



Carl Joseph Rivard

January 18, 1957 - March 20, 2026

Carl Rivard, age 69, of Warren, died on March 20, 2026. Born on January 18, 1957, in Detroit to the late Joseph and Joan Rivard. Beloved husband of Ann married 41 years. Loving father of Joseph Rivard, Christine (Cliff) Sartain, and Lauren (Brett) McArthur. Cherished grandfather of Gabriella Sartain, Savannah Sartain, Louis Sartain, and Henry McArthur. Brother of Donna Rivard, Ross (Rita) Rivard, and Colleen (Sam) Cadena. Many nieces, nephews, and lifelong friends since grade school. Carl graduated from Lincoln High School Class of 1975. In 1981, he became a City of Warren firefighter for over 25 years. An avid sports fan, he enjoyed watching Detroit Lions football, golfing, traveling, and camping. A tall man with a presence about him, he was trusted, respected, made everyone feel special, was an excellent listener and was the biggest cheerleader for his children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Most of all, he loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. A memorial mass will be held at St. Mary, Our Lady Queen of Families Catholic Church (St. Clement Site) on Friday, March 27th, 9:30am instate for 10:30am mass. Please wear your Detroit Lions attire to the celebration of life after mass in honor of Carl. PLEASE DO NOT send flowers. Memorials to the family appreciated. Please visit www.rudyfuneral.com to share a memory or light a candle.

Previous Events

Instate

MAR 27. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

St Mary, Our Lady Queen of Families
25252 Van Dyke
Center Line, MI 48015
(586) 757-3306

Funeral Mass

MAR 27. 10:30 AM (ET)

St Mary, Our Lady Queen of Families
25252 Van Dyke
Center Line, MI 48015
(586) 757-3306

Tribute Wall

AP

“ Carl was a top notch Firefighter and one of the nicest people I ever met. Rest in peace Carl.

Alexander Payne - March 30 at 06:04 PM

VB

“ Great man, father, papa, friend, provider for his family, always had a big bear hug for everyone he knew. Taken way too young. He will be missed!❤️❤️. See you on the other side🥺❤️

Vicky B - March 29 at 06:37 PM

AK

“ Ann so sorry to hear of Carl's passing. Thoughts and prayers during this time and years to come. He was a great fireman and great to work with and always smiling. May he rest in peace and the memory of him live long.

Allan Klann - March 27 at 04:29 PM

CH

“ cherylin lit a candle in memory of Carl Rivard



cherylin - March 27 at 09:17 AM

DO

“ As Carl's sister-in-law I am soooo grateful that the "cruel man" gave my sister Ann another look! He told me once it was the best decision he ever made and we agree. Together they built a wonderful life and a beautiful, growing family. He was the lifeblood of all our family events and beloved by all. It was our secret that when he was carving the Xmas tenderloin, it grew wings and ended up on the floor... and you all ate it up lol. And such a mouthy euchre player, he infuriated me often, lol again! He was always entertaining and funny. So, since his favorite line was "I'm going alone", we're sending you off alone. But we expect you to keep the cards warm, the fires burning, and the drinks flowing till we get there! Sending love and comfort to all the Rivards as you try to fill the huge hole in your hearts. See you on the other side Carl... Peace



Donna - March 26 at 05:37 PM

WC

“ Carl and I were hired the same day 07/24/1981 and "baptized" behind Station 1 with the rest of our rookie class. Dripping wet we shared a laugh I have always remembered. I still have a picture from that day in a scrapbook tucked away in a closet. It deserves a long look and a toast to Carl honoring a life well lived. Peace be with all his family and many friends who will miss him greatly,
Warren Cook

Warren Cook - March 26 at 12:42 PM

MK

“ Annie and family. I would like to express my deepest condolences to you on Carl's passing. He was a great Man. We spent so much time together at Station 5 and then at NBS. We saw each other more than our families. Annie, you would call the station and tell me to let Carl know to bring home bread and milk. I will truly miss him. R.I.P. Carl, we have your back.
Mike Kensicki

Michael Kensicki - March 26 at 11:26 AM

MF

“ Carl was a wonderful, kind, witty, loving man. He had a certain charisma that people were drawn to. If you knew him, you loved him. He loved his family above all else. Ken and I will cherish all the memories we made with Carl and Ann and the kids. He will be in our hearts and memories forever. Our love, thoughts and prayers are with Ann, Joe, Christine and Lauren.

Michele and Ken Ficht - March 25 at 06:42 PM

DS

“ From the entire Schulte family, we extend our deepest condolences. Carl was a fixture at our house while growing up. He was best man at John's wedding. He'd come to visit and was treated just like another sibling. He was one of the pack. Great memories. May his soul rest in peace. Sending prayers to the entire family.

Denise (Schulte) Stout - March 25 at 04:18 PM

JD

“ Carl was my favorite cousin. I think he was probably everyone's favorite cousin--warm, funny, kind, full of heart, and all about family. My condolences to the entire Rivard family.

Jim Daniels - March 25 at 11:15 AM

JL

Jim, happy you said that because, though I love you all, I told Amy he was my favorite cousin, too.

Joe LaBute - March 25 at 03:07 PM

SF

“ *I grew up across the street from the lovely Rivard family and spent a lot of time playing at their house (especially “shooting hoops” in the backyard). When I was in 7th grade and Carl was a 9th grader we got paired up to square dance together in gym class. I was totally embarrassed! He was confident and so nice. He was so tall that I was only a little taller than his belt buckle 😂). A memory never forgotten. May he rest in God’s merciful love and peace.*

Stacey (Halaas) Fosmoen - March 25 at 10:17 AM

JL

“ *I thought the world of Carl. He seemed larger than life to me. Fun, funny, gregarious, kind, just a person you absolutely loved being around. A great man I respected and admired so much. As with many of my cousins, I wish we’d been closer, but the times I did get to spend with him were always cherished and, frankly, a blast. God bless him, Annie and the family.*

Joe LaBute - March 24 at 05:51 PM

TK

“ *Carl was one of that rarest of people, loved and respected by everyone that knew him. As a fellow firefighter, teammate and friend his character, kindness, and integrity will forever be remembered.*

Tony Kowalski - March 24 at 02:34 PM

KM

“ My deepest sorrows go out to the Rivard family.
I first met Carl when I was detailed to Station 5 as a rookie and instantly became friends. We had a lot in common and one was traveling, and before you knew it we were heading out west in Carls Mercury EXP exploring a number of National Parks. We played a lot of softball and other sports together and was glad we were on the same team, because he was one fine athlete.
There is so much more I can say, but I'll finish by saying I will truly miss Carl as well as all who knew him.
Love you Brother

Keith Matro - March 24 at 01:29 PM

MC

“ You will be missed 🙏❤️ Rest in Peace 🙏
Xoxo
Mike and Mary



Michael Carnago - March 24 at 10:40 AM

LS

“ I was very fortunate to work side by side with Carl most of my career at Warren Fire . Kind and intelligent man. Larry Speck

Lawrence Speck - March 24 at 10:15 AM

DN

“ To Carl's family, My dad Bill and I both enjoyed working with Carl.
We remember him as great guy to be around.

Deborah Niesluchowski - March 24 at 09:07 AM

DR

“ Carl was simply the best! A true friend, great firefighter, and human being. Rest in peace Carl.

Dan Ross - March 24 at 08:17 AM

EK

“ Tina and myself want to express the deepest sympathy to the Rivard family. I worked at several places with Carl, the last place was the fire department. This is what Carl was all about. I will never forget one run that we went on when I was Carl's FEO and he was my Lieutenant. We responded to a small car fire at 3 a.m. We extinguished it. Carl said we had to drive over to the trailer park which we did. Carl went up to the door and talked to a young lady. Carl returned to the engine and said we had to go back to the car that was on fire. We got there and Carl had us pop the trunk open. Inside was a small child's bike with training wheels on it. We proceeded back to the trailer. Carl got out and took the bike up to the door and knocked. The young lady answered the door. As Carl was talking to her a little boy poked out his head from behind his mom and the biggest smile you ever saw was on his face. Carl talked for a minute and came back to the engine. As we started back to the station, Carl looked at me and said "now don't you have a nice warm fuzzy feeling in your heart." That is Carl in a nutshell. That is how he ran his life. That happened in 2002. I will never forget the kindness that he showed this family in a time of need. After Carl retired, every time I saw him I would remind of that story and tell him what a good person he is. He was just a great person.

*Our condolences
Eugene & Tina Kensicki*

Eugene Kensicki - March 24 at 07:19 AM

SW

“ Mr Carl, you my friend will always be remembered for being the BEST 💙 Always making fun times for the kids. Simple pleasures like the the big dip in the road with the big van. I still hear about it 💕 Or being a chaperone with us at 5th grade camp! Thanks for the memories 💙Fly High

Sheila Wojciechowski - March 24 at 04:30 AM

JC

“ This is how I will remember Carl. Always smiling laughing and having a good time. Cheers to a life well lived and loved.



Joan Carnago - March 24 at 12:18 AM

LW

“ Love Katie Wojciechowski purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Carl Joseph Rivard.



Love Katie Wojciechowski - March 24 at 12:05 AM

ES

“ It has been a long time since I have seen Carl. He was always smiling, so pleasant, just a fun guy. Ann, he's in good hands.

Ebbe Smith - March 23 at 10:54 PM

AK

“ Carl a great man, firefighter, family man, he was our “Chuck Norris “ of Warren Fire.

Condolences to the family, Carl RIP 🙏🇺🇸

Al Kane - March 23 at 09:32 PM



“ To the Rivard family I am so sorry for your loss my condolences; I am Colleen's sister in -law Sylvia Sam is my brother.

Sylvia Bober - March 23 at 09:01 PM

AK

“ Carl was a great all around man to work with, fight fires, a family man and our “Chuck Norris”, at Warren Fire. Condolences to the family, Carl RIP 🙏🇺🇸

Al Kane - March 23 at 09:00 PM

EK

“ Carl was an all around great guy. We are very sorry for your family loss. I worked with Carl for many years. He taught me so much about the job and life. I was his FEO when he was my Lieutenant. My kids were about the same age and went to high school together. I remember so many things that we shared and laughed about. I remember sitting him down and talking about Joe going out on a date with one of my girls. When I started talking to him he looked at me and said not to worry that he had talked to Joe already. We had a good laugh about that. The biggest thing that I will always remember about Carl was his kindness and his big heart. We went on a car fire late at night and went to the trailer where the owner was after we put the car fire out. This was unusual to do. Carl went up to the door and talked to the young lady whose car it was. Carl came back to the truck and said we had to go back to the car which was only a few blocks away. He had us get a small child's bike from the trunk of the car and put it in the engine. We proceeded back to the trailer and Carl carried the bike up to the door. He knocked and the lady opened the door. Her young little boy was right behind her. He poked his head around her and broke into the biggest smile you could imagine. Carl came back to the truck and looked at me and said " Now don't you have a nice warm fuzzy feeling in your heart." To me that is what was Carl was all about. Every time I saw him I would tell him that story to remind him of it. When I became an officer I modeled myself after Carl and was proud to do that. We shared stories about being grandparents and how great it was. We know that Carl is a better place.

Our condolences ,

Eugene & Tina Kensicki

Eugene Kensicki - March 23 at 08:10 PM

JN

“ Cheryl and I were saddened to hear of Carl’s passing. We had known Carl and Annie for so many years through softball and the fire department, and Carl was truly one of a kind. He was just an awesome guy — always happy, always smiling, and always someone you were glad to be around.

Some people leave an impression by the way they treat others, and that was Carl. He was respected by everyone who knew him, not because he demanded it, but because he was simply that kind of man. Whether we were on the ball field or at the fire department, Carl always brought a good spirit with him, and that is something Cheryl and I will always remember.

We feel very fortunate to have known him and to have shared so many years and memories with Carl and Annie. He will be deeply missed, and we are keeping Annie and the whole family in our thoughts and prayers.

Jim and Cheryl Nielsen

Jim Nielsen - March 23 at 07:57 PM

ES

“ Damn, Brother Carl! A true gentleman. As soon as you saw him you got a smile on your face. He just oozed positively and having a good time!

Firefighter, Peri-medic , but off duty if you asked him he was a plumber 🛠️

Striking the four five Brother 🛎️🇺🇸🚒

Well done good and faithful servant



Ed Samulski - March 23 at 07:55 PM

JC

“ Rivard & Belbot back together. Scary....RIP my friend.

john clark - March 23 at 07:45 PM

RR

“ Carl was larger than life! He loved his family, first and foremost; was a friend to all, and was always looking out for others and the first to lend a hand to anyone in need. He will be remembered for his booming yet gentle voice; his sense of humor as well as his love and integrity. To say that he will be greatly missed is an understatement. We love you Carl!

Rita Rivard

Rita Rivard - March 23 at 07:38 PM

HC

“ Annie and kids, words cannot express the sorrow that I and we all feel at Carl's passing. He was a great man and awesome boss. I truly enjoyed every day that I worked with him. I hope and pray that you know that he is whole again in the arms of his loving Savior. Our deepest condolences,
Hank and Terri Criscuolo

Hank Criscuolo - March 23 at 05:48 PM

HM

“ Carl was one of the best men I had the honor to know and have as a friend. He was always a joy to be around. His sense of humor always made me laugh. His love for his family exemplified an outstanding friend, father, grandfather and husband. Carl you will be missed!

Helen McCormick - March 23 at 05:41 PM

MC

“ You will be missed ❤️ Rest in Peace 🙏❤️
Xoxo
Mike and Mary 🤔



Michael Carnago - March 23 at 05:27 PM



“ My next door neighbor while growing up in Warren. Always a kind and gentle person. My condolences to his loving family. RIP Carl.

Janice Szur - March 23 at 05:23 PM

RS

“ Carl was a great friend and coworker with me for many years. I was driving Engine five on his was very first run that he ever went on. I played softball and euchre with him for several years. Everyone and I mean, everyone had the highest respect for him as a person and as a firefighter. He will be deeply missed.

Ray Shields - March 23 at 05:02 PM

RR

“ Carl was the person everyone wanted to be around. At Mikenna's wedding shower, Carl walked in and instantly every bridesmaid was around him. This lead to the perfect picture of Carl sitting on a window ledge at the wedding reception surrounded by the bridesmaids. This is how I'll always remember him, everyone's friend.

Ross Rivard - March 23 at 04:54 PM