



# Thomas "Tom" Burch

FEB 4, 1941 - FEB 20, 2021



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## Thomas "Tom" Burch

FEB 4, 1941 - FEB 20, 2021

**T**homas Merrick Burch, 80, passed away peacefully, Saturday, February 20, 2021. Tom's family and friends will gather Tuesday, February 23, 2021 from 3:00 pm – 8:00 pm, with a Rosary to be at 7:00 pm and Wednesday, February 24, 2021 from 10:00 am – 11:00 am at St. Mary Roman Catholic Church,( 210 W. Main Street, Manchester). His Mass of Christian burial will be held Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at 11:00 am. Fr. Bosco Padamattummal will serve as celebrant. A private interment will take place in the spring at St. Mary Roman Catholic Cemetery, Manchester, Michigan. Covid -19 mandates will be observed, masks and social distancing are required.

He was born on February 4, 1941, in Jackson, Michigan to Harold and Florence (Kirk) Burch. Tom married the love of his life, Ruth Townsend on September 9, 1961, in Manchester, Michigan. Tom is a 1959 graduate of Manchester High School. He was a lifetime member of the Manchester Community, St. Mary Roman Catholic Church and Knights of Columbus, being active in the 3rd degree and 4th degree Color Guard and a past Grand Knight. Tom was a very charitable person and loved giving back to his community. He spearheaded multiple fundraisers, and was a fabulous party planner that could put anything together quickly and have it turn out terrific. He was one of the founding members of the St. Mary Fish Fry and was active in his early years with the Manchester Chicken Broil. Tom was an avid Detroit Tigers, Red Wings and U of M football fan, loved fishing, camping and telling jokes, he was an awesome character of his own story telling. He was a collector of many things. He will be remembered for his amazing popcorn and fabulous brisket. His most precious gift was to instill in his children to be passionate about their beliefs.

Tom is survived by his wife of 59 years, Ruth; his children, Dan (Deb) Burch, Colleen (Gary) Sweetland, Jim (Shelia) Burch and Cathy (Jim) McMonagle; sisters, Mary Beth (Rod) Miller and Ann Bechtel; grandchildren, Danielle (Carl) VanHoof, Sarah (Tim) LaValley, Andrew (Alex) Burch, Matthew Burch, Abbey Burch and Libbey Burch, Megan Sweetland, Bethany Burch, Tucker



## Obituary

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Burch, and Brody Burch, Jimmy (Grace) McMonagle; great grandchildren, Faith, Amelia, Isaac, Theo VanHoof, Hosanna, Lydia, Abigail and Malachi McMonagle; special cousins Bob Brick and Rick (Debbie) Burch, and his loyal dog, Daisy, and several nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents, brother-in-law Larry Becketl and niece Marci Miller.

Memorial contributions are suggested to St. Mary's Parish or Pious Union of St. Joseph of Grass Lake Chapter. Please leave a message of comfort for Tom's family or sign his guestbook at [www.EinederFuneralHomes.com](http://www.EinederFuneralHomes.com).



# Events

**Thomas "Tom" Burch**

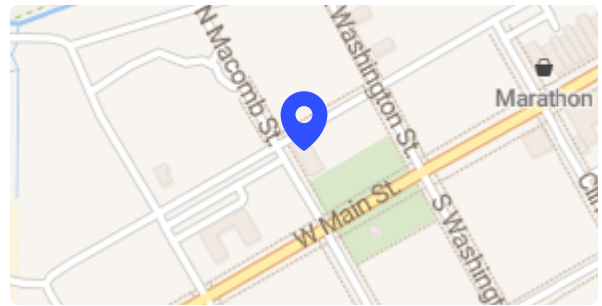
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## Family and Friends Gathering

**Tuesday**, February 23, 2021

3:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

**St. Mary Roman Catholic Church**  
210 W. Main Street, Manchester MI 48158

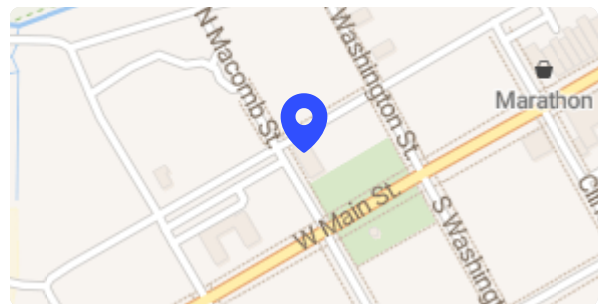


## Rosary

**Tuesday**, February 23, 2021

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

**St. Mary Roman Catholic Church**  
210 W. Main Street, Manchester MI 48158

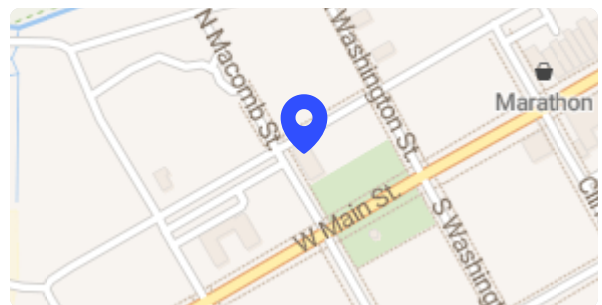


## Family and Friends Gathering

**Wednesday**, February 24, 2021

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET

**St. Mary Roman Catholic Church**  
210 W. Main Street, Manchester MI 48158

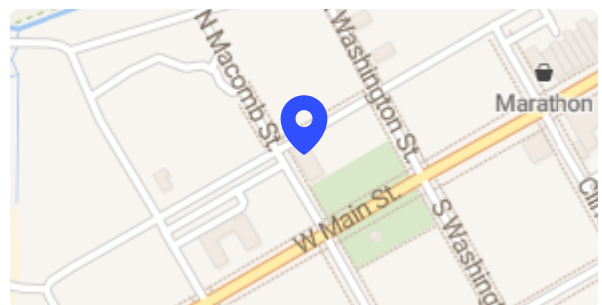


## Mass of Christian Burial

**Wednesday**, February 24, 2021

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET

**St. Mary Roman Catholic Church**  
210 W. Main Street, Manchester MI 48158





## Tribute Wall

**Thomas "Tom" Burch**

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SP

**Sue And Jim Phillips** posted:

I would be remiss to say that both Tom and Ruth were our friends, Sue and Jim Phillips. Are hearts are happy that Tom is now free of the shackles of his earthly body, and we will see I'm at the Resurrection. Jim and Sue

March 7 at 7:26 AM

JP

**James N. Phillips Jr.** posted:

Tom and Ruth were the unselfish inseparable couple that moved their family and friends. For me, Tom I was amazed at Tom's Depth of friends! It seems that his Happy Warrior spirit was evident in all he did. Regardless of where we went, Tom and Ruth were known. I know how touched Tom was to go to Medugoria or EWTN, or his work with the Servants of Charity, and KofC 4th Degree, he was invested. He loved his wife and was proud of his children. Final note, when Tom worked at Dunning, I would Drive to the dealership, so that we could ride together. God has recalled one of his Saints. May the Lord, tenderly watch over Ruth and the Burch Clan! Amen.

March 7 at 7:22 AM

MI

**Mark Iwanicki** posted:

Ruth, Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Mark and Randy Iwanicki

February 24 at 8:13 AM

AW

**Arlene Wolf** posted:

Ruth, So sorry to hear about Tom. Although I have been away from Manchester for several years, it doesn't dim my memory of Tom's smile and warm personality. My heart goes out to you and your family. Sending my love and prayers for God to bring peace and blessings to each of you. - Arlene Wolf

February 23 at 3:53 PM

LB

**Lee Bersuder** posted:

Dan and Deb, sorry to hear about your dad, you are in our prayers. Lee and Jane Bersuder

February 23 at 9:49 AM



# Tribute Wall

**Thomas "Tom" Burch**

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**Steve Kirk** posted:

Tom had a good heart, a good sense of humor. Trips to Manchester (from Jackson) were always a pleasure for us Kirk kids. In middle age I realized Tom had more of my Dad's humor and easy-going ways than I did. He must have got his laugh from his Mom, our Aunt Florence. Prayers and condolences to Ruth and the rest of the family. Love, Steve Kirk

February 23 at 8:47 AM



**Ginny Johnson** February 23 at 4:20 PM

When I helped welcome at St Mary's Fish Fry I witnessed Tom in action selling 50/50 tickets. He made it sound like every ticket was a winner ❤️ His personality and friendliness touched everyone. May he Rest In Peace



**Anonymous** sent an Enchanted Cottage to the Burch family.



February 23 at 12:32 AM



**Melanie Woods** posted:

I am going to miss so much that smirk, chuckle, and twinkle in your eye Uncle Tom! Go Rest High on that Mountain. Love you forever, Melanie

February 22 at 6:05 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Burch family.



February 22 at 5:32 PM



**Carol Baker** posted:

Ruth, so sorry to read about Tom's passing. He often gave me rides from Toyota service department to work at U of M and back. He was so friendly - we had some nice conversations when he knew you and I had worked together at JCI. My prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time  
Carol Baker

February 22 at 2:49 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Thomas "Tom" Burch**

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**Anonymous** sent a Large Basket Garden to the Burch family.



February 22 at 1:42 PM



**Deborah McCallum** posted:

Wayne and I are heartbroken to hear Tom has left us to be with Jesus. My Uncle and Godfather was well known for his quick wit, good advice and loving character. Our thoughts and prayers will be with Aunt Ruth, Colleen, Cathy, Jim, Dan and their families during this difficult time of saying goodbye. May you rest in heavenly peace Tom! ❤️

February 22 at 11:23 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Burch family.



February 22 at 7:13 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Burch family.



February 22 at 6:58 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Burch family.



February 22 at 6:44 AM



**Love To You All, The Vic And Barb Dodak Family** sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Burch family.



February 22 at 5:43 AM



## Tribute Wall

**Thomas "Tom" Burch**

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**Danny, Connie, Sarah And Joshua Jordan** sent a Fairest of All to the Burch family.



February 22 at 3:16 AM



**Danny A Jordan** posted:

Though I have been gone for a long time, some of my fondest memories are of the days in Manchester. I always felt welcome in the Tom Burch house, enduring the quick wit and back handed compliments which always were followed by a pat on the back and a chuckle from Tom. I am so sorry Dan, Colleen, Jim and Cathy for the loss of your dad, even more for Ruth as I am sure a part of you went with Tom. The day will come when you will be united again but without the pain that will have faded away. That is the blessed hope and confidence we have in Christ, what a day that will be! Much love to you all !!

February 22 at 12:45 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Burch family.



February 21 at 2:51 PM



**Love, Larry And Tina Jerue And Family.** sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Burch family.



February 21 at 1:51 PM



**Tina Jerue** posted:

So sorry to hear of Tom's passing. We shared some wonderful times together while working together at the Restaurant. He sure loved to cook! I always looked forward to his smiling face and words of wisdom. Such an amazing person! I love and respect how much he loved and valued his family, his friends and his Savior! His contagious smile and personality will be always be remembered. Sending prayers of peace and love to Ruth and all the family. You are all such wonderful people. May you find comfort in knowing he is now in the presence of his Lord and Savior. God Bless! Tina Jerue

February 21 at 1:41 PM



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ML

**Mary Fuller Lefevre** posted:

So sorry for your loss. Will send prayers. Remember fond memories at Manchester High, Class of 59. Mary Fuller LeFevre

February 21 at 12:48 PM

DB

**Dave Bishop** posted:

Gloria, myself and the entire family are saddened about the loss of Tom. Our condolences go out to Ruth and the family. He certainly will be missed by all. Tom loved life and all who were in it. I always looked forward to the family reunions knowing he would be there dishing out his words of advice and the laughter that followed. We will miss you, Tom.

February 21 at 11:40 AM

KD

**Kathy Dimond** posted:

I am so sorry to hear of Tom's passing. From Braun and Brumfield to the community of Manchester, He was always kind and full of life , I never left his company without a smile. My thoughts and prayers to Ruth and the rest of the family. You had one great guy, I know I will miss seeing him from time to time. Light and Love to one and all. Kathy Dimond

February 21 at 11:31 AM

DA

**Deanna Adams** posted:

My ❤️ is trying to understand this. Such an Amazing kind hearted man is now a beautiful Angel. Ton you are and will always be loved by so many here on earth. Fly high my friend. I will never forget you coming along to drive with me to see my dad while he was fighting for his life in the hospital. To always being so loving to me and my girls. Even if my youngest tried to lock you in the basement. 🙏🙏 I know you are now pain free Tom We ❤️ You

February 21 at 10:06 AM

LF

**Lisa Fisher** February 21 at 12:15 PM

When I think of Tom. He will always be the gentle giant I met at Jim and Shelia's wedding.



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LA

**Lulu And Randy Adams** posted:

Our hearts ❤️ go out too Ruth and all the family for Tom we are deeply sadden for there lost and all his dear friends. Randy and I have know a long time and Tom and family have been there for us alot especially when Randy a real true friend was in hospital almost dying Tom and Ruth, Colleen were by our side and we will never forget this. Our granddaughter when she was little locked Tom in his basement of course the great man and person he was he still laughing about it. Randy and I will miss him dearly especially Randy he took this very hard. God be with all. Sending all our love and prayers.

February 21 at 9:21 AM

JS

**Jerimy Schilz** posted:

So sorry to hear that Tom has passed away. He was a great guy and I loved the time we worked together. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Rest In Peace Tom.

February 21 at 9:01 AM

TS

**Thomas Shankland** posted:

We were so sorry to hear that Tom has pass, well miss him and his laugh, are prayers and thoughts are with the family. 🙏 Sincerely, Tom and Terri Shankland

February 21 at 8:36 AM

AH

**Anne Hughes** posted:

Tom was an all around beautiful person. He thought of others first, a truly good man.

February 21 at 8:13 AM

RK

**Renate & Daryl Kempfer** posted:

My sincere condolences to Cathy,Ruth, and the entire family. Tom was such an incredible joy to work with at Braun Brumfield throughout the years and seeing him at numerous gatherings all of us attended. He always had a smile on his face and a great joke to tell! And tickling him and watching him squirm and giggle was so much fun! I loved him so!! He will be greatly missed! He was one of a kind, the best. Hugs and prayers to all of you and may all the wonderful memories he gave us all stay with you.

February 21 at 7:47 AM



## Tribute Wall

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MB

**Mary Bulcher** posted:

So sorry for your loss. God rest his soul and bring comfort to his family. Love you, Uncle Virgil and Aunt Mary

February 21 at 6:51 AM

DB

**Dan Burch** posted:

Great Husband, Great Dad, Great Grandfather, very charitable and great supporter of organizations and community. Most of all to me; he was a great role model. We will miss very much. Love you Dad and thank you guiding me to be the man I am, Dan

February 21 at 6:42 AM

WF

**We Love You All. Gloria Townsend & Family** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Burch family.



February 21 at 4:53 AM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

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



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