



## Richard E. Liebetrau

April 3, 1931 - April 12, 2011

Richard E. Liebetrau of Cadillac passed away at Mercy Hospital in Cadillac on April 12, 2011. He was 80 years old.

Dick was born on April 3, 1931 in Niles, MI to Ernest and Gladys Aileen (Powell) Liebetrau. He married Delores M. King Aug. 16, 1952 in Detroit. They had been married for 47 years at the time of her death on March 30, 1998.

He attended Michigan State University and began his career with Cupples Aluminum in St. Louis in 1952. He continued his career as a design engineer when he moved to Cadillac in 1973 with Tubelite. He started his own company, Alu-Fab Corporation, in 1980, and sold it to Gordon Industries in 1993. Even after his retirement in 1998, he continued to work as a consultant for GE and for Peacock Industries until the time of his death.

He was a member of St. Ann Catholic Church in Cadillac. Dick was an avid sportsman, hunter and fishing enthusiast who loved spending time on the water. He was a huge sports fan, and especially enjoyed his Detroit Red Wings.

On January 7, 2004 in Cadillac, he married Ching Yun Chen. They enjoyed 7 wonderful years of marriage and spent many hours together on the ski slopes and in the casino.

Survivors include his wife, Ching; his children, Mark (Nancy) Liebetrau of Erie,

Co., Tom (Nora) Liebetrau of Galesburg, IL. Jim (Kriss) Liebetrau of Woodstock, IL. Sheri (Kelly) Leach of Buckley, MI, Kurt (Collina) Liebetrau of Holly Hill, FL and Karl (Lynne) Liebetrau of Cadillac; 15 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

Dick was preceded in death by his parents, Ernest and Gladys Liebetrau,; his brother, Bill Liebetrau and his grandson, Kevin Leach.

The Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, April 20, 2011 at St. Ann Catholic Church, Cadillac, with Reverend Fr. Edwin A. Thome as celebrant. Burial will be at Mt. Carmel Cemetery, Cadillac. Visitation will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19, 2011 and at 6:30 p.m. a prayer service will be held at Peterson Funeral Home, Cadillac. In lieu of flowers memorial contribution can be made in his name to the American Cancer Society.

An online guestbook is available at [www.petersonfh.com](http://www.petersonfh.com)

# Tribute Wall

AT

“ *Dear Mr. Liebetrau,  
Good memory with you during your visit to HKG and China. Rest in  
Peace.*

---

**Alan C W Tsang** - September 14, 2015 at 10:26 PM

NV

“ *My dad'  
s name was Ken Kloko and years ago he and Dick had an  
underwater salvage business together. My mother, Virginia was his  
mom'  
s sister. I am sorry to hear of his passing but know he lived a full life.*

---

**Nancy Kloko Vernam** - June 29, 2011 at 08:16 PM

JK

“ *To the Liebetrau family- May the memories of an exceptionally kind,  
energetic, adventurous man comfort you in this time of sorrow. As  
God blesses Dick, may he bless you all as well. You are in my  
thoughts and prayers.*

---

**Jan LaRocque Kappas** - April 20, 2011 at 04:01 PM

LS

“ First of all our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Although we had not been in contact with one another on any type of regular basis, Uncle Dick was often in my thoughts. He always had the time to play with us when we were little, and to show his love for all of us. When I was young I remember wishing that he was my father instead of the one I had. I hope I will be able to make the trip to Cadillac...not only to pay my respects, but to see all of you. It was good to talk with Jim the other day, and he has most of my contact information. Please don't be strangers! Love to you all!

---

**Linda Liebetrau Shemes** - April 18, 2011 at 12:44 PM

WM

“ Jim, Tom, Mark, Kurt, Karl and Sheri, I'm so sorry for your loss. Uncle Dick was a great uncle to me and I know a great father to you all. You are so blessed to have had him for 80 years. Please know you are all in my thoughts and prayers. Love you all.

---

**Wendi Mills** - April 18, 2011 at 12:00 PM

KJ

“ Sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. I enjoyed meeting him a few times, he was kind and hard working. Talk to you soon.

---

**Karl, Cathy & Grace Johnson** - April 17, 2011 at 08:49 PM

AM

“ Tom, Nora, and boys sorry for the loss of such a charismatic man in your life. Our family has many prayers for your family.

---

**April Martinez** - April 16, 2011 at 11:57 AM

TP

“ *Jim, Kriss and all Liebetrau family memebbers. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Your dad had a long wonderful life - enjoy all of the great memories.*

---

**Tom & Cyndi Parker** - April 16, 2011 at 11:06 AM