



Theodore "Ted" Andrew Potoczak

June 10, 1937 - July 22, 2025

Theodore "Ted" Andrew Potoczak, age 88, of Goetzville, Michigan, died on July 22, 2025, in his home. He was born on June 10, 1937, in Goetzville, to Michael Sr. and Helen (Crusso) Potoczak.

Ted was a lifelong resident of Goetzville, the community he loved. He graduated from DeTour High School and went on to earn his bachelor's degree in science from Northern Michigan University in 1962. That same year, he began what would become a thirty-year career as a beloved Biology teacher at DeTour High School, retiring in 1992.

Ted was a proud member of St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, and the Raber Area Sportsman's Club. Ted also had a love for sports and once played in both a fast pitch and slow pitch softball league. He was also a past member in a men's bowling league in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. His favorite professional sports team was the Detroit Tigers.

An avid outdoorsman, Ted found joy and peace in nature. He loved farming, gardening, hunting, and generally spending time outside. Ted's hunting trips included visits to Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota and Canada, but his favorite was hunting Michigan Whitetail deer.

Ted is survived by his brother, Robert (Helen "Peggy") Potoczak of Newberry,

Michigan; sister-in-law, Beverly “Jean” Potoczak of Goetzville; and nieces and nephews; Marlene (Gerald) Chubirka, Michael (Lara) Soczek, Mark Soczek, David Denn, James (Parzi) Denn, Brian (Krista) Potoczak, Cathy (Fred) Anderson, and Suzie (John) Przyella, and great nieces and nephews Michael “Mikey” Potoczak, Kadence Potoczak, Michaela Soczek, Nicholas Soczek, Michael Wereley, and Alex Wereley.

Ted was preceded in death by his parents, Michael Sr. and Helen; sisters, Frances Denn and Dorothy (Edward) Soczek; and brother, Michael J. Potoczak Jr.

Visitation will be held August 1, 2025, from 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon at St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, 12841 E Traynor Rd, Goetzville, MI 49736. The Mass of Christian Burial will begin at 12:00 Noon, with the burial to follow at St. Stanislaus Cemetery, in Goetzville.

Memorials in Ted’s honor may be left to St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, 12841 E. Traynor Rd, Goetzville, MI 49736 or the EUP Fine Arts Council, 245 Erie St., DeTour Village, MI 49725.

Family Life Funeral Homes – Pickford assisted the family with arrangements. Condolences may be left to the family at www.familylifefh.com.

Cemetery Details

St. Stanislaus Catholic Cemetery

E Traynor Road
Goetzville, MI 49736

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 1. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Church
12841 E Traynor Road
Goetzville, MI 49736

Mass of Christian Burial

AUG 1. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Church
12841 E Traynor Road
Goetzville, MI 49736

Tribute Wall

SO

“ Susan Olmstead lit a candle in memory of Theodore "Ted" Andrew Potoczak



Susan Olmstead - July 31, 2025 at 09:20 PM

AL

“ Ted was a biology teacher for me and my five siblings. Always looked forward to seeing him at the Yooperman Bar when I was up in Goetzville and, of course at St. Stanislaus on Sunday. Rest in peace. Annette Potwardski Lang

annette lang - July 31, 2025 at 02:40 PM

MT

“ Marlene Thornton lit a candle in memory of Theodore "Ted" Andrew Potoczak



Marlene Thornton - July 30, 2025 at 06:45 PM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Theodore "Ted" Andrew Potoczak.



July 30, 2025 at 03:25 PM

JP

“ My husband and I send our sincere condolences to the family. We very much enjoyed visiting with Ted at the Yooperman bar and watching the DetroitTigers. Won't be the same without him. Phil and Jayne(Millon) Pellerito

Jayne Pellerito - July 29, 2025 at 09:45 PM

DG

“ Darlene (Lee) Goldacker lit a candle in memory of Theodore "Ted" Andrew Potoczak



Darlene (Lee) Goldacker - July 29, 2025 at 08:27 PM

DM

“ To Ted's Family,

*So sorry for your loss. Ted was a fellow teacher and a good friend. We worked together for close to thirty years. He was a nice guy and well respected by everyone. Sorry I can't be at his service as I have to go to my granddaughters wedding.
RIP, TAP, you will be sadly missed by family and friends.*

Dave Miller

David Miller - July 29, 2025 at 05:03 PM