



Robert "Dan" Daniel Dowis

March 21, 1946 - January 14, 2020

Robert Daniel "Dan" Dowis passed away at home on January 14, 2020 at his home in Zilwaukee, MI after a brief battle with lung cancer. He was a generous, jovial man who spent his life working to ensure the welfare of his family and community.

Born March 21, 1946 in Phoenix, AZ to Robert Theodore Irene and Jane (Miklosovic) Dowis, Dan took to heart the example set by his parents' volunteer and charity work and spent his life looking out for others. Even before graduation from Northern Arizona University, he worked as a patrolman for the campus police. In 1968, he earned a Bachelor of Criminal Justice. He worked for the Flagstaff, AZ police department before moving to Saginaw, MI in 1972. Over the course of his career, he served as a sergeant for Buena Vista Township (1972-1978) and chief of campus police at Delta College (1978-2003).

Dan made his home in Saginaw, MI and resided there for most of his life. He was active on- and off-stage for the Pit & Balcony community theater, where he delighted audiences with his acting in such roles as Arthur Birling in "An Inspector Calls" and Jacob Marley in "A Christmas Carol"; he contributed further time and energy over the years to stage management and improvements to the theater itself.

He took an active interest in his children's lives and passions, traveling across the state and the country to support his daughter in her gymnastics competitions and visit his son at various performance venues producing concerts.

Dan retired from his career as a policeman in 2003, which gave him more time for travel and his family. He drove part-time for Blue Lakes Charters until 2012, when he briefly moved back to Phoenix to care for his parents at the end of their lives. He became an honorary yet very active member of the Telephone Pioneers alongside his parents. Together they spent many hours and endless energy doing volunteer and charity work. After their deaths, he returned to Saginaw to be close to his daughter and his extended family. He was an active member of the Zilwaukee Lions Club. He also enjoyed frequent

trips to the casino with friends and relatives. He shared his love of cooking and cooking shows with his children as well.

Dan also cared deeply for animals and their welfare. He loved many family pets over the years, and spent his last years in happy companionship with his dog, Patchis, who preceded him in death by just a few months.

He was also preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Christopher Michael and D'nelle Throneberry Dowis; his daughter and son-in-law, Kimberly Lauren Dowis-Brown and Allen Henry Brown, and their dog, Bentley; his brother, Randall Keith Dowis; and the mother of his children, Kathleen (Ritzenhein) Dowis.

Cremation took place in late January; his remains will accompany his children on their future adventures.

A visitation service will be held at Deisler Funeral Home 2233 Hemmeter Rd (off State), 5pm - 8pm on Thursday, January 30, 2020

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Humane Society of Saginaw (visit humanesocietyofsaginawcounty.org to donate online in memory of Dan Dowis, or mail to PO Box 1823 Saginaw, MI 48605)

Events

JAN **Visitation** 05:00PM - 08:00PM

30

Deisler Funeral Home

2233 Hemmeter Road, Saginaw, MI, US, 48603

Comments



“ Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Robert "Dan" Daniel Dowis.



January 30 at 11:56 AM



“ Healing Tears - All White was purchased for the family of Robert "Dan" Daniel Dowis.



January 29 at 09:48 AM



“ It was so sorry to hear of Dan's passing but happy for him that he is out of pain and discomfort. I drove with Dan at Blue Lakes and had many trips together. Dan always had a smile for you. I have always admired his decision to quit driving and move to Phoenix to care for his aging parents...a good example of his thinking of others and not just himself. I considered it was my good fortune to have known and drive with Dan. May God bless your family during this difficult time.
-Jack Wagner

Jack Wagner - January 29 at 08:07 AM



“ Dan's passing was a friend moving on. I was so sorry to hear the news. I drove bus with Dan all of his years at Blue Lakes. He was always smiling, sincere, and an absolute joy to be around. I enjoyed each and every trip with Dan. He would always update me on his son and daughter. He will be missed by myself and all who knew him. See you upstairs Dan.

Joe Hagen



Joe Hagen - January 28 at 02:31 PM



“ Sorry to here of Dan's passing. He was a very gentle and kind friend and co-worker. We had many pleasant trips together while driving for Blue Lakes. I always referred to him as Capt'n Dan. I think he enjoyed that. Dan will be missed. My deepest sympathy to his family. From Cary Mills

Cary Mills - January 27 at 07:24 PM



“ Sorry to hear of Dan's passing. I worked with Dan at Blue Lakes Charters & Tours for a number of years and always considered Dan a friend and enjoyed doing various trips with him. Prayers and condolences to his family.

Tom Girard

Tom Girard - January 26 at 09:03 PM



“ Dan Reinhardt lit a candle in memory of Robert "Dan" Daniel Dowis



Dan Reinhardt - January 26 at 06:32 PM