



## Patrick Charles Goggin

July 13, 1951 - April 29, 2022

Pat Goggin, Cadillac resident, avid sailor, and local fashion icon, passed away peacefully at home on Friday April 29<sup>th</sup> at the age of 70. He is already dearly missed by those he left behind: His wife Sally, daughters Sarah (Schepers) and Trish Goggin, son-in-law Andrew Schepers, grandson Ayden Roberts, sister Mary Lou (Oliver), brother-in-law Donald Oliver and their family.

Shortly after his birth in July of 1951, Pat was adopted by William and Flora Goggin of Midland, MI. He quickly assessed that the position of “Favorite Child” would forever belong to Mary Lou, his older, prettier, and far more clever sister.

Instead, he settled for the designation of “The Chosen One,” and proceeded to laud it over his beloved sister for the next 70 years.

As an Art & Design student at Alma College, Pat spent his time causing mischief with his Delta Gamma Tau Fraternity brothers and ingratiated himself with his favorite breed of human: Women. In addition to his love for the fairer sex, Pat harbored a similar affection for the open water. After college, he imagined joining the crew of some private yacht and sailing around the world.

But the world would have to wait when, on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 1972, Pat shared a first date with, Sally Bahlman—a vivacious (i.e. blonde) Theatre major from Battle Creek, MI. And, oh, what a pair they made. She loved how he made her

laugh, and he loved how she lit up a room. Precisely three years later they were wed, consecrating what would become a 50-year love story populated by two loving daughters and their partners, a devastatingly handsome grandson, 11 moderately seaworthy boats, and an innumerable list of friends held as dear as family.

Over the next 20 years, Pat contentedly settled in his hometown, started a family, and established a career in Public Affairs with the Dow Chemical Company. But in 1995, he came to Sally with an impetuous idea: Exchange the corporate world for a chance to recreate his happiest childhood memories in the old family cottage in Northern Michigan. It was always the plan to make the move once the girls were grown, why wait for retirement to live the good life?

And the location of this golden paradise? Cadillac, Michigan.

Specifically, Lake Mitchell.

In Big Cove.

On Sunset Point.

Pat and Sally became partners in both life and business with the purchase of a home furnishings store in downtown Cadillac, ultimately named Possibilities for Your Home. From there, they both dove head-first into putting down roots and getting to know their new hometown. And the rest, as they say, is history.

As a member of the community, Pat thrived on taking on as many projects as possible. He loved nothing more than to get to know new friends, and he formed a sincere, unique connection with everyone who crossed his path. In 2011, Pat became the Executive Director of United Way of Wexford and Missaukee Counties, appropriately translating his love for his adopted hometown into a career.

As a father (both literally and figuratively), Pat was dubbed “Mayor of Sunset Point” (self-appointed, no term limit) and was known by the neighborhood as an inexhaustible purveyor of boat rides, water ski lessons, double dares, and ghost stories.

At a party, Pat was...everywhere. He could often be located by following the loudest sounds of laughter. Perhaps he was fetching another round of “libations,” or burning it up on the dance floor. Or maybe he wandered away after spotting someone sitting alone, and now they’re holed up in a booth trading earnest life stories.

Pat will be remembered for giving without limit--his talents, his time, his praise, his enthusiasm—and the ineffable beauty of his heart. His legacy of living a life full of joy, purpose, and laughter will live on in all who knew him. His spirit has returned to the lake, and he is home.

Visitation will be on Thursday, May 5th, from 4:00 PM-7:00 PM at Peterson Funeral & Cremation Services in Cadillac, MI. A Memorial Mass will be held 11:00 AM Friday, May 6th, 2022 at Saint Ann Catholic Church in Cadillac.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to United Way of Wexford-Missaukee Counties, or to the community theater, Cadillac Footlitters.

Cremation will take place and his ashes will be kept around as long as they match the décor.

Admittance to the visitation and/or funeral will be denied to anyone wearing black. An online guestbook is available at [www.petersonfh.com](http://www.petersonfh.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 5. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Peterson Funeral and Cremation Services  
205 East Cass Street  
Cadillac, MI 49601

## Memorial Mass

MAY 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Saint Ann Catholic Church  
800 West 13th Street  
Cadillac, MI 49601

# Tribute Wall

MM

“ This was absolutely the best way to remember Pat! Since we lived year round, next “door” and through the woods to Pat’s parents’ weekend home, we grew to know them slowly over the years. Everything written in his eulogy explains/fills in a number of “holes” in our relationship. The ‘headstone in the woods’ between our homes, I had never heard of, but my daughters shared story with great big eyes at dinner one night while we were visiting my parents. Pat was ready to spin a tale at the drop of a hat. He gave the the cove it’s personality. I think that old headstone is still there!!!  
~ Margaret McGory Moffit

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**Margaret McGory Moffit** - May 13, 2022 at 10:09 PM

CH

“ I was one of Pat and Sally's (many) friends at Alma College. Sally and I were in the same sorority (AZT). Pat was a "Gam" (Delta Gamma Tau) who befriended all the AZT "girls". Some of my most fun and happiest college memories pertain to time spent with Pat. Along with Sally, Pat would hang out with other "sisters" in the dorms, the dining hall, at "mud beers" (yes, it really was a thing...), fraternity dance parties and more. Pat always made everything fun.

At Alma, everyone seemed to get a nickname. Mine was Leif, because my last name (at the time) was Erickson. Everyone called me Leif. Everyone except Pat. He had to embellish it, just so it would be his special version for me. To Pat, I was "Leif-letto", which has always made me smile and think fondly off Pat over the years.

I wish I'd been able to attend his memorial service. Distance did not permit me doing so.

Rest in peace Pat. I know you are dancing with the angels in heaven and smiling down on all of us here on earth who loved you.

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**Carol Henton** - May 08, 2022 at 07:44 PM

PR

“ My condolences go out to Patrick's extended family, neighbors and friends as you will miss his fun-loving presence. All through our time at Midland High School Patrick would bring cheer and laughter to anyone nearby. You have lost a gem as has the MHS class of 1970.

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**Paul Roth** - May 05, 2022 at 01:06 PM



“ *Heart's Companion Bouquet was purchased for the family of Patrick Charles Goggin.*



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May 05, 2022 at 01:00 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Patrick Charles Goggin.*



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May 05, 2022 at 09:11 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Patrick Charles Goggin.*



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May 04, 2022 at 10:38 PM

CN

“ It came as a surprise to my husband and me when we met Pat and Sally in their store, Possibilities. After some conversation, we discovered that they had moved here from Midland just as we had a few years before. We knew many of the same people and places from Midland so it became very easy for us to strike up a conversation any time we would see them around town. Because Pat was involved with United Way and I taught a course at the High School where my students often did projects to help the community, he would come to my class as a guest speaker every semester to give the students ideas about getting involved. My students always enjoyed hearing his ideas and were filled with enthusiasm for any project he suggested. Although he could be quite serious, I will always remember his winsome smile and laugh, and how he would eagerly shake your hand or clap you on the back. He will be missed by many.

*My condolences to Sally and the family,*

*Carole and Jim Neurath*

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**Carole Neurath** - May 04, 2022 at 06:20 PM

AO

“ Hello Sally,

*I will miss Pat when I am at our cottage. He was always so friendly and it was a pleasure to know him. Pat will be missed by everyone who knew him.*

*I send my love and prayers to you and your family.*

*Ann Oliver*

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**Ann Oliver** - May 04, 2022 at 05:51 PM

RH

“ Pat is my oldest friend in the world, dating back over 65 years. I recall waiting in the road (Sunset Point) every Friday evening in the summer for 'Goggies' to come down the road to their cottage (which was about 20' from our house). Off to great adventures until he was called to dinner...then, off again with my buddy.

Pat has been credited with teaching many people, young and old alike, to water ski, surf board, sail, etc. Contrary to what some may have been led to believe, Pat was not born wearing water skis, He and I learned together, from his dad, and big sister Mary Lou. My job was to "go find Pat" when it was time for a 'skiing lesson'. Invariably, I would find Patrick hiding under a neighbor's fuel oil drums and gently bring him to the dock and the awaiting 'teachers' and spectators. Pat learned well, and he taught well.

I find my heart has a big hole in it that was Pat...I'm filling that hole with a thousand childhood memories, and more than a few adulthood memories too.

As I told you a couple weeks ago Pat, I will see you again. Rest well my dear friend.

Dick Heydenberk

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Richard (Dick) Heydenberk - May 04, 2022 at 04:08 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Patrick Charles Goggin.



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May 04, 2022 at 12:00 PM

AF

“ Pat Goggin, what an amazing man! We've never met anyone like him. He touched so many lives in this community. Pat was fun, liked to tease, was caring, generous, and encouraging to everyone he met. He lit up the room with his smile and made you feel so welcomed and loved. We are truly blessed to have met and known Pat since we came to this area many years ago.

*There will surely be a hole in every room when we walk into the Murder Mystery Dinner, the Dancing with the Y Stars, and so many other local fund-raising events that Pat was a part of and played a pivotal role in to make them what they are today.*

*Pat, may you now be laughing with God, looking down upon all of us with that fabulous smile of yours. You will be so missed in our small community that you made great!*

*Love you, Pat!*

*~Ann & Wayne Fox*

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**Ann Fox** - May 04, 2022 at 08:48 AM

RZ

“ I knew Pat and Sally in their "first life" together in Midland , Michigan....particularly at the Midland Center of the Arts where Pat lent his talents as a theatre board director and in-house photographer with the Music Society. Sally and I shared the stage and I directed her in a number of productions. Cast parties were often the highlight of our work together. Pat's humor as well as his dedication to what he sought to accomplish and his love and support of Sally is what endeared him to so many of us. The earlier years of my life were so entwined with the likes of the Goggin "team".  
*Love and respect and condolences to Sally and her family.*

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**Ron Zietz** - May 03, 2022 at 11:32 PM

SD

“ I had the opportunity to get to know Pat while he was Executive Director at United Way. His fun-loving spirit always made the work much easier. I so appreciated when he'd call me because "he needed someone to talk logic with".

-Scott Dzurka, past CEO, Michigan Association of United Ways

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**Scott Dzurka** - May 03, 2022 at 06:44 PM

CS

“ I went to school with Pat at St Brigid's in Midland for many years. He was a card then to. My prayers and good thoughts to the family. It sounds like you lost a good natured guy with a great sense of humor.

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**Cheryl Demski Speaker** - May 03, 2022 at 12:18 PM

JB

“ Pat Goggin, my friend and co-conspirator at Dow, I am so sad to hear of your death. I know you had a great life, and for the years we worked together, you always made my life better. Will never forget our great laughs! Joy Buchanan

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**Joy Buchanan** - May 03, 2022 at 10:53 AM

LB

“ My two sons and I lived across the road from Pat, and my son Matthew and he became great friends! Of course Matt was 5 and Pat had him out boating almost immediately. I love that he was so generous with his time, to give my little red headed boy a friend that taught him so much. We will always keep these precious memories. Pat and his family were just great neighbors. Thank you Goggin family. Our prayers sent to help you get through the moments of missing your husband and dad

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**Lori Bloink** - May 02, 2022 at 09:16 PM



Lori, please know that your son Matthew held a very special place in our Dad's heart. Matt came into my folks shop (many years ago now) to visit with Dad, I recall him finding that interaction to be particularly meaningful.

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**Sarah Schepers** - May 02, 2022 at 11:22 PM

ST

“ Pat left an indelible mark on everyone he met. Such a warm smile and often mischievous. Our hearts ache for you and rejoice for the life he lived and the legacy he left. Peace and hugs to your whole family from the Tropfs.

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**stacie tropf** - May 02, 2022 at 02:17 PM

CY

“ Cadillac Area YMCA purchased the [https://www.petersonfh.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518"; target="\\_blank">Memorial Trees</a> for the family of Patrick Charles Goggin.](https://www.petersonfh.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518)

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**Cadillac Area YMCA** - May 02, 2022 at 11:49 AM

TE

“ Deepest condolences to Sally and family!  
Pat was unique in so many ways. He loved Sally and his girls and he shared that with me often. His passion and devotion to the community was inspiring. There must have been "brown out" Friday when all of that energy left Cadillac. Hopefully, some youthful understudy(s) can help carry the torch and fill the void. Cadillac will continue to be progressive despite the passing of Pat but he will be deeply missed and his imprints will never erode.

*Thom and Marie Eory*

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**Thom Eory** - May 02, 2022 at 11:33 AM

PW

“ Pat's RADIANT Smile, laughter, joyfulness shall forever be in all of our memories. Sally, Thank You for sharing your forever Pat with ALL of us who had the opportunity to be embraced by both of you. Loving, Supportive HUGS from Florida,  
PBJ. Bill & Pam Wiersma

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**PBJ Bill & Pam Wiersma** - May 02, 2022 at 11:09 AM

DH

“ Diana Harris lit a candle in memory of Patrick Charles Goggin



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**Diana Harris** - May 02, 2022 at 10:56 AM

DR

“ My memories of Pat include the warmth and friendliness he exuded and that he always had a smile on his face and a kind word. We need more people like him in this world. He will be truly missed. Condolences from Diane and Tom Rensberry.

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**Diane Rensberry** - May 02, 2022 at 08:59 AM

CS

“ Sally and family, sending my thoughts, prayers and deepest sympathy! My heart aches for you. I understand.....

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**Carole Savage** - May 02, 2022 at 08:27 AM

RA

“ My daughter Kelly and my wife and I spent some time around the Goggin docks. Got to know them after I restored the Yellow Jacket. Stopped in with our classic boat and shared some cold ones from time to time.  
Kelly has always been a book worm. She always had a book in her hand. I was hard to get her to put it down. But Pat had the magic. Kelly would be reading and if she saw Pat she would say “Hello Pat Goggin”. Pat never forgot that greeting and would comment about it every time.  
My friend you will be missed by so many people that you have touched. You bring out the best in every one of us. May you RIP.

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**Russ Arrand** - May 01, 2022 at 10:12 PM

JB

“ Pat and I shared a love of scuba diving after taking the class at Alma. I was able to join Pat and his parents in Grand Cayman for my first and only dive in those warm deep waters. One June, Pat and I trailered the Boston Whaler around northern Michigan and just dove any lake we can across. We also dove a wreck in Lake Superior, 100 feet down what a rush. The propeller of the steamer had a diameter of about eight feet.

My craziest memory was a country bar tour on a bus. The bus company owed Pat's lawyer cousin so he took it out in trade. About 20 of us toured out of the way country bars in Gratiot and Isabella Counties one night. The rule was only one beer at a place - and then we moved on. We made up for it on the bus!

I will miss a friend and a Gam brother. I am saddened not to be at the service. I am sure it will be a great celebration of Pat's life.

John "Beads" Bedient, Doghouse 26, Alma '75.

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John Bedient - May 01, 2022 at 08:16 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Patrick Charles Goggin.



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May 01, 2022 at 11:37 AM



“ *Summer's Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Patrick Charles Goggin.* ”



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April 30, 2022 at 10:56 AM