



Daniel A. Divich

March 24, 1961 - January 10, 2025

My beloved Daniel A. Divich, 63, of Miller Beach, Gary, Indiana passed away peacefully surrounded by incredible love of family on January 10, 2025, after illness. Affectionately known as BigDan because of his larger-than-life presence and the giant space he held in our hearts. Dan was born in Gary, IN and graduated from Highland High School. He raised his family in Portage, IN and lived also in Hollywood, FL and Sarasota, FL before returning to Gary, IN. Dan was a retired train Conductor from NICTD/South Shore RR.

Dan leaves behind his wife, Sandra, who was blessed to share nearly 40 years of love, laughter and adventure. He proudly and lovingly leaves sons, Daniel II (Brandi) of Vero Beach, FL and Nicholas (Holli) of Laporte, IN, daughter, Kristine Sharpenter (Marc) of Ft Myers, FL and a handful of delightful & beautiful granddaughters. He is survived by his father, Milan "Butch" (Martha) Divich of Miller Beach, Gary, IN, sister, Debra Settle (George) of Portage, IN, as well as his two favorite nephews. Dan was preceded in death by his mother, Barbara (Kushner) Divich, grandparents, Abraham and Lola Kushner, Adam and Ann Divich. The assistance and love of life-long friend, Kevin (Debbie) O'Reilly eased his final days.

Dan enjoyed boating, beaching, barbecuing lamb, growing flowers, the beauty of nature, traveling and being the life of the party. There wasn't much he couldn't fix and if he couldn't he always "knew a guy". His gift of making something out of nothing was unparalleled & kept life exciting. His kindness and generosity to every living being, along with the sheer joy of living, was

apparent to all who were lucky enough to spend time with him.

A memorial service will be held and announced at a future time, and we ask everyone who knew this incredible man to join us to raise a toast, give tribute, and share stories, as he loved to tell and hear a good story. The loss and devastation is simply too much to do anything more than breathe right now and I ask for understanding.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Humane Society of Northwest Indiana or Animal Control of Gary IN, because BigDan loved all creatures great and small.

Perhaps Gladys Knight said it best..." I guess you could say that I've been lucky, Well I guess you could say that it's all because of you...You'll be there between each line of pain and glory 'cause you're the best thing that ever happened to me."

I thank God that he brought you into my life. I have faith that He will bring us together again. Thank you for picking me. In the galaxy that was our family, you were the sun. We were so lucky to have been in your orbit.

Burns Funeral Home & Crematory entrusted with arrangements. www.BurnsFuneral.com

Tribute Wall

CF

“ I worked with Dan and he and I trained together for the Southshore conductor class he made class humorous. I enjoyed working with him. RIP Divich !! Deepest condolences 🌸

camille florer - April 11, 2025 at 02:33 PM

KN

“ Sandra, Mike and I are so very sorry to here this. May Dan Rest in Peace. Our Sincere and Deepest Condolences to You and Your family during this difficult time.

karen nance - January 30, 2025 at 10:21 PM

JN

“ Dan was a great person. He was my train collector for years. I would bring him coffee and a donut every morning and he would let me ride the train for free. Dan even surprised me one day at my job and gave me his conductors hat, which I will definitely treasure forever. He will be missed by so many. May god wrap his arms around his family and bring you all comfort. 🙏🙏🙏



Jennifer Nelson - January 21, 2025 at 03:29 PM

KG

“ Dan went to school with me, and lived in same neighborhood. Prayers and hugs to his family and friends. Dad to hear of his passing 🙏

Karen Guidotti - January 17, 2025 at 12:48 PM

ML

“ Sorry to hear of Dan’s passing, brought back a lot of high school memories. Gone too soon, rest peacefully Dan.

Mary Brackett Lorance - January 16, 2025 at 10:05 PM

CF

“ Cory Wurster and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Daniel A. Divich.

Cory Wurster and family - January 15, 2025 at 08:21 AM

CF

“ Cory Wurster and family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Daniel A. Divich.



Cory Wurster and family - January 15, 2025 at 08:21 AM

JW

“ Dearest Butch, Martha and Sandy,
We are so sorry for your loss of Danny. Thank you for the laughs and memories that we were blessed to be able to share with Danny and all of you.
Johnny and Susan Walker

John and Susan Walker - January 14, 2025 at 03:24 PM

JS

“ My condolences to the Divich Family, I never seen Danny without a smile on his face and slight laughter in his voice.

Jesse Salomon retired Gary Police sergea - January 14, 2025 at 09:25 AM

GP

“ *Such a jovial soul as you remember him being a hard worker he always had a solution and to quote his one of his favorite lines just gosh darn it all night long in and out all day long in and out !so long my friend, she sailing (boating)into the Great Beyond! God bless youra family, every single one of them! All aboard there's a train coming! Cya!*

Gerald Pineda - January 13, 2025 at 08:52 PM

GP

“ *Gerald Pineda lit a candle in memory of Daniel A. Divich*



Gerald Pineda - January 13, 2025 at 08:45 PM

AW

“ *My cousin didn't see him much but the train was a good time one night he was there and pizza place rest in Pease Dan love from Florida ann*

Ann Wyckoff - January 13, 2025 at 08:02 PM

EG

“ *Edith Garza lit a candle in memory of Daniel A. Divich*



Edith Garza - January 13, 2025 at 07:39 PM

TT

“ Dan Divich was such a wonderful person!! He would always bring sunshine when there wasn't none!! Even tho I haven't been around his for years when I think of him, I smile!!! What more could you ask for than wanting to be around someone that makes you feel the best!!! Love you Dan and never will forget you!! ❤️ Terry Thomas God has another angel 😇

Terry Thomas - January 13, 2025 at 07:04 PM

MB

“ To Butch and Martha, I am so sorry for the loss of your son💔. Sending lots of love and prayers to Dan's wife and family and rest of the family
Marge(Balunda) Baumgardner

Marge Baumgardner - January 13, 2025 at 04:39 PM

JK

A good man...

Jack Knight - January 13, 2025 at 04:57 PM

MP

A great friend with much humor to share with all!!

Michael Pokrajac - January 13, 2025 at 05:03 PM

DA

Our deepest sympathies to The Divich Family. May Dan's memory be eternal.

We had many good memories at The Gary Fire Department picnics.
Sincerely Dean and Colleen Anast

Dean Anast - January 13, 2025 at 05:46 PM

RN

Our deepest heartfelt condolences to the Divich family and may God rest Dan's soul in peace.

Robert Nava - January 13, 2025 at 06:24 PM