



## Lynwood "Lyn" Zepik

January 27, 1946 - March 6, 2021

Lynwood "Lyn" Rowe Zepik, 75, of St. Joseph died Saturday, March 6, 2021 in his home in Lincoln Charter Township.

Lyn was born on January 27, 1946, in Benton Harbor, Michigan. He attended Saint John's Catholic School and graduated from Benton Harbor High School in 1965. He married Kay Messer in 1980.

Lyn retired from the U.S. Navy with over 20 years of meritorious service. He first enlisted in the Navy in 1966 and went through boot camp at Great Lakes, and then earned his lifelong rating as a radioman. After being stationed in Coronado, California for two years, Lyn went to Vietnam in 1969 aboard the USS Jennings County. After a short stint in civilian life, he re-entered the naval service and was stationed at the Military Sealift Command in Naples, Italy. Lyn was a proud Navy airman who served in Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron Four, the United States European Airborne Command Post at RAF Mildenhall, and the NATO AWACS component in Geilenkirchen, Germany. He finished his service aboard the USS George Washington in 1993. Achieving the enlisted rank of senior chief, he earned many awards throughout his career including the Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, and Combat Action Ribbon. He also earned his prized naval aircrew wings as well as his air warfare and surface warfare pins.

He returned to his hometown of Benton Harbor after retirement from the Navy. He loved the sand and surf. He was an avid and devoted dog lover who took his "kids", Mikie, Shannon, Gemma, and Mltzie for daily runs on the beach or

in the park

He was preceded in death by his father, Fred Zepik, August 19, 1959 and mother, Florence Zepik, January 6, 2009. Surviving relatives are his sister Sandra Stringfellow of St. Joseph, nephew Dennis and grandnephew Peter of Granger, Indiana, and nephew Bob (Anna) Vandenberg and grandnephew Cameron of Raleigh, North Carolina.

A service will be held at the Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service in Benton Harbor at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, March 20. Cremation will precede the service, and burial of the ashes will be at North Shore Memory Gardens at some time in the future. Memorials may be made to Berrien County Animal Control, 1400 S. Euclid Avenue, Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022 or the charity of your choice. Please leave messages and memories at [www.florin.net](http://www.florin.net).

Lyn was a special, outgoing and amiable family member who was always there when you needed him. He was a cheerful, fun-loving friend, and you always went away a better person for knowing Lyn. Lyn will be sorely missed, and we are all poorer for his loss.

# Cemetery Details

## North Shore Memory Gardens

5027 M 63 N  
Coloma, MI 49038

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 20. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service  
1053 East Napier Avenue  
Benton Harbor, MI 49022  
(269) 926-7222  
staff@florin.net

## Service Celebrating His Life

MAR 20. 1:00 PM (ET)

Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service  
1053 East Napier Avenue  
Benton Harbor, MI 49022  
(269) 926-7222  
staff@florin.net

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Lynwood "Lyn" Zepik.*



---

March 18, 2021 at 11:19 PM



“ *Lyn, grande amico americano che sei volato via all'improvviso. È stato bello averti conosciuto. Non ti dimenticheremo mai. Pino, Luciana, Alessandra and Francesco.*



*Translation: Lyn - great American friend you have flown away suddenly. It was so nice to have known you. We will never forget you.*

---

**Kay Zepik** - March 18, 2021 at 02:07 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Lynwood "Lyn" Zepik.*



---

March 18, 2021 at 12:31 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kathy Kroll - March 17, 2021 at 01:09 PM



Great time with cousin Lyn and niece Mollie in lake arrowhead, ca - great guy

Kathy Kroll - March 17, 2021 at 01:10 PM

JS

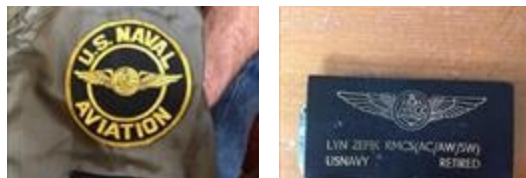
“ Thank you Lyn for your service. We are praying for Lyn's family and friends. God bless you during this difficult time.



Josephine Smith - March 17, 2021 at 11:53 AM

MK

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Mike Kroll - March 17, 2021 at 11:07 AM

MK

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



---

**Mike Kroll** - March 17, 2021 at 10:48 AM

 Sandra  
Zepik-  
Stringfello

“ I am going to miss him. He was my baby brother.

---

**Sandra Zepik-Stringfellow** - March 17, 2021 at 10:00 AM

DC

“ I knew Lyn from high school, a very nice person and I feel fortunate to have known him. We connected once again at one of our Lest We Forget meetings. It was so nice to see him once again. So sorry to his family and friends for this great loss. I will always remember that smile he greeted me with...even after all those years.

---

**Dennis Churchill** - March 17, 2021 at 08:42 AM

KS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



---

**Kathy Smoke** - March 17, 2021 at 08:15 AM

SO

“ I grew up across the street from Lyn in Benton Harbor, and have many great memories of him. My sincere condolences, Sandy.

---

**Sue (McLaughlin) Oorbeck** - March 17, 2021 at 06:40 AM

KE

“ Lyn was a great dancer. I remember in high school during lent we won a dance contest at the YMCA in St Joe and our picture was in the local paper. The next day one of the nuns said you should not be dancing during lent and I said to her I did not give dancing up for lent. RIP Lyn. You will be missed by your many classmates Karen Neumann Eich

---

**Karen Neumann Eich** - March 16, 2021 at 09:10 PM