

Michigan Knights of Columbus

Candidate

Family of the Year

Father Casimir Zypher Council 6657

Posen, Michigan

April 19, 2021

April 19, 2021

Family/Knight of the Year

To the State Officers of the Michigan Knights of Columbus

As the Diocesan Program Director for Gaylord East and District Deputy for District 209 along with being a member of Council 6657 I am proud to recommend Wally Roznowski along with his wife Martha as the Michigan KofC Family/Knight of the year.

They (he) have been an exemplary Knight of Columbus brother(family). Their (his) commitment to the KofC, the Catholic Church, the VFW and to their community has been nothing less than amazing. He has held so many positions within the KofC leadership including Grand Knight, Financial Secretary and District Deputy over his decades of being a brother in the order. His leadership has fostered other brothers to grow within the organization and his mentorship has helped other brothers to learn and lead within council 6657 and district 209.

Walter & Martha are true examples of what every brother (wife), catholic citizen and patriot should strive to do within their lives.

Regards,

Joel J Kendzorski

District Deputy

Diocesan Program Director East

FAMILY of the YEAR



Entry Form

Jurisdiction: _____ Date: _____

Instructions

Local Councils: To enter your "Family of the Year" into state/provincial competition, complete this form and forward it to the state deputy. Additional paper may be used if space allocated is not sufficient. Photographs, news clippings, letters of commendation or other special exhibits may be included. **Note: individual jurisdictions set their own deadlines for state/provincial competitions, so watch for deadline dates or contact the state deputy.**

State Council: Select **one** entry to honor as state/provincial "Family of the Year." Submit that entry form, with the state deputy's signature and all collateral material, to the Supreme Council Department of Fraternal Services by **June** for consideration in the International "Family of the Year" competition.

A. Personal Data

Member's Name: Walter Leo Roznowski 1711696
Membership Number

Wife's Name: Martha Ann Roznowski

Children/Ages:

Children/Ages:

Jennifer Darga 47

Mary Odalovich 44

Andrew Roznowski 41

Walter Roznowski (JR) 36

Home Address: 5816 M-65 Posen, MI

Home Telephone: 989-766-8043 Business Telephone: _____

Parish: St. Casimirs Pastor: Rev Art F. Duchnowicz

Address: 10075 M65 Posen, MI 49776

Telephone: 989-766-2660

B. Knights of Columbus Data

Family nominated by Council 6657 in Posen, MI
(Number) (Location)

For how many years has husband/father been a member of the Knights of Columbus?

55

Positions (offices/program directorships/chairmanships/committee assignments) held:

Wally has held every Council position since the Council was established in 1975. He was a district deputy for 2 terms, and is a member of the 4th degree and a color corp. member

Explain the entire family's involvement within the Knights of Columbus:

The family has supported their father by helping with the annual potato festival and wild game dinners. A son has pulled the KC Float in several parades. His sons have been KC members since 2000.

FAMILY of the YEAR

C. Family Involvement

Explain the entire family's involvement within the Church:

Wally & Martha instilled in their children the value of church and a belief that God is in the center of life. This has been passed on to the grandchildren, some attending Catholic school.



Explain the entire family's involvement within the community:

The family has been helping with community activities from early on. The oldest daughter has played taps since age 15. All the children & grandchildren have participated in Relay for Life.

Explain why this family was chosen as the "model" family in your jurisdiction. Why does this family deserve the distinction of being named "Knights of Columbus Family of the Year"?

Without the support of the family it would have been difficult for Wally to be so active in the Council. As young they would fold and stuff newsletters and later help with the sponsored council activities. The values of faith and love were instilled in their children and passed on to the grandchildren.

For State Council Use Only:

This family has been chosen state/provincial "Family of the Year."

Attest: _____

Walter K. White, Jr.
(State Deputy)

NOTE: Submit winning entry to Supreme Council Department of Fraternal Services, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510-3326. All entries must reach the Supreme Council office by June 10 to qualify.



Knights of Columbus
Father Casimir Szyper Council Number 6657
Posen Michigan

April 19, 2021

Dear Reading Committee,

The Knights of Columbus Council 6657 in Posen, with all its 200+ members, unanimously endorsed at the April 14, 2021 meeting, to support our late Financial Secretary Wally Roznowski and his wife Martha as KofC Family of the Year for the year 2021.

Wally was a charter member of council 6657. He has been a member of the KofC for more than 57 years. He has served in most leadership positions in the council while also being a District Deputy and the Faithful Comptroller of Assembly #1711.

As you will see as you go through this book, Wally along with his wife Martha and their four children have been an integral part of the Knights of Columbus in Northeast Michigan as well as the State of Michigan. The extensive involvement of the Roznowski family in leadership, programs, and activities that support his beliefs in the catholic church and patriotic duties in the VFW demonstrate that Wally and his wife Martha are more than eligible for the family of the year award.

Wally and his family have been very much involved in the church, the vfw, the community, the youth and the Knights of Columbus. Our council believes he and his family would be well-deserved recipients of the *Michigan State KofC Family of the Year*.

James Kendzorski

Grand Knight of council 6657



Knights of Columbus

FATHER CASIMER SZYPER COUNCIL, No. 6657
Posen, Michigan 49776

March 13, 2019

Dear Reading Committee:

The Knights of Columbus, Council #6657 in Posen, Michigan with 225 members serves the parishes of St. Casimir's in Posen and St. Dominic's in Metz. At the March 13th regular meeting, the officers have unanimously endorsed a motion to support our Financial Secretary, Walter (Wally) Roznowski for the *Nomination for the Michigan State Family of the Year*.

Mr. Roznowski is a charter member of Council #6657. He has been a member of the Knight of Columbus for 55 years, is a past Grand Knight, has held every Council #6657 leadership position and has served as past District Deputy. He is also an active member and Faithful Comptroller of the 4th Degree Assembly #1711.

As you will see from his **Family of the Year Application** and portfolio, Wally, his spouse, Martha, and the entire family have been an integral part of the Knights of Columbus at the local and district level. His extensive involvement in leadership positions, programs, and activities demonstrate his belief, support, and commitment to our Catholic family fraternal organization.

Wally Roznowski is very active in our programs and activities. For example, he designed and helped build the *Santa Maria* K of C float for the annual Posen Potato Festival, which attracts thousands of visitors to NE Michigan, has been the *Master of Ceremonies* for 35 years at our annual Wild Game Dinner that serves over 400 people; and, for over 10 years has served as our Financial Secretary.

In summary, Wally and his family have and continue to be very much involved with the Church, community, youth, and the Knights of Columbus. Our Council believes that he and his family would be a well-deserved recipient of the *Michigan State Family of the Year*. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me by email at <gerrie@speednetllc.com>, or by phone at (989) 255-7748.

Sincerely,

Greg Mulka
Grand Knight, 2018-19
Council #6657

This is the family of Walter and Martha Roznowski. There are 4 children, their spouses, and 8 grandchildren. Wally and Martha have been married 48 years. One daughter recently celebrated 25 years of marriage. Another will celebrate 25 years of marriage this summer. The 2 daughter-in laws, became Catholic prior to their marriages, and all play an important role in teaching the catholic faith to their children.





Knights of Columbus

Fr. Adalbert Narloch Assembly #1711

P.O. Box 5

Rogers City, Michigan 49779



February 26, 2019

Dear Reading Committee:

The Knights of Columbus, 4th Degree Fr. Adalbert Narloch Assembly #1711 with 67 members serves parishes located in Posen, Metz, and Rogers City; and, local 3rd degree members belong to Council #6657 in Posen or Council #1705 in Rogers City.

At the February 26th regular meeting, the officers have unanimously endorsed a motion to support our Faithful Comptroller, Walter (Wally) Roznowski for the *Nomination for the Michigan State Family of the Year*.

Mr. Roznowski is a charter member of Council #6657 and currently serves, as its Financial Secretary. In addition, he also currently serves, as Faithful Comptroller for Assembly #1711. As you will see from his **Family of the Year Application** and portfolio, he has been a member of the Knight of Columbus for 55 years and has held every Council position within his local Council and served as District Deputy.

He is the Faithful Comptroller for Assembly #1711 and has participated in various Assembly activities over many years, such as a member of the Color Corps, chairs the annual membership drives, participates in Exemplification ceremonies, performs fund-raising efforts for the Chalice fund, attends summer BBQs and related 4th degree activities.

We believe that he and his Family would be a well-deserved recipient of the *Michigan State Family of the Year*. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me by email at carlwolo1947@gmail.com, or by phone at (989) 370-4189.

Sincerely,

Carl A. Woloszyk
Faithful Navigator, 2018-19
Bishop Adalbert Narloch Assembly #1711

B. Knights of Columbus Data

Family Nominated by Council #6657 in Posen, Michigan 49776.

For how many years has husband/father been a member of the Knights of Columbus? 55 years.

Originally joined the Order in 1964 and became a Charter Member of Council #6657 in 1975.

Positions (offices/program directorships/chairmanships/Committee assignments) held:

Offices held:

- 1) Wally Roznowski has held every Council Position
- 2) Grand Knight of Council #6657 from 1992-1994.
- 3) Financial Secretary from 1987 - 1990 and 2009 - present
- 4) District Deputy 1994-1998
- 5) Joined the 4th Degree Assembly #1711 in 1998 and is a member of the Color Corps
- 6) Faithful Comptroller 2010 - Present

Program Directorships/ Chairmanships/Committee assignments

- 1) *Master of Ceremonies* for Wild Game Dinners held annually from 1992-Present. Gross sales from this project for 2019 totaled over \$50,000.
- 2) *Float Building Chairman* (organized and assisted) in the construction of a K of C "Santa Maria" replica float in 1993 which is used for the Annual Posen Potato Festival. The annual Posen Potato Festival began in 1952. The float has been used in the Sunday Festival parade, since it was built. Area clergy and members of the Knight of Columbus ride on the platform waving, greeting, and throwing candy to the thousands of children, families, community members, and tourists that line the parade route. The parade is one

of the longest and largest parades held in northern Michigan. The 67th Annual Festival held September 7-9, 2018 attracted over 20,000 participants for the weekend activities. (msee Festival Program in Portfolio Section.

- 3) *Member of the Council #6657 bowling team* for many years and participated in local league and annual state K of C bowling tournaments
- 4) *Chairman* of Council #6657 Bereavement Committee
- 5) *President* of Council #6657 Building Committee
- 6) *Volunteer* for various Posen Chamber of Commerce and Council #6657 activities (treasurer, food booth, organizer, K of C float driver, etc.) during the Annual Potato Festival from 1992-present.
- 7) *Builder* of several handicapped ramps at residences for physically handicapped K of C members
- 8) *Participant* in Council sponsored Adopt-A-Highway program since the program was started in 1997
- 9) *Chairman*, K of C Council #6657 Free Throw Contest
- 10) *Chairman*, K of C Council sponsored Boy Scout Troop
- 11) *Official delegate* for several State Conventions in Mackinac Island in his capacity as District Deputy, Grand Knight, past Grand Knight, past District Deputy, and Voting Delegate
- 12) *Participant* at the Supreme Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1998.



Martha and Wally Roznowski
4th Degree Exemplification
April 1997



4th Degree at Attention
Wally pictured (second from left)

State K of C Convention
Living Rosary





Installation of Officers
by District Deputy Roznowski



District Deputy Roznowski
with Hillman Council Officers





K of C State Convention
Gaylord Diocesan Meeting
DD Roznowski (back row)



Recording Secretary
1994-96



League Banquet for Council
Bowling Team



Council Bowling Team
State Tournament



K of C Council #6657
Santa Maria Replica Float
Best Service Organization Entry



Explain the entire family's involvement within the Knights of Columbus

The family's sons, Andrew and Wally Jr. and spouse, Martha, help with recruitment activities, Wild Game dinners, Posen Festival, and various Council activities. For example, the sons have participated in the Posen Potato Festival Parade by pulling the K of C float, working the Festival food booths, and helping to host Fall new member recruitment shooting events held at the family hunting camp.

Spousal support for time committed for K of C activities includes baking pastry items for the annual Wild Game Dinner, the annual Posen Potato Festival, and for the several fish dinners held during the Lenten season. Martha has also assisted in writing Council newsletters and using the computer to assist in Council #6657 activities.

C. Family Involvement with the Church

Wally Roznowski, his wife, Martha, and their family have been integral, valued, and respected members and supporters of the Catholic Church community for many years. The following explains the type and variety of activities that Wally, Martha, and their family members perform in support of the local St. Casimir's Parish and area Catholic education.

- 1) *Active parishioners*, St. Casimir's Catholic Church.
- 2) *Finance Committee Member*, St. Casimir's Catholic Church, Posen, MI 1994-present.
- 3) *Usher*, St. Casimir's 1989-present.
- 4) *Lay Ministers* for the Eucharist (Martha and Wally)
- 5) *Grandchildren* attend All Saints Catholic Church in Alpena, Michigan (St. Casimir's School in the local Posen Community was forced to close several years ago).
- 6) *Grandson, Noah*, is a reader for school masses.
- 7) *Granddaughters, Makyla and Samantha* were participants in the Living Nativity Play
- 8) *Granddaughter, Ashley*, plays the violin in the Christmas Choir

**St Casimir Catholic Church
10075 M 65, P.O. Box 217
Posen, MI 49776
989-766-2660**

March 7, 2019

To whom it may concern

This letter is the letter of recommendation for Mr. & Mrs. Walter & Martha Roznowski who were nominated for the family of the year reward.

They are both members of St. Casimir Church in Posen, MI. They are both active, with Walt serving as an usher, finance council member and building and grounds committee member. He is very reliable and willing to volunteer his time assisting me, the pastor, with building and maintenance projects.

He has been a member of the Knights of Columbus since 1975 and currently is the Knights' financial secretary,

He is also a life time member of St. Casimir Parish in Posen, Michigan.

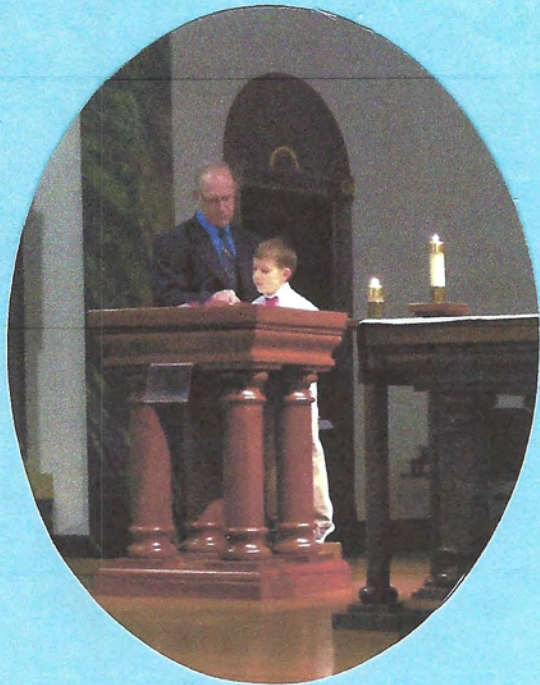
I strongly recommend Walter for the reward as he with his wife Martha are good Catholics and role models to many in the parish and community.

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. Art F. Duchnowicz

Rev. Art F Duchnowicz, Pastor





Grandson Reading During Mass at
All Saints Catholic School, Alpena



Participation At Mass



Granddaughter Played Violin, Christmas Mass, at Holy Redeemer in Grand Blanc

Granddaughter participating in Living Nativity
St. Johns Church in Davision



C. Family Involvement

The following explains how the entire family is involved with the community. The listing below describes the type and variety of activities that Wally, his spouse, Martha, and their family members have participated in past years and describes their continued support of the Community.

Wally Roznowski's present and past community involvement includes the following:

- 1) *Military Veteran* who served in Korea from 1966-1967
- 2) *Member* of the Posen VFW Post 7804 from 1979-present. As a member of the post and a military honor guard, Wally has performed and continues to the present time, the following activities for many years 1) participate in US military funerals, 2) attend Memorial Day services at local area Churches, 3) serve on the bereavement committee for assistance, 4) place flags on veterans' graves for Memorial Day, 5) march, as a veteran, in local area parades, 6) designed, built, and drive the VFW float in the annual Posen Potato Festival; and, drive disabled vets to the VA Clinic in Saginaw and Detroit.
- 3) *Quartermaster*, VFW Post # 7804 from 1984 – present.
- 4) *Little League Baseball Coach*, Posen team for five years.
- 5) *Team Manager*, for Rogers City Little League for five years.
- 6) *4-H Leader and Chaperone*, Presque Isle County Extension Program. Designed and built the 4-H float 1984-1992.

Martha Roznowski, (Wally's spouse) and the family members' present and past involvement in the community includes the following:

- 1) *Member*, Posen VFW Auxiliary since 1984. The Auxiliary supports the VFW with activities such as the Posen Potato Festival Dinners and the annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.

- 2) *Posen Township Supervisor 1988-* present and serves on the Ambulance Board and the Fire District Authority Board.
- 3) *Participant, along with the family's children and grandchildren,* in annual Relay for Life from 2010-present. A granddaughter at the age of 8 walked 14 miles. Another grandchild donated at the age of 5 hair for *Locks of Love*.
- 4) *Daughter, Jennifer,* is also a member of the VFW Post 7804 Auxiliary and played "Taps" for military funerals for the VFW Post from 1986-1994. Now, she annually returns to the Posen area every Memorial Day weekend to participate in Veteran's Memorial Day Services at three local Church cemeteries in the community.
- 5) *Christmas Helpers,* Wally and Martha have passed out gifts at the *Presque Isle County Helping Hands* Christmas dinner for six years. *Helping Hands* is a county organization that serves and assists mentally and physically impaired youth and adults within the county.



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S.
SOUTH PRESQUE ISLE POST NO. 7804
6836 VFW Street / P.O. Box 3
Posen, Michigan 49776

To: Knights of Columbus State Officers,

18 March 2019

The members of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7804 are in support of Walter Roznowski being chosen by the Knights of Columbus as candidate for Knight and family of the year.

Walter joined the Veterans of Foreign Wars in 1979 and has been a Life Member of Post 7804 ever since. In 1983 Walter was elected to the office of Post Quartermaster as Financial Officer of the Post and has held this office for 35 years to present. His duties include keeping the financial records, bank statements, control of the money as income and disbursements and paying of the bills. His duties also include filling out forms for federal and state agencies.

As an active member of the Post. He is chairman of the recruiting committee in search of new members. Chairman of the building committee as to the need of repairs or improvements of the Post buildings. Over the years he has organized many work crews as to the completion of the projects.

Walters work ethics are commendable as he is involved in every phase of repairs and upgrades of the post building. Organizer of the dinner and events at the VFW hall during the Posen Potato Festival. He has been the driver for the pulling of the VFW float at the festival for over 25 years.

The VFW Post Honor Guard is his greatest pride of which he is Sergeant of the Guard of the rifle detail. Through the years he has performed this duty many times in according military honors at veterans funerals, also at Memorial Day Services at 3 local cemeteries. Has attend many different functions representing the Veterans of Foreign wars at flag folding ceremonies and ceremonies honoring veterans of previous wars.

He takes pride of his military service to our nation and his membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Post 7804.

Post Commander: Gerald Donajkowski

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerald Donajkowski". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial 'G'.



Wally Roznowski, 4-H Leader
with Woodworking Group

Potato Festival 4-H Float
Made by 4-H Leaders & Members





Santa (Wally) and Mrs. Claus (Martha) Handing Out Gift Bags to the Physically and Mentally Impaired at the Helping Hands of Presque Isle County - Christmas Dinner



Chairman
Basketball Free Throw Contest
Posen High School



District Free Throw
With DD Roznowski

GK Roznowski Giving K of C
sponsored Boy Scout Awards

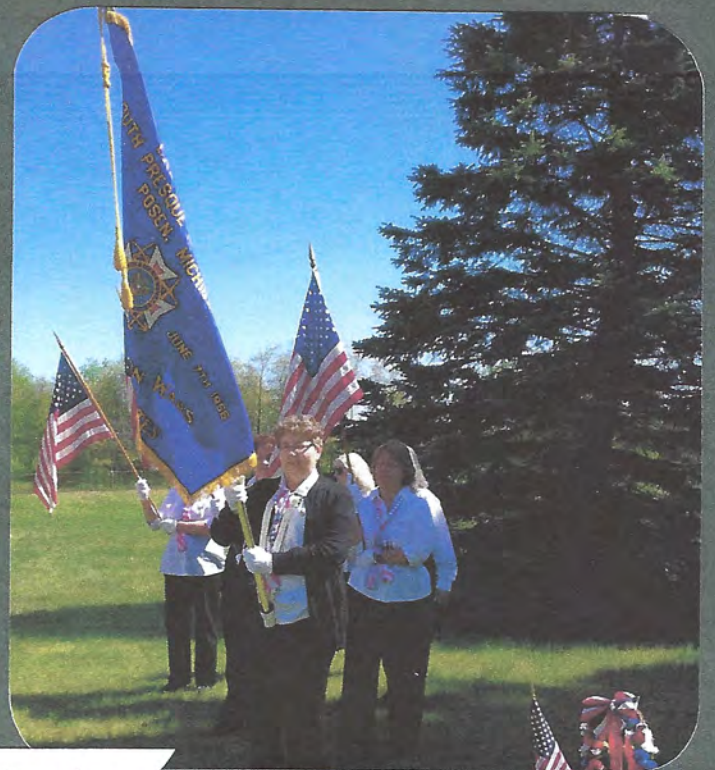




Roznowski (far right), Sargent of the Guard Memorial Day Services at 3 local Cemeteries, St Casimirs, St. Dominic's & St. Paul's



Daughter Plays Taps, since Age 15, for Memorial Day Services



Martha carrying VFW Flag for Memorial Day Services

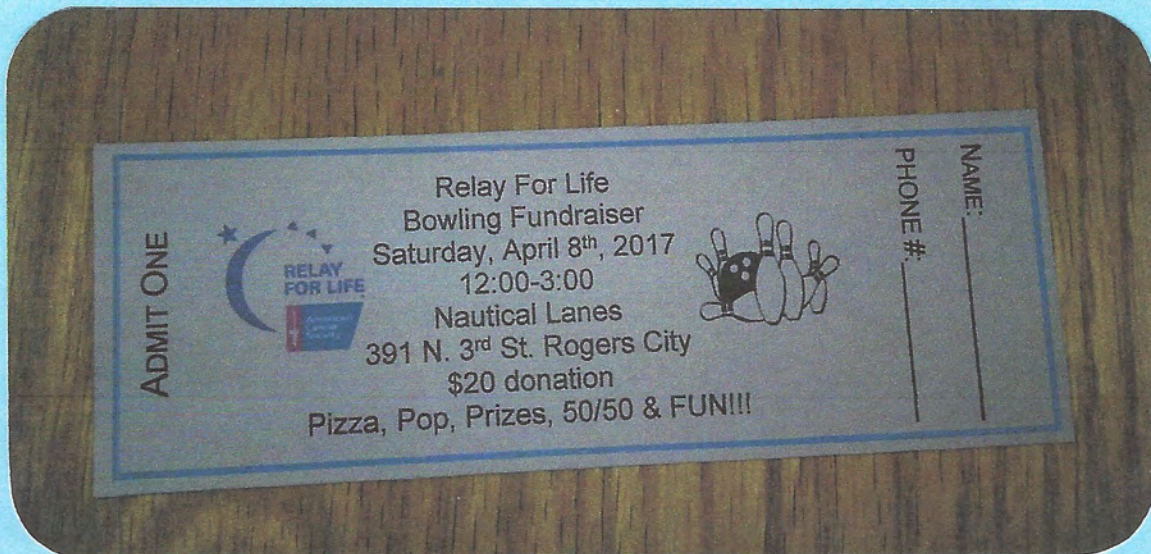


Wally Roznowksi, VFW Quartermaster
Helps design, build and pulls the
Floats for Annual Potato Festival Parade





Family Participation in Annual Relay for Life Bowling Fundraiser.

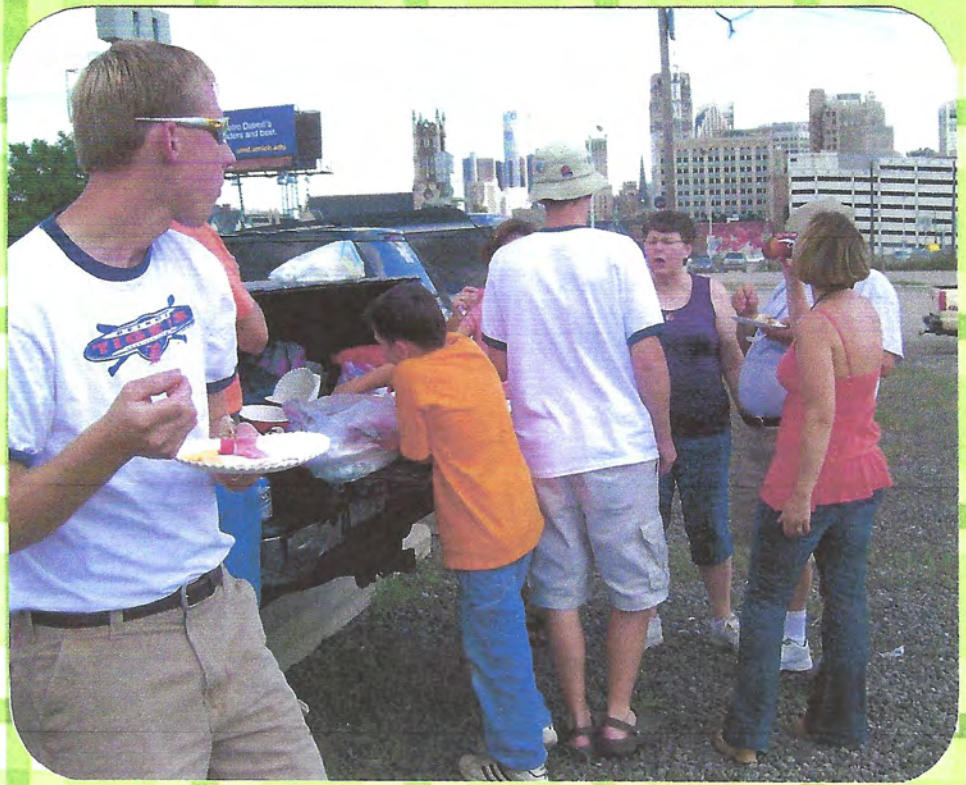




Family members walked for the "Relay For Life".
Granddaughter, age 8 (3rd one, front row) walked 14 miles.



Wally's Daughter cut her Niece's Hair,
(Wally's Granddaughter) who at Age 5
Donated her hair for Locks of Love



Tailgating at a Detroit Tiger Game



Family Reunion Ball Game.
All Ages Play Together, Wally Batting.
Wally was a Little League Coach





The Family Hunting camp was built in 1989 with the help of all four children. Even the youngest, at age 7, had his own small hammer to work with. This is not the typical hunting camp. Women and children are allowed there during deer season. Fun doesn't end there. Wally has his own recipe for making sausage.



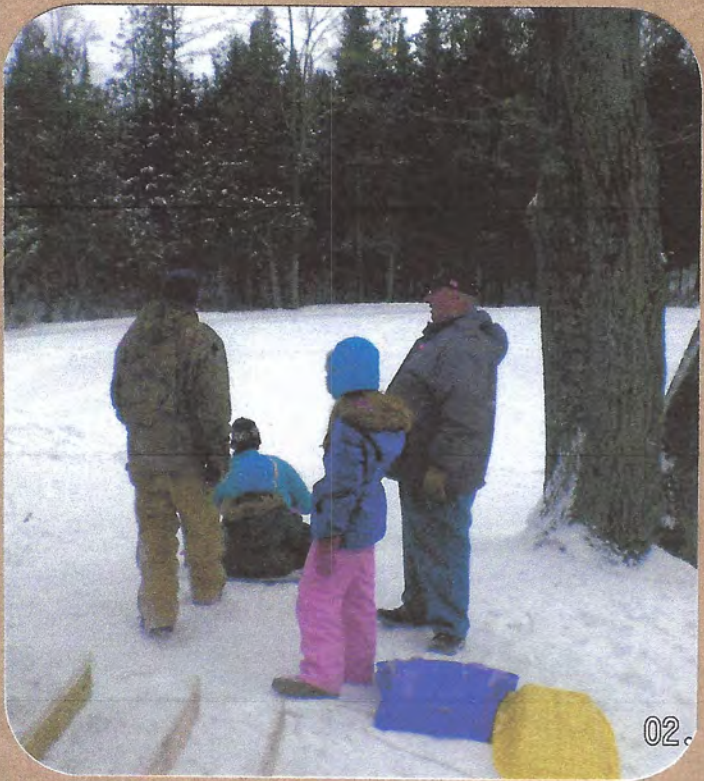


Family Time Together is Important to Wally





Sleigh Riding with Grandpa
at the hunting camp.



02.



02.17.2013

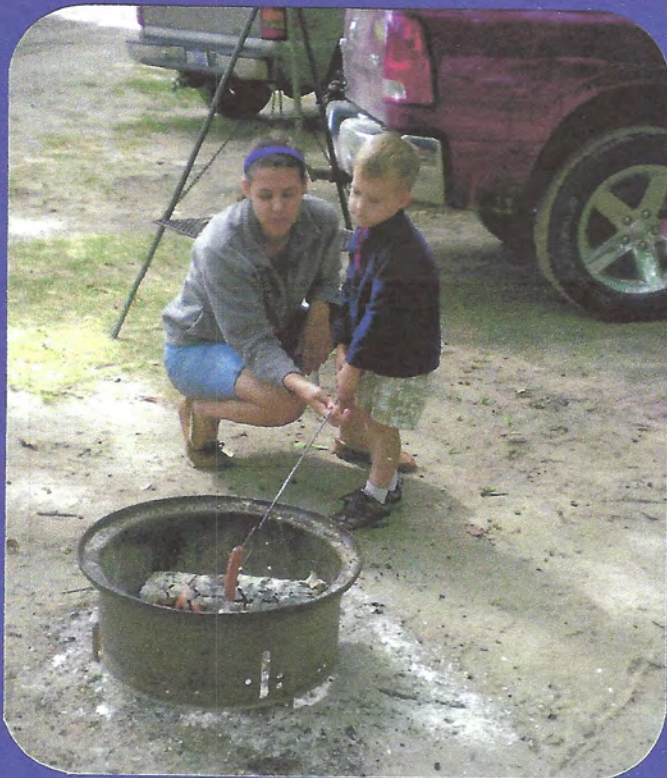


Riding Bike With Daughter
and Granddaughter



Swinging with his Young
Daughters and a Campground





Wally and Martha started camping, in 1971, and still camp. Camping was a great way for family to spend outdoor time together. Three of their children still camp with family and friends.



Wally Roznowski

1944 - 2021

Walter Leo "Wally" Roznowski 76 of Posen died peacefully at home on March 2, 2021.

He was born October 22, 1944 in Long Rapids to Anthony and Josephine (Pelc) Roznowski.

Wally graduated from Alpena High School then served in the United States Army and was stationed in Korea. On July 18, 1970 he married Martha Gamache of Hillman and was blessed with 50 years of marriage. He worked at USS Steel Calcite Plant as a millwright. Wally retired due to medical issues in 1981 and enjoyed his time in Posen. Walter was very active in his community. He was a member of the Posen VFW Post 7804 and served as Quarter Master since 1984. He was also a member of the Knights of Columbus Posen Council 6657 and held every office position including Grand Knight, District Deputy from 1994-1998, and served as the financial secretary since 1987. He was a member of the Fourth Degree Color Corps and the Fr. Narloch Assembly 1711, and currently served as Comptroller. He was actively involved in his church and was a member of the St Casmir Church financial committee. Wally played an active role in the planning and management of the Posen Potato Festival. He was an avid fisherman, hunter, and loved spending time at his hunting camp. He also enjoyed camping with his family and friends. He spent time in his personal wood shop, hand crafting many beautiful things.

He is survived by his wife Martha; two daughters, Jennifer (Kevin) Darga and Mary (David) Odalovich; two sons, Andrew (Jessica) Roznowski and Wally (Renee') Roznowski; eight grandchildren, Ashley (fiancé Daniel Hajek), Brandon, Makayla, Samantha, Meredith, Kaelyn, Noah and Landon. Nine siblings, Dorothy Wozniak, Mary Jane (Bernie) Lamp, Norb (Leona) Roznowski, Lottie (Patrick) Couture, Lorraine Gorton, Edward (Susan) Roznowski, Marcia (LeRoy) Woloszyk, Barbara Straughen, Tony (Karen) Roznowski and a brother-in-law Jere Gamache.

Wally was preceded in death by his parents, Anthony and Josephine Roznowski; father-in-law and mother-in-law Andrew and Anna (Wirgau) Gamache; and four brothers-in-law, Leo Gamache, Paul Wozniak, Donald Gorton, and Bill Straughen.

Friends may visit at the Beck Funeral Home on Friday, March 5th from 3-8 p.m. where the Knights of Columbus will lead the rosary at 6:30 followed by the parish wake service at 7 p.m. Visitation will resume on Saturday at St. Casimir Catholic Church in Posen from 9 a.m. until time of Mass at 10 a.m. with Fr. Arthur Duchnowicz officiating. Posen VFW Post 7804 will accord full military honors immediately following Mass.

Inurnment will take place in the spring at St. Casimir Catholic Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to the Fourth Degree Chalice fund or the Posen VFW Post 7804 in memory of Walter Roznowski.

Wally will be remembered for living life to the fullest and doing whatever he could for others.