Gillis Family*



Sefora M. Gillies - September 15, 2023 at 11:42 PM

SG

“ *Sefora M Gillies lit a candle in memory of John Irving Gillis Sr.*



Sefora M Gillies - September 15, 2023 at 12:57 PM

SG

“ *My deepest sympathy to Anthony August, Matthew & Raquel and their families on the loss of their grandfather John Sr., also to all his nieces and nephews.*

John was my brother in law for many years, a wonderful brother, a father figure and role model to my husband Ernie and a great uncle to my children, and I am forever grateful for all he did for us.

His friendship was very valuable to me. I was privileged to be able to spend time with him in prayer every week during his las weeks of his life and I felt the spiritual connection of a deep faith in God.

May his soul rest in peace. Until we meet again,

Sefora M. Gillies

Lexington, Mi.

Sefora M Gillies - September 15, 2023 at 12:56 PM