

In Loving Memory of Janusz Walkowc

May 16, 1948 – May 26, 2025



It is with deep sorrow, that we announce the passing of Janusz Walkowc, who left us on May 26, 2025, at the age of 77, after a long period of declining health. His devoted wife, Barbara, was by his side in his final moments, offering love and comfort—just as she had throughout his illness.

Janusz was a beloved husband, father, friend, and colleague. He will be remembered for his warmth, kindness, loyalty, and generous heart, as well as for his unwavering commitment to helping others. He was one of the original founding members of the Polish Catholic Mission of Memphis, a community he deeply cherished.

Born on May 16, 1948, in Trzebież, Poland, Janusz pursued higher education at the Technical University of Gdańsk (Politechnika Gdańska), where he earned a Master's degree in Marine Engineering. In 1986, Janusz and Barbara, together with their family, immigrated to the United States, embracing their new home with open hearts and great hope.

A dedicated professional, Janusz began his career as an engineer specializing in ship propulsion systems, later focusing on engine vibration analysis. Outside of work, he had a lifelong passion for water and sailing. He and Barbara spent countless treasured hours aboard their sailboat, exploring and enjoying the open waters.

Janusz always felt a deep connection to the sea. He sailed across many waters of the world, and two of his most remarkable voyages were circumnavigating the African continent as a captain and undertaking a challenging expedition to Murmansk—each journey a reflection of his skill, courage, and adventurous spirit.

He was also an enthusiastic skier who loved spending time in nature with his wife and friends.

After initially settling in Memphis, Tennessee, Janusz and Barbara later moved to Dundee, Michigan. Janusz generously devoted time and energy to charitable causes throughout his life. One of the efforts closest to his heart was organizing aid for blind children from Poland. This work embodied his deep compassion and desire to uplift those in need—leaving a lasting impact on many lives.

He will be remembered for his quiet strength, enduring kindness, loyalty, and the legacy of care and service he leaves behind. His life was a shining example of love, generosity, and resilience—values that will continue to inspire everyone who knew him.

Janusz is deeply mourned by his beloved wife Barbara, his family, and many dear friends.

A Memorial Visitation will be held on May 29, 2025, at
Nie Family Funeral Home – Carpenter Road Chapel
2400 Carpenter Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48108
from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM, with the Rosary at 7:00 PM.
Friends and loved ones are warmly invited to gather, reflect, and honor Janusz's life.

A Funeral Mass will take place on May 30, 2025, at
Old St. Patrick Catholic Church
5671 Whitmore Lake Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48105,
beginning at 11:00 AM. A lunch reception will follow immediately after the Mass in the parish hall.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee—a cause Janusz deeply supported.

Janusz is survived by his wife, Barbara Walkowc, and his daughter Agnieszka Walkowc. He was preceded in death by his daughter Beata (Tunia) Walkowc.

Janusz will be buried at Forrest Hill Cemetery in Bartlett, TN. We will post information about the Memorial Service here and the burial at a later date.