



## Martin Van Cantwell

July 26, 1947 - March 2, 2026

Martin Van Cantwell, 78, passed away peacefully on March 2, 2026; in the home he & his wife Betty built in 1976. Born on July 26, 1947, Martin lived a full life defined by dedication to his family, strong work ethic, and a deep appreciation for the simple joys of the outdoors.

Martin spent more than 40 years working at Tenneco Automotive, where he built a respected career as an engineer and plant manager. Known for his knowledge, leadership, and commitment, he took great pride in the work he did and the people he worked alongside throughout his career.

Outside of his professional life, Martin had a passion for music in his younger years. In the 1970s, he entertained crowds as a one-man band at the Dream Boat in Grand Rapids, Ohio, sharing his love of music with the community.

Martin also known as “Dad” & “Grandpaw” found happiness in the outdoors and traveling. He enjoyed boating and fishing on the Maumee River, snowmobiling in the winter, feeding the fish and birds out by the pond, collecting and shooting guns and prospecting for gold in Arizona & California; specifically Superstition Mountain . Above all, he cherished time with his family. He loved road tripping with them to Disney World & across the country creating lasting memories. Martin also loved his fur babies which he had many over the years most recent Molly & Toby.

Martin is survived by his loving wife of 60 years Betty Cantwell; his daughter, Karen Kirk; his son, Marty(Ronda) Cantwell Jr.; his grandchildren, AJ(Dennis) Nye, Tyler(Amanda) Nye, Ashley(Zach) Nye & Nicholas Kirk; and his seven

great-grandchildren, Lincoln, Clinton, D'Arcy, Grant, Eddie, Monroe & Josie-Mae.

He will be remembered for his steady presence, secret handshake, his love of family, and the many memories he created with those who knew and loved him. His legacy lives on through the family he loved so deeply.

# Tribute Wall

DH

“ *My condolences to Betty and the children.*

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**D'Lorah Hurton** - March 06 at 10:27 PM

SF

“ *Van was not only a musician but he could dance up a storm! He was the only person that tried desperately hard to make us young kids famous!! Hi- Fi was a dream of his to be one of the famous teen bands of the 1980's. I always felt bad that we disappointed him in that endeavor.*

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**Sherie Fortner** - March 06 at 08:34 PM

KK

“ *I Love you Dad* □ *Karen*



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**Karen Kirk** - March 06 at 08:16 PM