



# Walter J. Suisse

JUL 9, 1922 - JUN 14, 2024



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## Walter J. Suisse

JUL 9, 1922 - JUN 14, 2024

**W**alter J. Suisse, age 101, of Rose City, born and raised in St. Clair, passed away June 14, 2024. He was born July 9, 1922 to the late Charles "Ed" and Leona Suisse.

Walter proudly served his country with the United States Navy during World War II. After the War he worked as a carpenter in the area. In his mid thirties he studied to become a tool and die maker. He would continue to work in that trade until his retirement. Upon retiring he worked at Green Briar Golf Course until the Covid pandemic.

Walt's true passion was hunting and fishing. He had shot over 100 bucks in his lifetime.

He is survived by his children; Richard (Beth) Suisse, Linda (David) Gooden, Sandra Suisse and Ruth (Gary) Wiegand.

He is also survived by many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren, his sister; Joan Charron, and numerous nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife; Ethel Suisse and sons; Roger and Charles Suisse as well as several siblings.

A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 22 at Young Funeral Home, China Twp. Interment with military honors will follow at Rosehill Cemetery, East China Twp. Visiting hours will be Friday from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday one hour prior to the service. Walt was not a suit and tie type of guy. Please dress casually.

Memorials are suggested to one of Walt's favorite charities; St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

To leave the family a message of comfort please visit: [www.youngcolonial.com](http://www.youngcolonial.com)



## Obituary

**Walter J. Suisse**

JUL 9, 1922 - JUN 14, 2024

### Remembering his service

Walt Suisse spoke with Amy Hensel of the Ogemaw County Herald on Armed Forces Day, May 18, 2024.

Walt grew up in St. Clair, Michigan. He attended Catholic school through the eighth grade and then public high school through 11th grade. "The next fall, I was doing carpentry work with my dad," he said. "I worked carpentry work for few years with my dad. I worked for John Biewer Lumber for a while. And then I got a job at Thermoplastics. And we were making parts for the government."

The United States had entered world War II in 1941, but Walt wasn't drafted.

"Because I was working, I had a deferment," he said. "I was a foreman on the afternoon shift from 3-11 p.m. I had three brothers in the Navy and one in the Army. I decided I wanted to go in the Navy, so I quit my job. The superintendent called me and begged me to come back to work. I said no, I made up my mind."

Walt enlisted in the Navy in 1943. He went to basic training in Great Lakes, Illinois and became a gunner. "I was raised with guns," he said. "When I was in boot camp, we had to go to gunnery ranges. I got a certificate for being a crack shot."

After boot camp, Walt was with a crew which took a Landing Ship Tank down the Mississippi to Florida. The ship encountered hurricane weather on its way up the East Coast. "We rode that out for three days before we got to Baltimore," Walt said. "Then we dropped it off there and they sent us up to Pittsburgh."

Walt and his crew picked up USS Jerome County LST 848. "We took that down the Allegheny and the Mississippi to New Orleans and over to the Panama Canal, through the Panama Canal. Then we went up to Frisco and they loaded two PT boats on and took them over to Pearl Harbor. Then from there it was all serious stuff"




Walt didn't elaborate on any of the serious stuff. "We carried tanks and trucks and shuttled them from one island to another. I was all over the Pacific," he said. "I wouldn't trade my three years in Navy for anything."

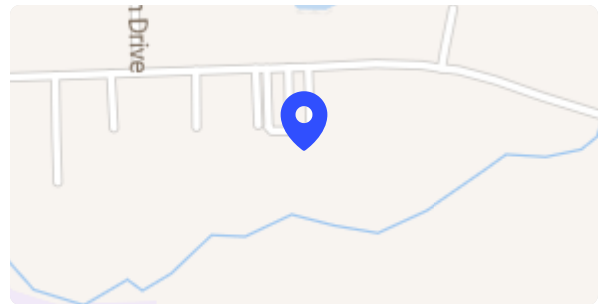


# Events




**Walter J. Suisse**  
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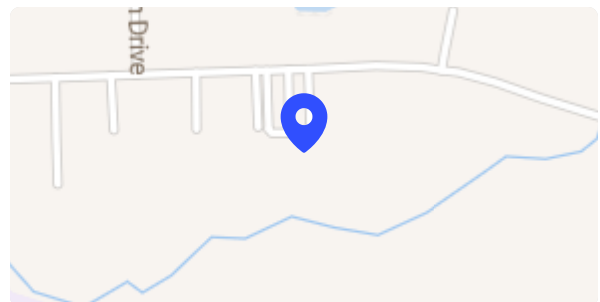
## Visitation

-  **Friday, June 21, 2024**
-  2:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET
-  **Young Colonial Chapel Funeral Home**  
4061 Saint Clair Hwy, East China MI






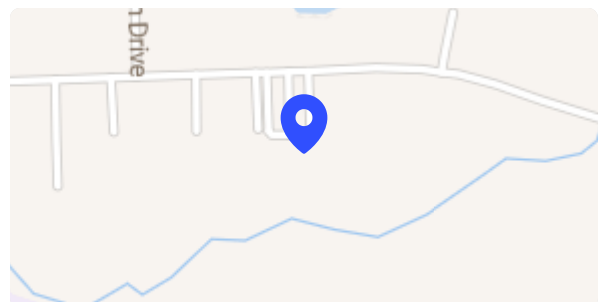
## Visitation

-  **Saturday, June 22, 2024**
-  10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET
-  **Young Colonial Chapel Funeral Home**  
4061 Saint Clair Hwy, East China MI




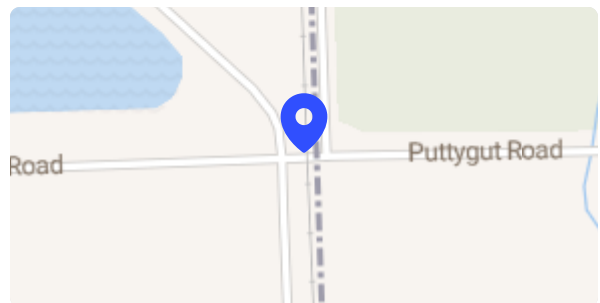
## Service

-  **Saturday, June 22, 2024**
-  11:00 AM ET
-  **Young Colonial Chapel Funeral Home**  
4061 Saint Clair Hwy, East China MI



## Cemetery Details

-  **Rosehill Cemetery**  
Puttygut Rd., East China Twp. MI 48054





# Tribute Wall

**Walter J. Suisse**  
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**Kelli Gallagher** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.



I would like to extend my deepest condolences to his family and friends. I work at Michigan Works! Northeast Consortium, Cheboygan office. I met Walter through the pandemic. He was having many issues with his claim. I feel God brought us together in one phone call. It led to a friendship with many more hours long phone calls, even when the pandemic was over. When we were able to work out of our offices again, I made a point to schedule a day in our Mio office so I could finally meet him in person. He was such an inspiration. I felt like I knew his family and friends through him. He would share so many fond memories of his wife, children, all of his great and great, great grandchildren. I also heard a lot of hunting and fishing stories as well. Ernie, if you read this, I want you to know, your name was mentioned in every conversation. I heard his touching war stories that meant the world to me. I have never felt so much respect for anyone as I did him. I believe Walter was the best person on this earth. He was a bright light in my life and I smile every time I think of him. I will miss our long phone conversations. Happy heavenly Birthday my friend! I love you and will miss you.

July 9 at 2:36 PM



**Amy Causley Swan** lit a candle in honor of Walter.



I will miss hearing grandpas amazing stories of the things that he experienced in his lifetime. I will remember him for his kindness, endless energy, sense of humor and his love for nature and being out doors. I will miss you grandpa. I am so proud to be your granddaughter. Even if you didn't love Elvis! I will miss you.

June 21 at 3:04 PM

**LY Lynda** June 22 at 6:32 PM  
❤️

**Amy Causley Swan** June 21 at 8:16 PM  
Thanks Mommie!

**LY Lynda** June 21 at 6:12 PM  
You had me laughing when you got to Elvis. This picture is hanging on An easel near grandpa along with other family members.



**Mary Varty** posted:

Uncle Walt had so many great stories and such a good sense of humor. He will be greatly missed.

June 21 at 11:53 AM



## Tribute Wall

**Walter J. Suisse**  
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**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Suisse family.

June 21 at 7:00 AM



**The Woodruff-Scheid Family** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Walter.

June 21 at 7:00 AM



**Annette Laughter** posted:

Uncle Walt you will be greatly missed. We had some good times together over the years. My heart has a hole in it that I will fill with memories of the times we were able to get together. I love you with all my heart. Your niece, Annette

June 20 at 6:23 PM



**Anonymous** sent an Emerald Garden Basket to the Suisse family.

June 20 at 5:26 PM



**The Goldmans-Todd, Reggie, Ben And Grace** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Walter.

June 20 at 5:26 PM



**Evi, Bryan, Amy And Families.** sent a Sweet Liberty to the Suisse family.

June 20 at 1:08 PM





# Tribute Wall

**Walter J. Suisse**  
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**The Family Of Elaine Korany** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Walter.



June 20 at 12:48 PM



**Pauline Hicks** lit a candle in honor of Walter.

Lynda and David- Deepest sympathy to you and all your family.



June 19 at 8:04 PM



**Lynda** June 20 at 6:51 PM

Thank you, Pauline. This is so kind of you. Lots of love.



**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Suisse family.



June 19 at 1:39 PM



**Matt And Lorrie Tanton / Linda Taylor.** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Walter.



June 19 at 1:39 PM



**Beth V.** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Walter.



June 19 at 11:42 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Sacred Duty Spray to the Suisse family.



June 19 at 9:51 AM



## Tribute Wall

**Walter J. Suisse**

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JS

**Joani Shaver** posted:

Ben & I always looked forward to reading Uncle Walt's Christmas message each year. He will be missed!

June 19 at 9:35 AM

SS

**Sandy, Danielle And Steven Suisse** sent a Fairest of All to the Suisse family.



June 19 at 9:25 AM

SS

**Sandy, Danielle And Steven Suisse** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Walter.



June 19 at 9:25 AM

PL

**Patrick Leullier** posted:

All my sincerest condolences to his Family and Friends . Eternal gratitude for your services and our Freedom in ww2 May you rest in Peace sir .Patrick Leullier from Normandy France

June 18 at 8:36 PM

LF

**Love, The Wood Family** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Suisse family.



June 18 at 8:18 PM

DG

**David Gooden** posted:

When you said that there should be more people like me in the world I knew you had accepted me as your true friend. I will miss you Walt.

June 18 at 6:27 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Sandra Suisse** posted:

I will miss our getting together at parties and misc. I love you dad, Sandra

June 18 at 5:33 PM



**Linda Smith Gooden** posted:

I love you, Dad more than you will ever know. I think of when I was about four years old and we used to dance together and I would stand on your feet. I have So many great memories.

June 18 at 5:30 PM



**Linda Baccus** June 27 at 5:32 AM

He was welcomed here in the UP and we looked forward to his phone calls every year. What a wonderful man!



**Scot , Austin And Justin Williams** sent an Arrive in Style to the Suisse family.



June 18 at 5:16 PM



## Media

**Walter J. Suisse**  
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**Kelli Gallagher** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

July 9 at 2:36 PM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Walter by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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