



La Porte
High School
Class of 1976

50th Reunion Memorial Book
September 19th, 2026

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Peggy Lynn Baker Nelson (Age: 52)

05/17/1958 – 04/27/2011



1974 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Peggy Lynn Baker

May 17, 1958- April 27, 2011

Longtime Alaskan and Hesketh Island resident, Peggy Lynn Baker, 52, died April 27, 2011, near Soldotna, after a battle with cancer.

A celebration of her life was held April 29 at the Birch Ridge Community Church south of Soldotna. Pastor Brian Wahl officiated.

Peggy was born May 17, 1958, in La Porte, Ind. She graduated from Ball State University with a master's degree in education.

She moved to Alaska in 1986, and was a teacher in Atka, Hooper Bay, Pilot Point and Barrow before retiring in May 2009. She also taught at La Porte High School in La Porte, Ind. She enjoyed fishing, gardening, birds, kayaking and sitting on the deck at Hesketh, near Homer.



Peggy Lynn Baker

Peggy was preceded in death by her father, Bill Baker. She is survived by her husband, Gary Nelson of Hesketh Island; her mother, Pat Baker of Conner, Mont.; and brother, Brian Baker of Marne, Mich.

Scott Edward Bapple (*Age: 51*)

05/27/1958 – 11/12/2009



SCOTT E. BAPPLE GARY, IN Scott E. Bapple, age 51, passed away on Thursday, November 12, 2009 at Methodist Hospital-Southlake Campus in Merrillville, IN.

He was born to Edward Bapple and Beverly Crossley on May 27, 1958 in Hazelcrest, IL.

Scott leaves his loving children: Scott J. Bapple and Kimberly E. Bapple; loving grandson, Christian M. Bapple and other loving family members. Preceded in death by his beloved wife, Marla Bapple.

Scott will be deeply missed by his loving children, grandson, other family members and dear friends.

Lisa Lynn Beadles Smith (Age: 52)

07/25/1958 – 11/10/2010



1976 LPHS



Mrs. Lisa L. Smith, 52, of LaPorte, died at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2010, at University of Chicago Medical Center. She was born July 25, 1958, in LaPorte to Polly and Bud (Gilliland) Beadles.

Lisa worked in the Education Department for the Indiana Department of Correction Camp Summit Boot Camp in LaPorte County. She was formerly a librarian at Hailmann Elementary School, LaPorte. She was a charter member of Faith Baptist Church.

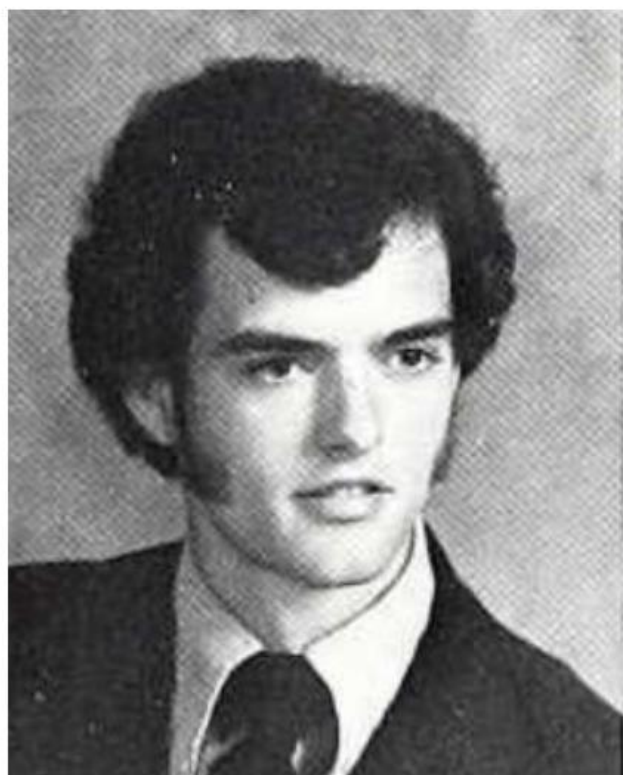
On June 7, 1980, in LaPorte, she married Tom Tarnow, who preceded her in death on Sept. 22, 1998. On Aug. 8, 2001, in Fayetteville, NC, she married Arthur D. Smith, who survives.

Also surviving are one daughter, Emily (Andrew Chlupacek) Tarnow of LaPorte; one son, Nick (Emily Fay) Tarnow of Walkerton, IN; two stepdaughters, Kandi (Christopher) Castillo of Fort Bragg NC, and Stephanie (Ryan) Sivori of Pekin, IL; one stepson, Chris (Faith) Smith of Owensboro, KY; nine grandchildren; six brothers, Mike (JoAnn) Beadles of Fish Lake, IN, David (Tina) Beadles of LaPorte, Kevin (Diane) Beadles of Galien, MI, Roger (Delona) Beadles of LaPorte, Tim (Diane) Beadles of Kingsford Heights, IN, and Thomas Beadles of LaPorte; and several nieces and nephews.

Besides her first husband, she was preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Bruce Beadles; and her nephew, Cpl. Jason J. Beadles.

Brian David Bealor (Age: 63)

05/17/1958 – 01/22/2022



1976 LPHS



Brian David Bealor, 63, a lifelong resident of La Porte, Indiana, died unexpectedly Saturday January 22, 2022 at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne, IN., where he courageously fought multiple health battles since early December 2021.

Brian is survived by his mother, Lorraine Bealor of La Porte; sons Daniel Aaron (Shauna Winters) Bealor of La Porte, Christopher James (Stephani) Bealor of La Porte; four grandchildren Xane, Lyla-Rae, Kiaya and Elora Bealor; brother Dale (Carol) Bealor of Cassopolis, MI; sister Patti (Scott Collett) Gierke of Tampa, FL, niece Alexis Bealor; nephews Jonathan Gierke and Aaron Bealor; great nephews Micah Gierke and Owen Bealor and many cousins.

Brian was preceded in death by his father, David Bealor and his beloved sidekick, his dog Remy.

Brian was born in La Porte, IN on May 17, 1958 to David and Lorraine (Hoskins) Bealor. He graduated from La Porte High School in 1976 where he ran track, excelling at the 400 meters and played alto saxophone in the band, as well as spending over 10 years as an active 4-H member. Brian worked for many years for Sullair in Michigan City and he retired on May 8, 2020 from Boss Industries, LLC in La Porte. Brian was a talented woodworking artist, creating beautiful furniture and gifts for his family and friends. He loved spending time outdoors camping, kayaking and boating. He enjoyed playing darts and socializing with family and friends. Brian had a lot of fun singing Karaoke, the song Brandy being one of his favorites. He loved music, especially the band, Chicago. He was known for his teasing jokes, his big smile and his ability to make people laugh. Brian had a heart of gold!

Julie Ann Bernacchi Devriese (Age: 44)

07/08/1958 – 05/31/2003



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Julie Bernacchi
INDIANAPOLIS - Miss Julie A. Bernacchi, 44, of Valparaiso, and formerly of LaPorte, died Saturday, May 31, 2003, in Indianapolis.
She was born July 8, 1958, in LaPorte to Richard and Genevieve (Bym) Bernacchi.
Miss Bernacchi worked for Asbury Automotive Group as a controller for Autovest in Dallas. She received a bachelor's degree in accounting from DeVry University in 1994.
Surviving are her parents; one sister, Cathleen B. Rank; and one brother, David R.

Vera Sue Borkowski Martin (Age: 64)

12/13/1957 – 03/02/2022



1976 LPHS



Vera Sue Martin (Borkowski), 64, of North Liberty, passed away peacefully at 1:20 p.m., Wednesday, March 2, 2022 in her home.

She was born on December 13, 1957, in La Porte, to Richard and Sharlene (Ford) Borkowski.

Vera's favorite job was being a mom and making her house a home. She was never happier than when she was tinkering around in her numerous flower gardens. Vera exuded empathy and compassion. She loved with her whole heart and her family meant the world to her. Vera enjoyed taking vacations, shopping trips and Olive Garden lunches, with her daughter. From cookie-frosting sessions to trillium tours in the woods, she loved family time. She was brave, courageous and extremely hard-working. Vera was never afraid to do whatever it took to take care of her daughter and her family. She was the world's best hugger and could make your tears melt away. Vera will be truly missed, until we meet again, in Heaven.

Surviving are her parents, Richard and Sharlene Borkowski; daughter, best friend and partner in crime, Deborah (Justin) Cummins; sister, Deb (Jim) Levandoski; nephew and nieces, Billy (Jamie) and Emma Buchanan; uncle, Lauren Ford; and good friends, Carol, Ed, and Sue.

Robert Stanley Brenda (Age: 63)

02/14/1958 – 09/12/2021



1976 LPHS



Robert “Rob” Stanley Brenda, 63, of La Porte, Indiana passed away Sunday, September 12, 2021. He was born on February 14, 1958, in La Porte to the late Stanley John and Peggy Ann (Hoare) Brenda. Rob was a field agent with Farm Bureau for 36 years and had also worked in marketing with Serve-Pro and in insurance with J & B Roofing and Construction.

He graduated from La Porte High School in 1976 where he was the catcher on the State Champion Baseball Team. He was proudly the Captain of the LaPorte Icercs hockey team during his high school years. He attended Vincennes University and graduated from Indiana University in 1981 with a Bachelor of Art degree in sports management. He was a member of the Polish Falcon’s in La Porte and grew up attending Holy Family Parish, St. Peter Church.

He loved all things LaPorte Slicers! Rob was a man of many passions. He loved sports, especially the Boston Bruins, St. Louis Cardinals, and all things Notre Dame. He golfed, fished, scuba dived, camped, mountain biked, snow and water skied. In his retirement he enjoyed gardening and baking cakes and pies. How lucky were you if you received one of his masterpieces.

Above all Rob was known and loved by all for his graciousness in every life situation. He was kind, loving, wise, forgiving, outgoing, adventurous, and had an amazing sense of humor. He would want you all to know he trusted his God through all his life blessings, trials, and tribulations.

On July 18, 2014, Rob married Patti Hanna, who survives, with his children, Kate (Collin Arndt) Brenda of Valparaiso, Indiana; Drew Brenda of La Porte; a step daughter, Hanna Johnson of La Porte; children of second marriage loved by him Victor Splix, Victoria Clabaugh and Melissa Splix; a granddaughter, Cora Arndt; and siblings, John Brenda of Arlington, Texas, Kevin (Le) Brenda of Modesto, CA, Paul (Sandi) Brenda of La Porte, Teresa Butler of California, Sister, Sr. Mary Brenda O.P. of Houston, Texas, Steve (Suong) Brenda of Belgrade, Maine, Joe Brenda of La Porte, and Annie (John) Cunningham of Marshall, Illinois; and many nieces and nephews

Wayne Devin Brewer III (Age: 52)

08/09/1956 – 04/04/2011



1976 LPHS



Wayne Devin Brewer, 54, of La Porte, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, April 4, 2011 at his home. Lakeview Funeral Home and Crematory, 247 W. Johnson Rd., La Porte is caring for the arrangements. He was born August 9, 1956, in La Porte, to Earl and Joyce (Welch) Brewer.

Wayne had worked at Whirlpool and honorably served in the U.S. Navy. Wayne was a wonderful cook and artist who enjoyed oil painting, carving, playing piano, keyboard, and the bass guitar. He also created the illustrations in a helpful dialysis booklet. Wayne loved teaching his grandchildren music and art, spending time cruising and visiting the beaches of Lake Michigan.

On June 6, 1986, in La Porte, he married the love of his life, Ava (Thomas) Brewer, who survives. Also surviving are his daughter, Ariel (Cameron) Scott; his son, Devin Brewer; two grandchildren, Nevaeh and Donyec; three sisters Jacqueline Hopkins, Jayme Staggers, and Shelia Horton; and six brothers, Willie Earl, Randal, Jeff, Myles, Andy and Anthony Brewer.

Preceding in death were his parents and grandparents.

Frank Browder, Jr. (Age: 66)

02/01/1957– 06/20/2023



1976 LPHS



Mr. Frank Browder Jr., 66, of La Porte, Indiana, passed away peacefully Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at Northwest Health - La Porte. He was born February 1, 1957 to Frank Browder Sr. and Nettie (Buchanan) Jackson, in La Porte, IN where he lived most of his life.

Frank was a graduate of the Class of 1976 from La Porte High School where he was a member of the Boys Basketball and Track Teams. Following graduation, he worked for the Whirlpool Corporation and was a member of the UAW for over 35 years until his retirement.

On May 19, 1988, Frank married the love of his life, Beth Anne (Castle) Browder at Greater Harvest Full Gospel Church in La Porte. Together they attended the church where he volunteered as an usher and was a member of the men's choir. Frank's love for sports continued in his later years, as he enjoyed shooting hoops with friends in leagues at the Civic Auditorium. He enjoyed music of all types and loved watching sports, especially rooting for the Chicago Cubs, Bears, and of course the Chicago Bulls.

Frank's passion, however, was his family. He loved nothing more than having fun and grilling out with them. He also enjoyed going on long drives around town with his wife, Beth Anne.

He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Beth Anne, his two daughters, Kalindi (Bill) Edmondson of Nashville, TN, Amanda Browder of Nashville, TN; five Step-daughters, Jaime (Troy Sunderland) Daugherty of La Porte, IN, Kerry (Lupe) Surowiec of La Porte, IN, Shannon Reutebuch of Knox, IN, Kiesha Frazier of Nashville, TN, Toni "Shanel" Grinston of Nashville, TN; two brothers, James (Becky) Browder of La Porte, IN, Mark (Linda) Browder of La Porte, IN; three sisters, Cheryl (Tim) Daniels of La Porte, IN, Regina (John) Fleming of South Bend, IN, Denise (Kenneth) Roberts of Harker Heights, TX; twenty-three grandchildren, seventeen great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews and other family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and brother Yancy Browder.

David Michael Burke (Age: 51)

03/16/1958 – 10/25/2009



1974 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Mr. David Michael Burke, 51, of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., died at 2:30 a.m, on Oct. 25, 2009 at his residence.

Mr. Burke was born March 16, 1958 in La Porte, to Jeremiah W. and Lillian P. (Kozak) Burke.

He was a member of St. Clements Catholic Church, Fort Lauderdale. He owned and operated an insurance agency in Fort Lauderdale. He was a LPHS graduate, Class of 1976, a wonderful son and devoted father.

He leaves behind his father, Jeremiah Burke of La Porte; two sons, Brandon and Brian of Fort Lauderdale; two brothers, Jerry (Eileen) Burke of La Porte, Chris (Tina) Burke of Germantown, Tenn.; two nieces, Jenna Burke and Gabriel Frazier, one nephew, Jeremiah F. Burke; four stepsisters, Marcia (Dean) Krueger of La Porte, Paula Kubica, Kenosha, Wis., Kathy (Tom) Leutkemeyer of Chicago, Ill., and Michaelleen (Mike) Eklund, of Mercer, Wis.

He is preceded by his mother, Lillian and stepmother, Agnes (Lazarek) Burke.

Christine Joan Bush (Age: 61)

07/11/1957– 03/27/2019



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Christine Bush, 61, of La Porte, passed away unexpectedly at 4:11 p.m.,
Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at Memorial Hospital of South Bend.

Carolyn Lee Canfield Dadlow (Age: 67)

01/17/1957 – 01/12/2025



1976 LPHS



Carolyn Lee Dadlow, 67, of La Porte, IN, passed away on January 12, 2025, at Northwest Health La Porte.

Carolyn was born on January 17, 1957 in La Porte, IN, to Russell and Helen (Rhoades) Canfield.

On November 8, 1980, in La Porte, IN, she married Gregory Dadlow who survives. Also surviving are her sister, Barbara Herrold of La Porte; daughters, Jennifer (Ryan) Lowery of Indianapolis and Stephanie (William) Fischer of La Porte; grandchildren, Jett Lowery of Indianapolis, Penelope Fischer of La Porte, Hunter Fischer of La Porte, and Juliette Fisher of La Porte; cousins, Larry (Susan) Yazel of La Porte and Linda (Michael) DeMass of Mountain Home, AR; niece, Beth (Jeff) Kearney of New Hill, NC; nephew, Thomas (Rhonda) Herrold II of La Porte; and mother-in-law, Leota Dadlow of La Porte.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Helen and Russell Canfield; brother-in-law, Thom Herrold; nephew, Michael Herrold; and father-in-law, Wilbur Dadlow.

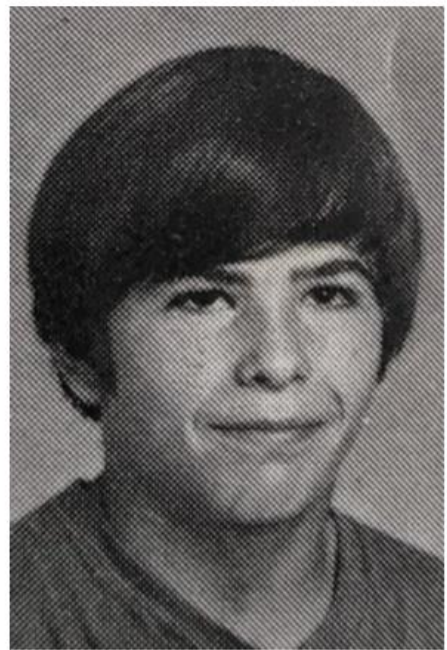
Carolyn was an accountant for many years in the banking industry. She enjoyed playing Sequence, shopping, boating, swimming, cross stitching, sewing, ceramics, and participating in Girl Scouts, when her daughters were young. Most importantly, Carolyn dearly loved her family and took great pride and enjoyment in caring for her grandchildren.

Scott Dale Cauffman (Age: 42)

07/08/1958 – 08/19/2001



1971 LP 7TH GRADE



1972 KESLING

Scott Cauffman

The funeral for Mr. Scott Dale Cauffman, 43, of 106 Fairview Dr., Fish Lake, will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Cutler Funeral Home with Rev. Karl Koch officiating. He died Sunday, Aug.

19, 2001, at 9:30 a.m. at his home.

Friends may call Wednesday from 4 to 8 p.m. Burial will be in Oak Grove Cemetery, Mill Creek.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.

He was born July 8, 1958, in Niles, Mich., to Benjamin and Violet (Knowlton) Cauffman.

Mr. Cauffman was a concrete finisher for Jackson Foundation and was owner of Greenscape Landscaping. He was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church and a U.S. Navy veteran.

On May 26, 1979, he married Tamara Nelson, who survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Jeremy of LaPorte and Jeffrey of Fish Lake; one sister, Jaquelyn McCoy of Fish Lake; and two brothers, Douglas and Rick, both of LaPorte.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Terry Smith.

Marcella Theresa Jeanette Chestnut Patterson Baron

(Age: 36)

11/23/1957 – 04/03/1994



1972 BOSTON



1973 BOSTON

Marcella T.J. Baron

Nov. 23, 1957-April 3, 1994

LAPORTE — Services for Marcella Teresa Jeanette Baron, 36, of 312¹/₂ Harrison St., who died of natural causes at 4:42 p.m. Sunday in LaPorte Hospital, will be at 4 p.m. Thursday in Haverstock Chapel. Burial will be in Patton Cemetery. Friends may call after noon Thursday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to any charity.

Mrs. Baron was born Nov. 23, 1957, in Chicago and had lived in the LaPorte area for most of her life. On Sept. 2, 1993, in LaPorte, she married Jeffrey Scott Baron. He survives with a daughter, Angela Patterson of LaPorte; a grandson; her mother, Pauline Timms of LaPorte; her father, Louis Chestnut of LaPorte; three sisters, Eva Rosillo, Roberta Christinsen and Donna Martinez, all of LaPorte; and a brother, Edward Chestnut of LaPorte.

Joseph Paul Chrobak (Age: 64)

03/16/1958 – 02/09/2023



1976 LPHS



Joseph Paul Chrobak, age 64, of Albertville, passed away on Thursday, February 9, 2023.

He was born on March 16, 1958 in LaPorte, Indiana the son of Stanley C. & Margarete (Friedrich) Chrobak.

On November 7, 1987, Joseph P. Chrobak and Sandra L. Stewart were joined in holy marriage in St. Paul, MN. God blessed their marriage with two daughters Janell and Jamie.

Joe was employed as a Senior Controls engineer for Northstar Imaging in Rogers, MN.

He was passionate about cooking & a master of the grill. Other interests were fishing, travel and nature.

He is survived by his loving wife of thirty-five years: Sandie; two daughters: Janell M. Chrobak and Jamie S. (Derrick) Loiselle; a granddaughter: Lilly Mae Loiselle; a brother: Steve (Terri) Chrobak; sister: Ann Schreeg; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Preceded in death by his parents Stanley & Margarete Chrobak.

David James Clark (Age: 54)

07/26/1958 – 06/11/2013



1976 LPHS



David Clark

Port St. Lucie

David J. Clark, 54, died June 11, 2013, at Martin Medical Center.



He was born in LaPorte, Ind., and lived in Port St. Lucie for 33 years, coming from La Porte.

He attended Vincennes University of Indiana.

He worked in the auto parts industry throughout the Treasure Coast.

He was a member of St. Paul Episcopal Church in La Porte.

Survivors include his wife, Cheri of Port St. Lucie; daughters, Nicole and Amanda Clark, both of Port St. Lucie; mother, Cynthia Clark of Port St. Lucie; half-sister, Chris Lylel of Littleton, Colo.; half-brothers, John Clark of Granby, Mass., and Whitney Clark of Michigan City, Ind.

He was preceded in death by his father, John Marshall Clark.

Michael Anthony Clawson (Age: 46)

08/04/1956 – 05/19/2003



1974 LPHS



A graveside service for Michael A. "Mike" Clawson, 46, of Coos Bay, will be held at 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 24, at the Norway Cemetery in Coos Bay.

Mr. Clawson was born Aug. 4, 1956, in LaPorte, Ind., to Carlene and Audrey (Winiarski) Clawson.

He died May 19, 2003, in Coos Bay.

He was raised and educated in LaPorte, Ind., where he lived until moving to Coos Bay in 1978. He served in the U.S. Army and then moved to North Bend, later returning to Coos Bay in 1997.

Mike worked as a long-haul driver for several area companies and was a member of the Moose Lodge in Coos Bay. He enjoyed being outdoors, hunting, fishing, and spending time at the beach. Mike was always the life of the party and was loved by many.

He is survived by his daughter, **Jessica Clawson** of Coos Bay; two sons, **T.J. Clawson** of Coquille and **Cody Clawson** of Coquille; his parents, **Carlene and Audrey Clawson**; brothers **Mark (Anita) Clawson** of Bandon, **Lawrence (Sharon) Clawson** of North Bend, and **Nathan (Sally) Clawson** of Wisconsin; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his brother.

Dani Sue Clingler Frederick (Age: 41)

03/29/1957 – 01/06/1999



1974 LPHS



1975 LPHS

Dani Sue Frederick

SULLIVAN — Dani Sue Frederick, 41, Sullivan, died at 1 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 6, 1999, at her residence.

Born March 29, 1957, in La Porte, she was the daughter of Kenneth and Nancy (Hill) Clingler.

Frederick was a homemaker.

Surviving are her mother, Nancy Winters of La Porte; her father; a sister, Deborah Blankenship of La Porte; and a special friend, Ricky Bogard of Sullivan.

John Charles Clougher (Age: 58)

12/13/1957 – 07/12/2016



1973 BOSTON



John Charles Clougher, 58, of La Porte, Indiana passed away Monday, July 12 2016.

John was born December 13, 1957 in La Porte, Indiana to Richard and Marylin (Henning) Clougher.

John is survived by his children, Shawna Keehn of Rolling Prairie, IN, Allison Clougher of New Carlisle, IN, Jason Clougher of New Carlisle, IN, Danielle Hill of Michigan City, IN, and Amanda Lower of Michigan City, IN.

Also surviving are 10 grandchildren, one sister, Lori Dudeck, and two brothers, Jeffery Clougher, and Steve Clougher.

John was preceded in death by his parents, one brother, David Clougher, and one grandchild.

Barbara Ann Cody Mueller Lowery (Age: 62)

04/14/1956 – 10/07/2018



1976 LPHS



Barbara Ann Lowery, 62, of La Porte, passed away unexpectedly at 3:41 p.m., Sunday, October 7, 2018 at La Porte Hospital.

She was born April 14, 1956, in La Porte, Indiana, to Charles and Helen (Hall) Cody.

Barbara formerly worked as a laborer for American Home Foods, a cook for Thunderbird Bowling Alley, a line foreman for National Products, and a security officer at Blue Chip Casino. She attended La Porte Assembly of God. Barbara enjoyed dancing, swimming and eating out with family. She loved her family and grandchildren more than life itself.

Surviving are one daughter, Jennifer Mueller of Chicago, IL; one beloved dog son, Moosie of La Porte; one brother, Larry Cody of Rolling Prairie; six grandchildren, Breanne, Deseray, Atoria, Chenelle, Zaria and Zadia; two great grandchildren, Briella and Camila "Mili"; four nieces, Kelly Wilson, Michelle Bellis, Corey Masterson and Tonya Majchrzak; and several nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death were her parents; one son, Ronald Louis Mueller Jr.; one sister, Kay Threatt; two nephews, Chuck Cody and Jody Cody Knotts; and sister-in-law, Sheryl Cody.

Wayne A. Coutts (Age: 46)

01/18/1958 – 06/05/2004



1974 LPHS



1975 LPHS

Wayne A. Coutts, 46, died of a sudden heart attack at 8:17 p.m. on Saturday, June 5, 2004. A resident of 6221 S.R. 17, Plymouth, Wayne died in Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center.

Born January 18, 1958, in Knox, Ind., Wayne was the son of Harold P. Coutts and Edna H. Miles. He was a 1976 graduate of Plymouth High School.

Wayne was a detailer for the Country Auto dealers for Chevrolet and Cadillac.

He loved working on cars, old or new. He enjoyed NASCAR events and being with his family and was a fan of television.

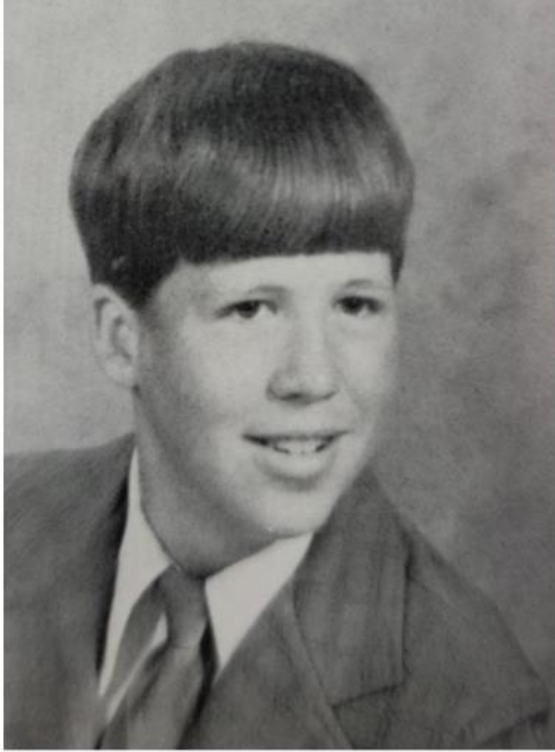
Wayne is survived by Wanda Ferreira, his girlfriend of 17 years and by his daughter, Jennifer Coutts, and his son Jarrod Coutts, all of Plymouth.

A sister, Marilyn Coutts, Plymouth, also survives.

Wayne was preceded in death by his father and his mother

Michael Lee Cox (Age: 67)

03/04/1958 – 03/20/2025



1976 LPHS



Michael Lee Cox, age 67, passed away on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at The Springs of Greers Ferry Nursing Facility in Heber Springs, Arkansas.

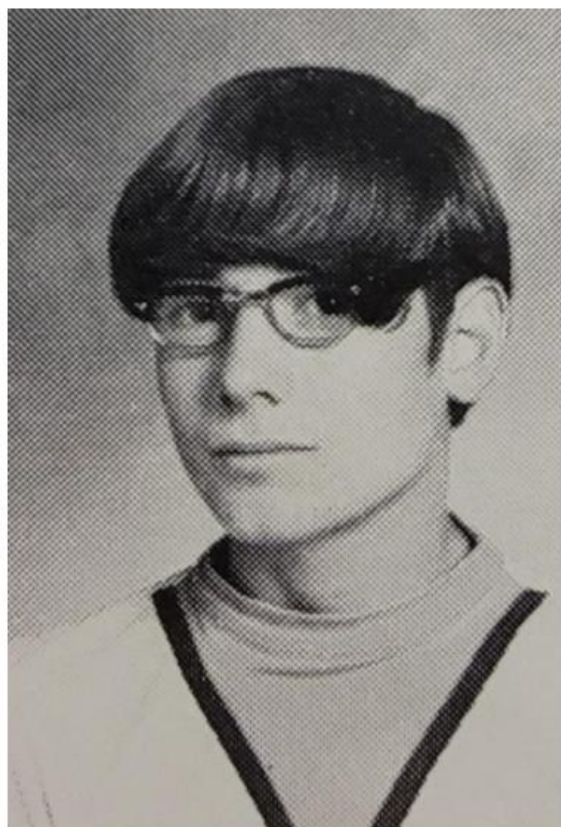
Born in Marion, Indiana, Michael was the eldest of four children of Jack M. Cox and Mary Ann L. (McCullough) Cox. He grew up in LaPorte, Indiana, where he had many friends and was known as a diligent worker even from a young age — running a paper route at age 12. Michael was active in Faith Baptist Church, where his father served as minister, and helped with church activities from shoveling snow to assisting in Junior Church programs.

Michael worked in a variety of jobs throughout his life and was highly regarded for his efficiency, especially in factory work. On June 24, 1993, in LaPorte, he married Shannon L. (Squires) Cox, and the couple later made their home in Arkansas. Despite facing a debilitating accident during his life, Michael's faith and resilience stood out as defining features. He loved classic rock music, enjoyed comedy, and even participated in online chess tournaments.

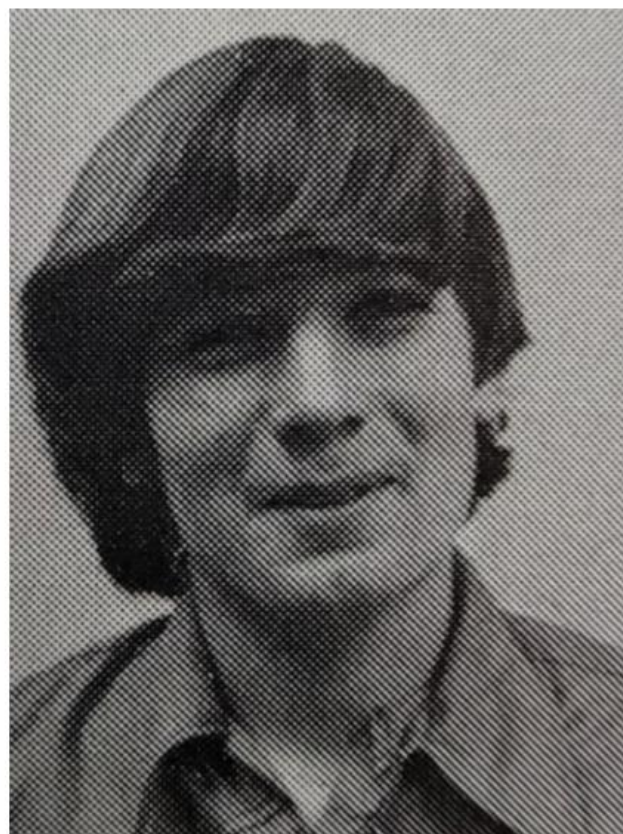
He is survived by his loving wife of 32 years, Shannon Cox; two sisters, Linda (Pete) Kinsler and Laurie Cox; and a brother, James Cox. He was preceded in death by his parent

Marcus James Daugherty (Age: 59)

09/04/1956 – 01/14/2016



1971 LP 7TH GRADE



1972 KESLING

Marcus J. Daugherty, 59, of La Porte passed away Thursday, Jan. 14, 2016.

He was born Sept. 4, 1956, in San Antonio, Texas, to Andrew and Lois Daugherty and proudly served with the U.S. Army for six years earning multiple commendations for outstanding service. Marcus made his career in the construction industry, enjoyed time with his family and friends and will be dearly missed by all.

Survivors include his daughters Jamie, Shannon, Kerry and Abby; sisters Judy Rabe, Cindy Ruminski, Vicki Proctor, Pamela Nuss and Carol Carden; brothers Steve, Larry, Rick, William, Roger and Jeff Daugherty; and his grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother Mike.

Ronald Richard Devereaux (Age: 65)

12/27/1957 – 12/29/2022



1976 LPHS



Ron passed away surrounded by family on a crisp and sunny Colorado afternoon at the age of 65. He will be sadly missed and will always hold a place in our hearts. Ron was born at the Holy Family Hospital in LaPorte, Indiana on 27 December to Carol and Richard Devereaux of Laporte, Indiana. Spending much of his youth on Pine Lake honing his skiing and boating skills, Ron was ever active. The older brother to Keith and twins Dennis and Denise, he was an example of respect and selfless service. He and his family were nearly inseparable, assisting out on the farm or garage as often as being home.

An avid outdoorsman and explorer, he naturally found friends and camaraderie in the Boy Scouts eventually earning the highest rank: Eagle Scout. Exemplifying the Boy Scout Spirit he camped often, assisted in local projects, and traveled to jamborees across the US and Canada. Ron would take their motto to heart and use it all his life: Be Prepared. It was a rare event to find Ron without a plan or tool for the job at hand.

Drawn to cars and with his natural aptitude to mechanical repair, he found work at the Conoco gas station during his time at Laporte High School. His mastery of automotive repair continued as he moved into Colorado to attend the Denver Automotive & Diesel College in 1976. Graduating in 1977 from both Auto and Diesel courses he was certified and ready to repair!

Ron finally settled down in Aurora, where he began a constant and increasingly successful battle on home improvements. Ron worked diligently for Wagner Equipment Company for more than 30 years: 1990-2022. He began as a Journeyman Technician; but in 1996 he leveraged his encyclopedic knowledge of the Caterpillar product line to assume his new position as Technical Warranty Analyst. Ron was methodical and disciplined in his work, creating a reputation of calm dependable helpfulness while reclaiming millions of dollars to Wagner. This reputation spread beyond the Aurora branch, out into Colorado and all the way through New Mexico. If you had an issue, Ron could guide you to a solution.

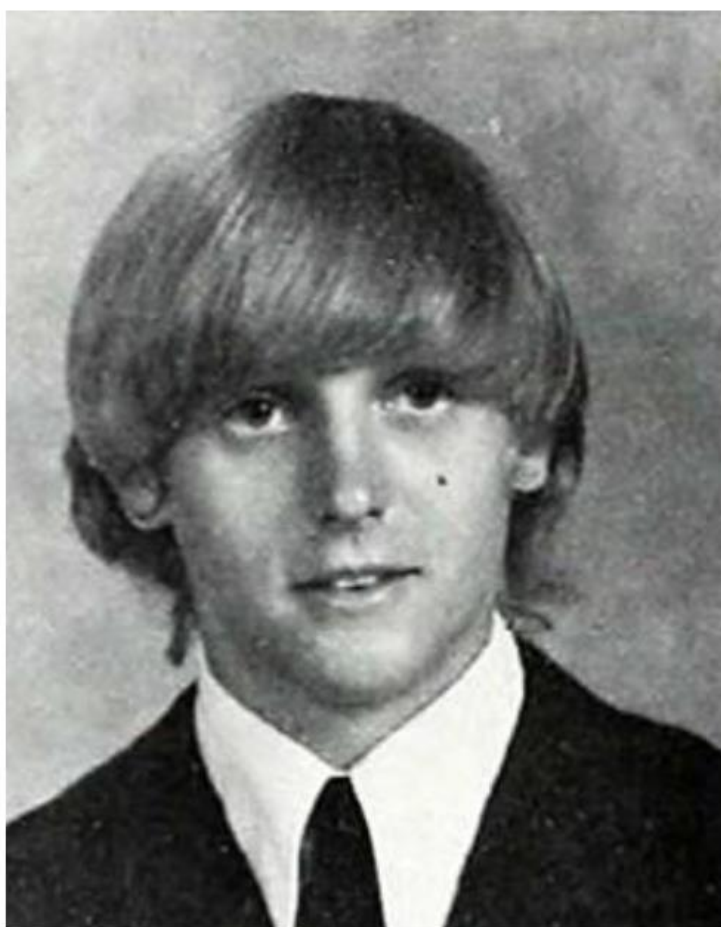
In 1986 Ron married Susan Hibbing and gained a daughter in Tanya and was later blessed with two children of his own: Chessica and Jared. A loving and devoted father, he received respect and love from his children. Spending as much time together as possible, they too learned the value of accomplishing a task done with your own hands.

Ron later remarried to Rong Liu of Hunan, China and spent a decade with love in his heart and home. Ron was known to many as a giving, methodical, and pensive man. Learning from his younger days, his speech was measured and calm; inviting you to discuss the issues on your mind to find a solution. His role in the family was sometimes a mediator, but always a central axis for family gatherings and decisions.

Ron was a Lutheran man and a Deacon in his church. He spent many years in service of God, strong in his faith through the end. Ron is preceded in death by his father, Richard Clarence Devereaux Ron is survived by Rong Devereaux, his wife of 10 years; Mother- Carol Devereaux; Siblings- Keith, Dennis, and Denise; Children- Tanya, Chessica, and Jared; Grandchildren- Brody, Braiden, Elise and Gavin.

Mark Alan Dietz (Age: 63)

08/01/1958 – 03/18/2022



1976 LPHS



Dietz A. Mark, 63, of Laporte IN, passed away on March 18, 2022. Mark was born to Elmer and Evelyn (Weliver) Dietz on August 1, 1958.

Mark Graduated from La Porte High School. He worked at New York Blower co for over 40 years. Mark enjoyed watching and playing sports, playing cards, riding his motorcycle, and attending baseball games with his grandsons.

Preceding in death were his parents, and two brothers Terry and Gregory Dietz

Surviving is his daughter Amber Dietz. Two grandsons Jayden Malstaff and Samuel Malstaff. One sister Debbie (Dan) Dyer. Two nieces Christine (Andrew) Koster of Chicago IL. Brooke (Jason) Dyer- Wolf of Bolingbrook IL.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to the Slicer Wrestling Association in Mark's name.

Kathleen Marie Dolohery (Age: 63)

06/08/1958 – 11/24/2021



1976 LPHS



Kathleen M. Dolohery, 63, passed away on Wednesday, November 24, 2021 at Fountainview Terrace in La Porte.

Kathleen "Kathy" was born on June 8, 1958 in La Porte, IN, to Alfred "Ted" and Judith "Judy" I. (Schroeder) Dolohery.

Surviving are her parents of La Porte; sister, Julia; and 2 nephews, Michael and Ryan.

Kathy graduated from La Porte High School in 1976 and from Purdue University North Central with an Associate Degree in Business. She worked as a secretary at Sullair in Michigan City and several other businesses in the area. Kathy enjoyed snow skiing, swimming, the beach, music, and art.

Cynthia Marie Dye Nesmith (Age: 61)

07/23/1958 – 05/08/2020



1976 LPHS



Cynthia (Cindy) Nesmith, 61, of Lafayette passed away Friday, May 8, 2020 at Franciscan Health Lafayette East. She was born July 23, 1958 in Lafayette to the late James and Miriam (Loft) Dye. She was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. She retired from the United States Postal Service as a Letter Sorter.

Cindy loved music and enjoyed playing the flute, which she earned many honors, medals, and college scholarships due to her hard work and talent mastering that instrument. Cindy's favorite artist and songwriter was Melissa Etheridge, whom she was looking forward to finally meet later this year.

Cindy was always an incredibly hard worker. In fact, she was the first female telephone line worker in the state of Indiana in the 80's. This was an extremely physical job, where she climbed up and down telephone poles and trucks and lifted incredibly heavy objects while keeping balance. She was even in a social studies book for being the first female in Indiana to hold such a position.

Over thirty years of Cindy's life were dedicated to working at the United States Postal Service as a decorated and accomplished Letter Sorter, which was a huge talent of hers. When she took the historically difficult entrance exam, she finished in a fraction of the time and earned a perfect score, which was unprecedented. Cindy proceeded to break records and earned countless awards for impeccable work within the United States Postal Service and was counted on to perform at rates and workloads that no other individual could maintain. Most importantly,

Cindy was very open, kind, and generous— so much so, that many did not always know how to react to her tenderness she gave so freely to everyone. She was so full of passion and love, so accepting of everyone, so quick to build them up and encourage them. She instilled kindness in her children and always encouraged them to find the good in others and to continually find ways to help others whenever possible. Her legacy in this life will always be felt in the hearts of all she has encountered and will live through her children as they strive to be more like her throughout their lives.

More than anything she ever did or accomplished in this life, she loved spending time with her amazing grandchild, Jada, who made her beam with joy and pride every day. Surviving are her two children: Lindsey Wankowski (husband, Alexander) of Lafayette and Miles Nesmith of Lafayette; mother Miriam; brother Joseph Dye of Lafayette; granddaughter Jada Nesmith; two nephews, Noah Dye and Rim Hutto; niece, Heather Hutto. best friend Theresa Smart. She is preceded in death by her father James B. Dye, infant sister Betsy Jane Dye, and infant brother Stephen Dye,

Carl Randall Elder (Age: 40)

07/20/1957 – 03/05/1998

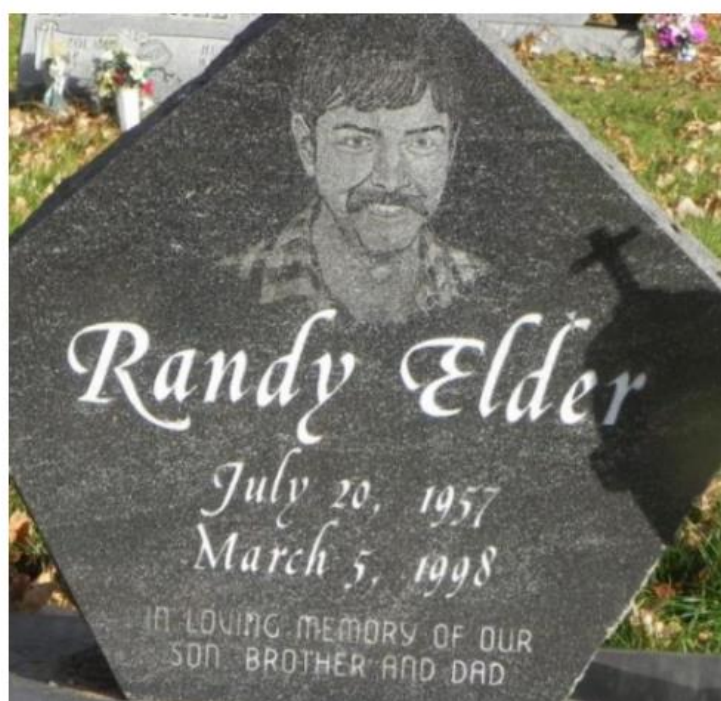


1976 LPHS

Carl R. Elder

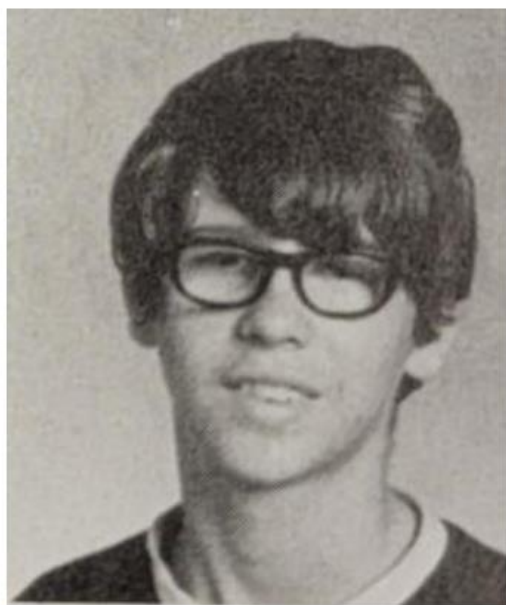
July 20, 1957-March 5, 1998

LAPORTE — Carl R. Elder, 40, of 210 Scott St., died at 3:08 p.m. Thursday in LaPorte Hospital, of natural causes. Survivors include his wife, Mary; two daughters, Randa Elder of LaPorte and Katherine Elder of Angola, Ind.; two sons, Carl R. II of LaPorte and Joseph R. of Angola; his mother, Birdie Elder of LaPorte; his father, Carl Elder of Kokomo; and three sisters, Sandy Cauffman and Pat Elder, both of LaPorte and Terri Lawson of South Bend.



John Eugene Etherton (Age: 19)

06/16/1957 – 06/25/1976



1973 BOSTON



1974 LPHS

Indiana

John E. Etherton

LAPORTE — John E. Etherton, 19, of 0735 W. County Road, 400 S., died at 2:45 a.m. Friday at St. Anthony's Hospital in Michigan City as the result of a gunshot wound. Services will be Monday morning in the the Essling Funeral Home with the Rev. Roy Anderson officiating. Burial will be in Pine Lake Cemetery. There will be no calling hours.

He was born in LaPorte, on June 16, 1957, and lived here his entire lifetime. He attended LaPorte High School. He is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Jerry Curry, of LaPorte, and Ruby, at home; three brothers, Raymond, Larry and Ronald, all at home; his father Jack Etherton of LaPorte; his grandmothers, Mrs. Ruby Smothers and Mrs. Maude Sims, both of LaPorte, and his grandfather, R. V. Etherton of Marshall, Ill.

Ricky Wayne Favia (Age: 19)

04/12/1957 – abt. 06/06/1976



1972 BOSTON



Rick Wayne Favia

**Ricky W.
Favia, 19
funeral set**

Funeral services for Ricky Wayne Favia, 19, of Carson City, will be at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at Walton's Chapel of the Valley with Rev. Paul Lewis of the First Baptist Church officiating.

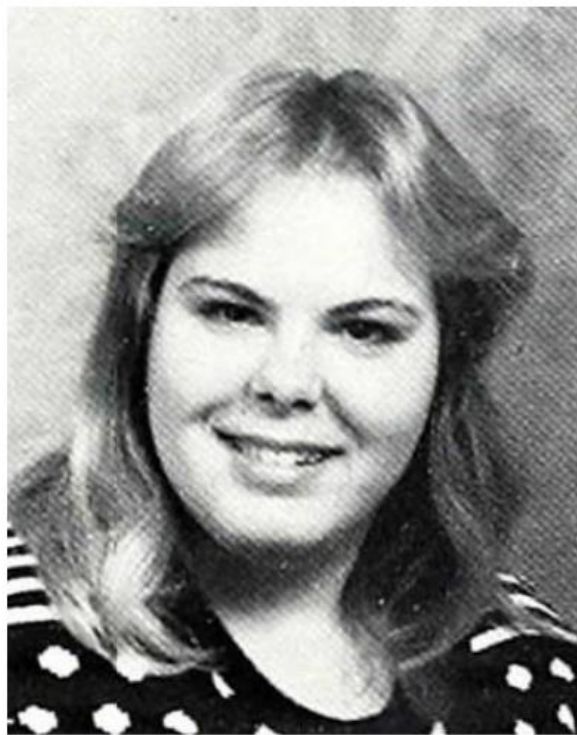
The youth died Sunday in Washoe Valley as the result of an automobile accident. He was born April 12, 1956 in Ft. Wayne, Ind. and had just graduated from Carson High School.

Among his survivors are his mother, Kay Gori of Carson City; his father, Phillip Favia of LaPort, Ind.; two brothers, Mark of Carson City and John of LaPort; a half-brother, Phillip Favia, Jr. and a half-sister, Sarah, both of LaPort; a grandmother, Mrs. John Williams of LaPort; grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John Hartre of LaPort; and a step-father, Roy Gori of Carson City.

Burial will be in Walton's Carson Gardens.

Madelyn Sue Fettinger Lynn (*Age: 64*)

10/17/1957 – 05/30/2022



1976 LPHS



Madelyn "Maddie" Sue Lynn, 64, of La Porte, passed away on Monday, May 30, 2022 at Golden Living Center, La Porte.

Maddie was born on October 17, 1957 in Princeton, IN, to George and Geraldine (Reed) Fettinger.

On June 7, 1982 in Oklahoma City, OK, she married Mark Alan who preceded her in death on March 1, 2021. Surviving Maddie are her children, Ashley Vandemark of La Porte, IN, Brent (Heather) Lynn of Arkansas City, KS, and Brandon Hire of Oklahoma City, OK; 6 grandchildren, Mackenzie Weaver of La Porte, IN, Chase O'Connell of Fort Wayne, IN, Harrison and Waylon Lynn of Arkansas City, KS, and Lily and Landon Hire of Oklahoma City, OK; siblings, Mike Fettinger of Bloomington, IN and Miles Fettinger of La Porte; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

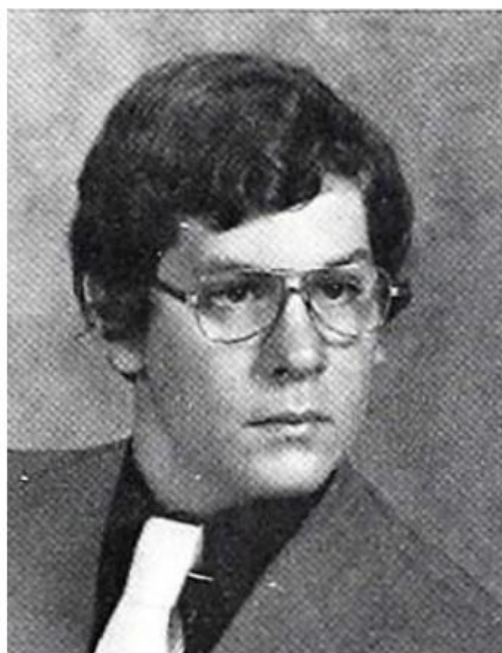
She was preceded in death by her parents and husband.

Maddie was a member of the DAR. She enjoyed watching old movies and snacks. Maddie will be remembered as someone who enjoyed chatting and catching up with friends and family.

Maddie was such a fun lady, who always needed to have her nails painted. She was dearly loved by her family and will be greatly missed.

Barry Alan Fitzpatrick (Age: 63)

06/17/1958 – 05/13/2022



1976 LPHS



Barry A. Fitzpatrick, 63, of La Porte, Indiana, passed away Friday May 13, 2022 at Lutheran Hospital in Ft Wayne. He was born June 17, 1958 in La Porte, Indiana, the son of James Albert and Geraldine (Hibner) Fitzpatrick.

A lifelong resident of the area, Barry attended St. John's Lutheran Elementary and graduated from La Porte High School. He then went on to receive his Bachelor of Accounting degree before beginning his career as a driver with UPS. Barry was a member of the Lighthouse Church in La Porte and participated in many of their ministries, including Courtside Ministries and prison ministries and was helping them with renovations in their new church. On December 12, 2009, he married Tracy Lyn Pagels at their church in La Porte. Barry was an avid baseball fan and not only did he love to watch the Cubs on TV and score their games, but he worked as an usher at the South Bend Cubs games. And once a Slicer always a Slicer - Barry worked at football games at the time clock. He enjoyed playing softball and was active on the internet with WGT golfing, proudly setting a record of participating 1200 days in a row with other players from around the world. He was a man who lived his life to the fullest, with God as his inspiration.

Along with his wife, Tracy, Barry is survived by his father and mother in law, Ron & Linda Chance of La Porte; brother and sister-in-law, Adam & Brenda Pagels of La Porte; brother, Jim Fitzpatrick of Kingsford Heights, IN; sister, Darlene (Tom) Todd of La Porte, IN; four nephews, Ryan (Amy) Blind, Ralph (Tracy) Fitzpatrick, Carson Pagels, Hudson Pagels and his exuberant yellow Lab, Angus. Barry was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Vickie Fitzpatrick.

Sylvia Flores McDaniels (Age: 50)

12/18/1956 – 10/07/2007



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Mrs. Sylvia McDaniels, 50, of La Porte, died suddenly Sunday, Oct. 7, 2007, at 6:42 p.m. at La Porte Hospital. She was born Dec. 18, 1956, in La Porte to Homer O. and Cruz C. (Campos) Flores, was a lifelong resident of La Porte.

Mrs. McDaniels was a homemaker. She attended St. Peter Catholic Church and was a graduate of La Porte High School. She enjoyed cooking for family and friends, gardening and fishing and was a 13-year cancer survivor. She especially loved her pets and was devoted to her husband. She was known for having a heart of gold and loved children, especially her nieces and nephews, and will be deeply missed by all who touched her life and whose lives she touched.

On Oct. 12, 1991, in La Porte, she married Jeffrey L. McDaniels, who survives.

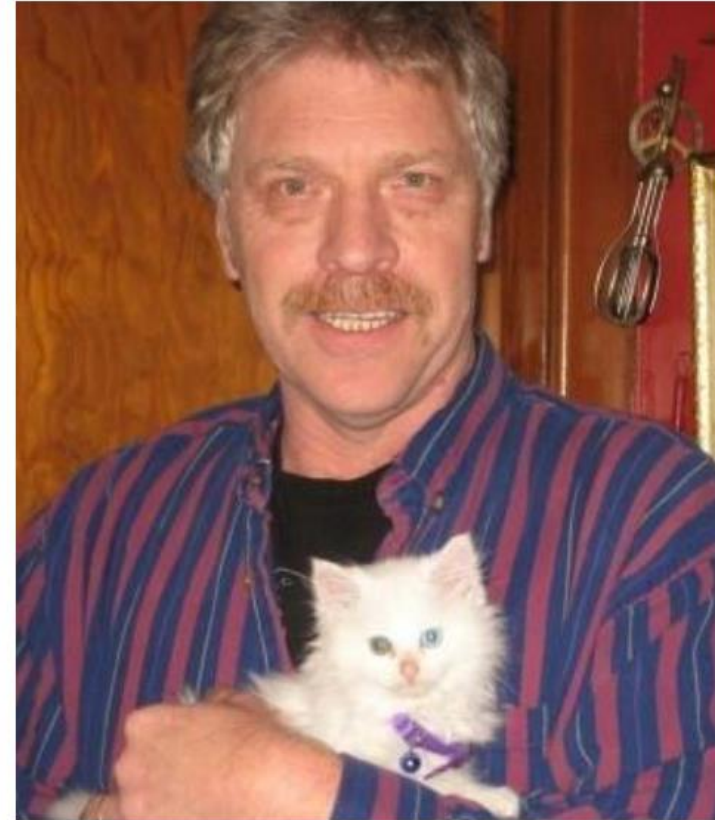
Also surviving are her mother, of La Porte; three sisters, Gloria Thode and Wanda Young, both of La Porte, and Mary Keck of Rolling Prairie; and one brother, Homer Flores of La Porte. Her father and all her grandparents preceded her in death.

Craig Scott Forrester (Age: 66)

01/21/1958 – 08/24/2024



1976 LPHS



Craig Forrester passed away on August 24th, 2024, at the age of 66. Craig was born on January 21st, 1958 in Jacksonville, North Carolina. Craig enjoyed a long and fulfilling career at Hiler Industries, beginning as an iron pourer and eventually moving to a pattern shop, where he found great satisfaction in his work.

Craig is survived by his loving wife of forty-seven years, Candace Forrester, with whom he shared a heart and mind, and his only child, daughter Danielle Forrester. He also leaves behind his dear mother, Janice Gauger, and four well-loved siblings: Cathy Gussman (Jim), Dana Magidson, Dawn Garrett (Bryant), Steven Forrester (Monique), and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, Danny Forrester.

Craig had a passion for computers long before they became common. He was a 45-year guitar player and loved to ride his Harley. In his later years, he did 3D printing, smoked fabulous meats, learned to solder, and made electronic gadgets all around the house. Craig was an excited and driven tinkerer. Known for his quick shifts from a serious and pragmatic demeanor to a playful side that never failed to surprise and amuse his family and friends, Craig was an amazing man and will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Denise Michelle Freese Enoch Euler (Age: 52)

04/16/1956 – 06/30/2009



1973 BOSTON



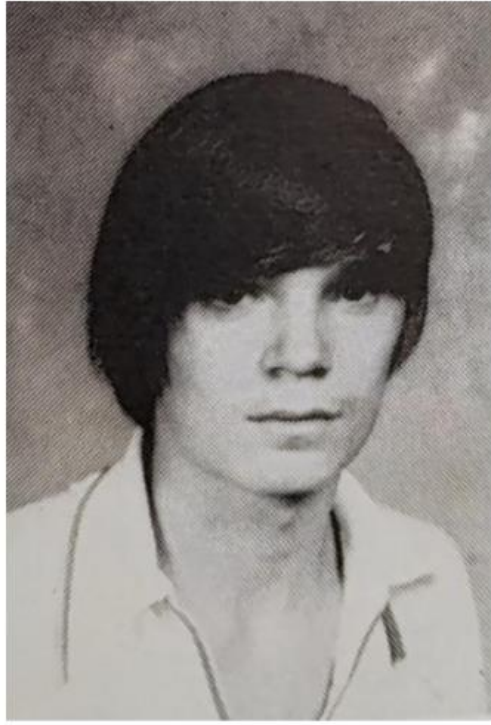
Denise M. Euler

April 16, 1956 - June 30, 2009

LAPORTE — Mrs. Denise M. Euler, 53, died Tuesday, June 30, 2009, in LaPorte. Surviving are son, Mike Freese of LaPorte; daughter, Nicole Enochs of AL; four grandchildren; three sisters, Debbie Lain of LaPorte, Darlene Wawok of LaPorte and Donna Hull of LaPorte.

Lonnie Gene Garner (Age: 57)

02/24/1958 – 06/27/2015



1974 LPHS



Lonnie Gene Garner, 57, of La Porte, passed away on Saturday, June 27, 2015 at his home.

Lonnie was born in La Porte, IN, on February 24, 1958 to Alfred T. and June Mildred (Euler) Garner.

Surviving are his beloved children, Lacie (Will) Griffin, Lonnie J. Garner, and Ronnie Ray Garner, all of La Porte, IN; two brothers, Allen (Jeana) Blake and Larry Blake; girlfriend, Tracy Naragon and her children, William Walker of La Porte, Sheena Kabowski of La Porte, Randall Kabowski of La Porte; and 5 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Lonnie worked in maintenance for 19 years at Kingsley Furniture and at various area banks. He was an all around handyman who cared for elderly friends and neighbors.

Deanna Gayle Gautier Depoister (Age: 47)

05/25/1958 – 06/05/2005



1973 BOSTON



1974 LPHS

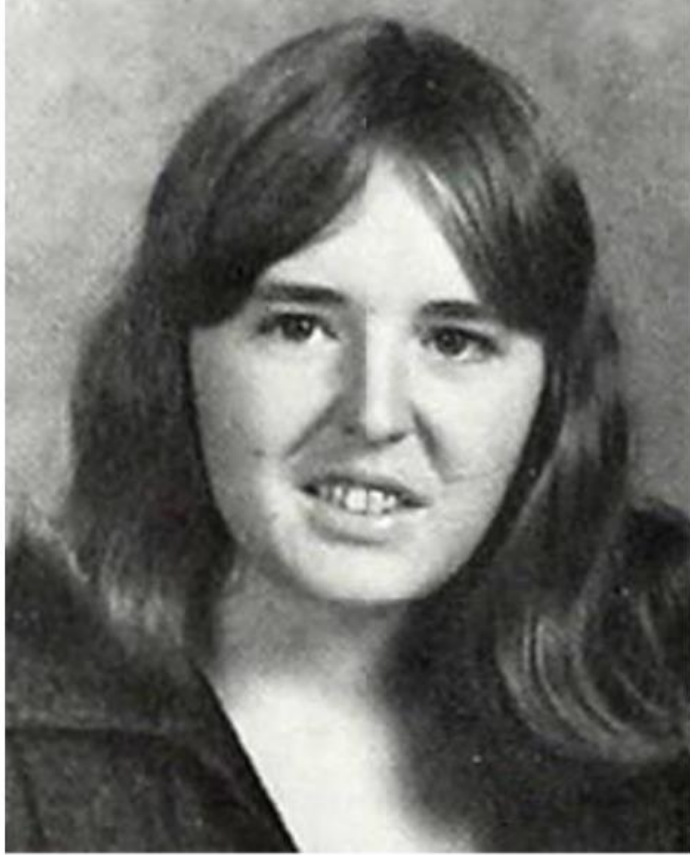
Deanna G. DePoister

May 25, 1958 – June 5, 2005

LAPORTE — Deanna G. DePoister, 47, of 704 Ridge St., Apt. 1, died at 3:41 p.m. Sunday in LaPorte Hospital of natural causes. Survivors include a son, Kirk “Kurt” DePoister of Westville; and a brother, Kevin Gautier of LaPorte.

Jeannellen Giggy Mullins (Age: 60)

03/22/1958 – 12/25/2018



1976 LPHS



Jeannellen "Jean" Mullins, 60, of La Porte, passed away on Tuesday, December 25, 2018 at her home. Jeannellen was born in La Porte, IN, on March 22, 1958 to Fred W. and Jeanne (Foster) Giggy.

On October 25, 2012 in La Porte, IN, she married Dale Mullins who survives. Also surviving are her beloved children, Victoria (Donald) Wilson of La Porte, Robert (Ashley Oliver) Giggy of La Porte, David Lewis Stidham of La Porte, and Craig (Samantha) Stidham of La Porte; mother, Jeanne (Charles) Culp; brothers, Ned Giggy, Wayne (Rhonda) Giggy, and Carl Culp; sisters, Lynn Watkins, Pamela (Rob) Williams, and Carla (Steve) Williams; and 10 grandchildren, Mia, Avontae, Larry, Kylee, Madison, Drisana, Milo, Jerzey, Paizley, and Eazton.

She was preceded in death by her father and sister, Catherine Fort.

Jean was a sales department manager for 24 years at Wal-Mart. She loved being with her family, especially her grandchildren. She also enjoyed garage sales, flea markets, and joining her husband on the boat where she would crochet and do puzzle books while he fished.

Scott William Goers (Age: 59)

01/19/1957 – 11/16/2016



1976 LPHS



Scott W. Goers, 59, of La Porte, passed away on Wednesday, November 16, 2016 at his home surrounded by his loving family.

Scott was born in La Porte, IN, on January 19, 1957 to William Otto and Mary Jo (Jones) Goers.

On July 1, 2006 he married Marie M. Flaherty who survives. Also surviving are his beloved children, Angela (Julius) Ellis of La Porte, David Makina of La Porte; grandchildren, Ciara Augusta, Malik Corley, Rachel Ellis, Madison Hanley all of La Porte; brothers, Mark Goers, Corey (Rita) Goers; nephews, Corey Ryan (Meghan) Goers of Avon, IN, Brandon Goers of La Porte; great niece, Emily Goers; great nephew, Camden Goers both of Avon; and many other loving family members He was preceded in death by his parents.

Scott was a member of the American Legion Post 83, Falcons, and the VFW Post 1130. He loved to play pool, camp, fish, travel, cook, garden, and feed the birds and squirrels around his house. He enjoyed many years of playing and coaching softball. Scott enjoyed helping his neighbors by mowing grass, raking leaves, plowing snow, and helping in any way he could.

Margaret Cecile Gribble James (Age: 62)

03/02/1957 – 02/22/2020



1974 LPHS



Margaret James, age 62 of Puryear, TN, died Sunday, February 22, 2020, at the Henry County Medical Center.

She was a homemaker who enjoyed watching TV, crossword puzzles, playing bingo, and spending time with her family and friends. In her earlier years, she also enjoyed dancing.

Margaret was born March 2, 1957, in LaPorte, IN, to the late Cecil Gribble and the late Averill Heiman.

She is survived by her former husband, Arthur James of LaPorte, IN; her son, Ryan (Anna) James of Puryear; one son-in-law, Kevin Cathey of Puryear; one sister, Carol Hudson of Oak Ridge; several other brothers and sisters; two grandchildren, Aaliyah James and Alexis Bayless; and close family friends, Billy and Bridgett Unruh.

In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her daughter, Tiffany James.

Robert W. Grillo (Age: 35)

10/16/1959 – 11/27/1994



1976 LPHS

GRILLO

Robert W. Grillo, Nov. 27, 1994, age 35, of Michigan City, IN., formerly of Chicago, IL., son of Michael and the late Margie; brother of Kathleen Grillo of LaPorte, IN. and Michael (Ruth) Grillo of Bourbonnais, IL.; uncle of one niece and one nephew. Private graveside service will be held at a later date. Interment St. Joseph Cemetery, LaPorte. Memorial contributions to American Cancer Society or donor's choice. Info, **Haverstock Funeral Home**, 219-362-3333 .

Peggy Lee Gussman DePriest (Age: 64)

07/27/1957 – 01/12/2022



1974 LPHS



Peggy L. DePriest, 64, of Michigan City, passed away peacefully at 6:16 p.m., on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at Franciscan Health, Michigan City.

She was born July 27, 1957, in La Porte, Indiana, to Robert Gussman and Lois (Korloch) Gussman. Peggy formerly worked at Miller's Health & Rehab as a housekeeper. She loved to travel and visit new places. Peggy loved her family very much and earned the nickname "grandma yes yes". She was as someone who loved to have fun as well as her sense of humor and feistiness.

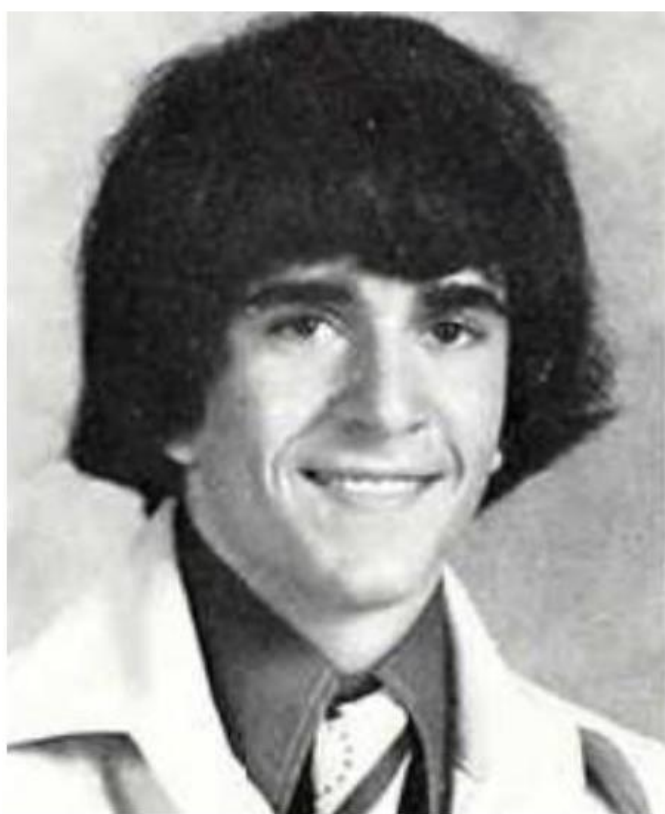
On May 10, 2003, in Michigan City she married Thomas Michael DePriest, who survives.

Surviving are her two children, Eric (Tiffany) Schuck of Rolling Prairie, and Staci Schuck of Michigan City; adopted child, Joshua (Heather) Pratt of Michigan City; ten siblings, Gary Gussman, Larry (Trisha) Gussman, Mark (Heather) Gussman, Jim (Cathy) Gussman, Tom Gussman, Mike (Patty) Gussman, Sheila (Bob) Dettmer, June Bass, Pat Gussman, and Janet (Earl) Peterson; four grandchildren, Destiny, Elijah, Justin, and Dakota; adopted grandchildren, Isiah, Courtney, Lynda, Joshey, and Gracelynn; and several aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews.

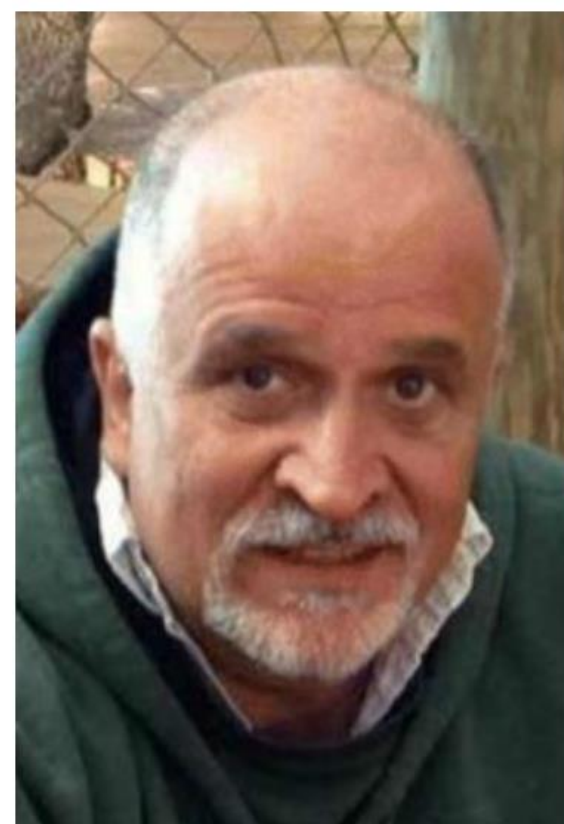
Preceding in death were her parents; maternal grandmother; paternal grandparents, Herman and Mildred Gussman; son, Christopher Gussman; nephews, Brandon Peterson, Dale Matthews; siblings, Tena Gussman, Terry Gussman, Kenny Gussman, and Evelyn Korloch

Randol L. Haberman (Age: 65)

01/13/1958 – 10/06/2023



1976 LPHS



Randy Haberman, 65, of Venice, Florida, passed away on Oct. 6, 2023. He was born on Jan. 13, 1958. Randy was known for his kind, thoughtful, honest nature, and his deep love for his family.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Teresa Haberman; his stepdaughter, Holly Barabas; and his son, Adam Haberman (Barbara). Randy was a cherished grandfather to Peter Liakakos, Alina, Jerek and Braelyn Haberman. He is also survived by his sister, Brenda McCoy (Jim); and his father, Ronnie Haberman. Randy was preceded in death by his mother, Dolores Haberman.

Randol dedicated 43 years of his life to the Whirlpool Corporation, where he had a successful career. He was a dedicated and hardworking individual who made significant contributions to the company.

In his free time, Randy enjoyed hanging out with his family, playing video games, and playing pool. He cherished the moments spent with his loved ones and created lasting memories with them.

Randy Haberman will be deeply missed by his family, friends and all who knew him. May his soul rest in peace.

Cheryl Ann Haferkamp Balcom (Age: 46)

08/11/1958 – 12/29/2004



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Mrs. Cheryl Ann Haferkamp Balcom, 46, of Ramrod Key, Fla., and formerly of LaPorte, died Wednesday, Dec. 29, 2004, in Ramrod Key after a lengthy illness.

She was born Aug. 11, 1958, in LaPorte to Lawrence E. and Joanne (Linza) Haferkamp.

Mrs. Balcom was a homemaker and a member of a Lutheran church in Big Pine, Fla.

In 1989 she married Robert A. Balcom, who survives.

Also surviving are her mother of LaPorte; her father of Valparaiso; one daughter, Annie of Dayton, N.J.; two sons, Bryce Banaszak of LaPorte and Michael of Dayton; two sisters, Shelly Gurrola of Lauderdale, Fla., and Lisa Sharpe of Michigan City; her grandfather, Oscar Linza of Lewiston, N.Y.; and her godchild, Alex Sharpe of Michigan City.

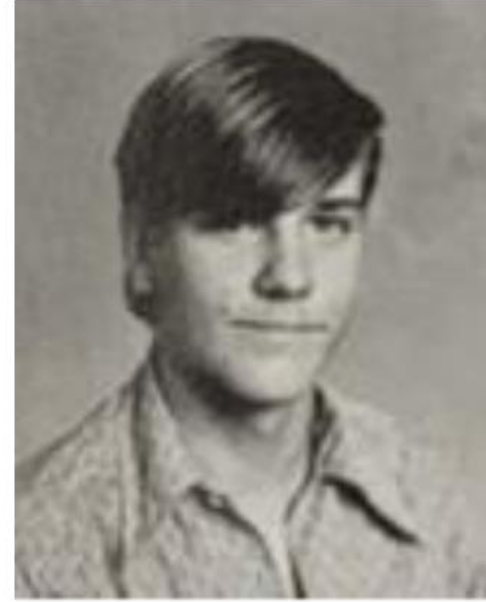
Preceding her in death were grandparents Mary R. Linza and Lawrence and Elsie Haferkamp.

Randell Charles Harmon (Age: 56)

01/22/1956 – 01/24/2012



1971 LP 7TH GRADE



1972 BOSTON

Randell C. Harmon, 56, of La Porte, Indiana, died in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, on Tuesday, January 24, 2012.

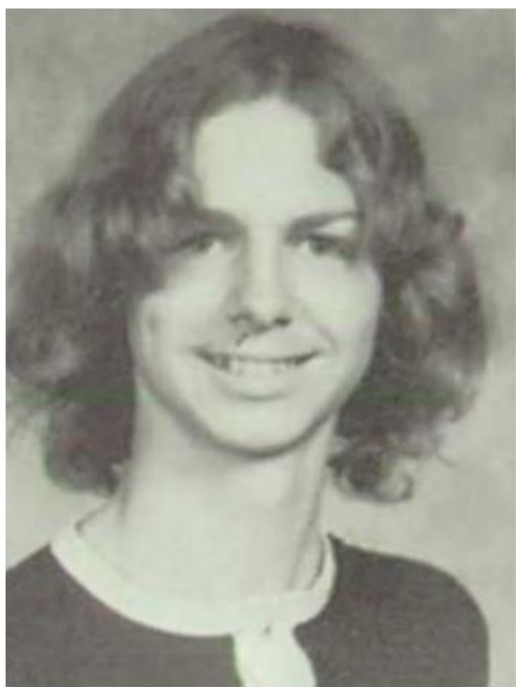
He was born January 22, 1956 in Valparaiso, Indiana, the son of Kenneth Harmon and Olive (Porter) Colburn.

He is survived by his sister, Connie Harmon of La Porte; five brothers, Dennis Harmon of Corydon, Indiana, Kenneth Harmon of La Porte, John Harmon of La Porte, Terry Harmon of La Porte, and Monty Harmon of Colorado Springs, Colorado.

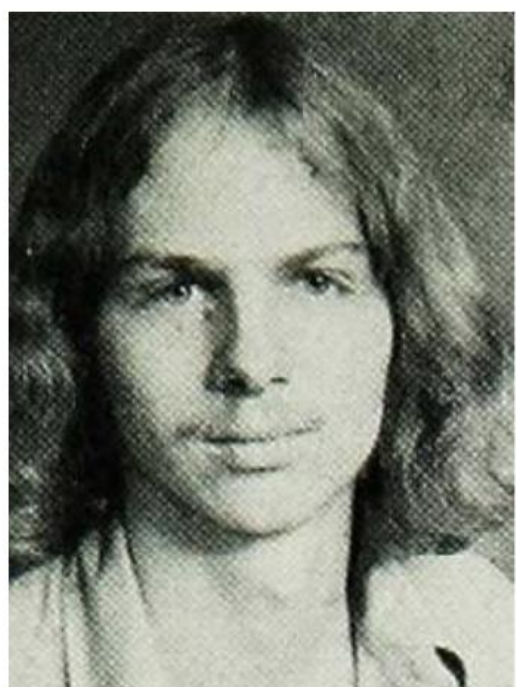
Randell was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers.

Mark Alan Harness (Age: 34)

12/07/1956 – 11/14/1991



1974 LPHS

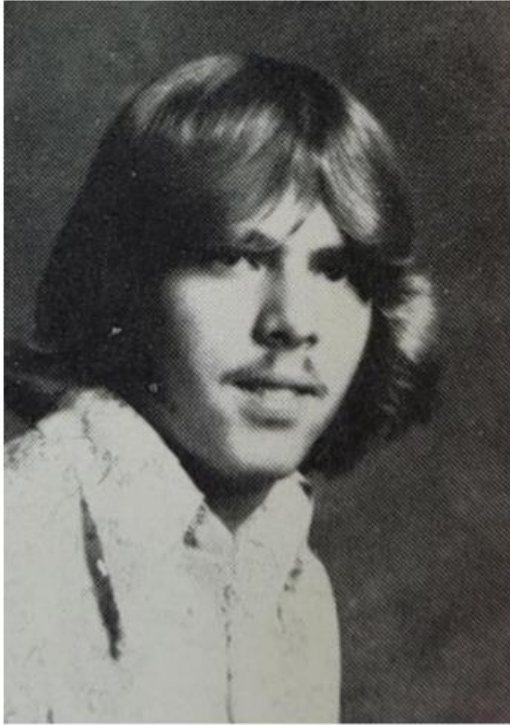


1975 LPHS

Mark Alan Harness
Dec. 7, 1956-Nov. 14, 1991
ROLLING PRAIRIE — Graveside services for Mark Alan Harness, 34, of Longview, Texas, formerly of Rolling Prairie, who died at 9 a.m. Thursday in his home of natural causes, were today in Rolling Prairie Cemetery. Haverstock Funeral Home, La-Porte, is in charge of arrangements.
Mr. Harness was born Dec. 7, 1956, in Ottumwa, Iowa. He moved to Longview 11 years ago from Rolling Prairie. Surviving are a son, Christopher Harley Harness of Longview; his mother, Evelyn L. Harness of La-Porte; a sister, Kristie Hill of Rolling Prairie; and a brother, Donald Jr. of Eldon, Iowa.

Wade A. Harris (Age: 46)

03/24/1958 – 07/05/2004



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Wade Harris

March 24, 1958 – July 5, 2004

ROLLING PRAIRIE — Wade Harris, 46, of 5972 E. Delaware Trail, died at 1 p.m. Monday in LaPorte Hospital of injuries from a mo-ped accident in LaPorte. Survivors include a daughter, Morgan Harris of Palos Heights, Ill.; two sons, Jayson of LaPorte and Nicholas of Palos Heights; his mother and stepfather, Jane and Keith Siglinger of New Carlisle; two brothers, Blaine Harris and Chip Whorwell, both of LaPorte; a half sister, Jacquelyn Hayes of Indianapolis; and a half brother, Marty Harris of LaPorte.

Randy Allen Hart (Age: 23)

07/20/1956 – 09/28/1979



1975 ;LPHS



1976 LPHS

Monday funeral planned for crash victims

LAPORTE — Services for Randy Allen Hart, 23, and his wife, Pamela Louise Hart, 20, of 324 Pine Lake Ave., LaPorte, who died Friday afternoon of injuries received in a traffic accident at U.S. 20 and Ind. 2, will be at 2:30 p.m. Monday at the Haverstock Chapel with Dr. G. Ben Hersberger of the First United Methodist Church, officiating.

Burial will be in Patton Cemetery. Friends may call after noon today and until 2:30 p.m. Monday in the funeral home.

Hart was born on July 20, 1956, in Warsaw, and had lived in LaPorte the last 12 years. He was an employee of the Phillips Drill Co. of Michigan City.

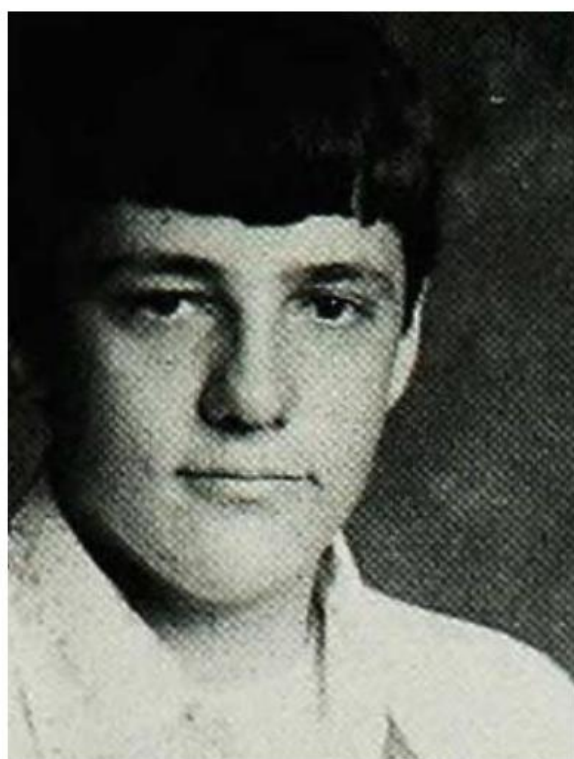
He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Hart of LaPorte, four sisters, Mrs. Vicki Timm of LaPorte, Mrs. Linda Hart and Mrs. Debra Bentley, both of Kingsford Heights, and Miss Karen Hart of Terre Haute, and three brothers, Welsey Hart of LaPorte, Tommy Hart of Kingsford Heights and Kenneth Kelly of Portland, Ore.

Mrs. Hart was born on Aug. 4, 1959, in Gary, and had lived in LaPorte for the last 10 years. Her survivors include her mother, Mrs. Mary Kell of LaPorte; seven sisters, Mrs. Nancy Eiler of LaPorte, Miss Mary Kell of Kingsford Heights, Miss Judy Kell, Mrs. Debra Lettrell and Mrs. Sherri Malotte, all of Arkansas, Mrs. Carol Majors of Virginia and Mrs. Kathy Lim of Chicago; four brothers, Drexal Kell, Jr. and Gary Kell, both of Knox, Lance Kell of Plymouth and Tony Kell of Kingsford Heights, and a grandmother, Mrs. Louis Kuhn of Arkansas.

The couple was married last July 7 in LaPorte.

Eddie Lee Hawk (Age: 56)

01/02/1956 – 07/27/2012



1975 LPHS



Eddie Lee Hawk age 56, of LaPorte, IN passed away following a brief and courageous battle with cancer on July 27, 2012. He was born on January 2, 1956 to Carl L. Hubner and Edna Kotwa in South Bend, IN. On October 12, 2002 he married Lori Alexander in LaPorte, IN.

He graduated from LaPorte High School in 1976 and then earned a business degree from PNC. He retired as a sergeant from the La Porte County Sheriff's Department in 2011 following a 35-year career in Law Enforcement. He was very active in the community over the years. He was a charter member of the La Porte County Police Cadets, member of the Sherriff's department SCUBA dive team, and attended the LaPorte Assembly of God. Following retirement he worked for Walgreens as an Organized Crime Retail Theft Investigator.

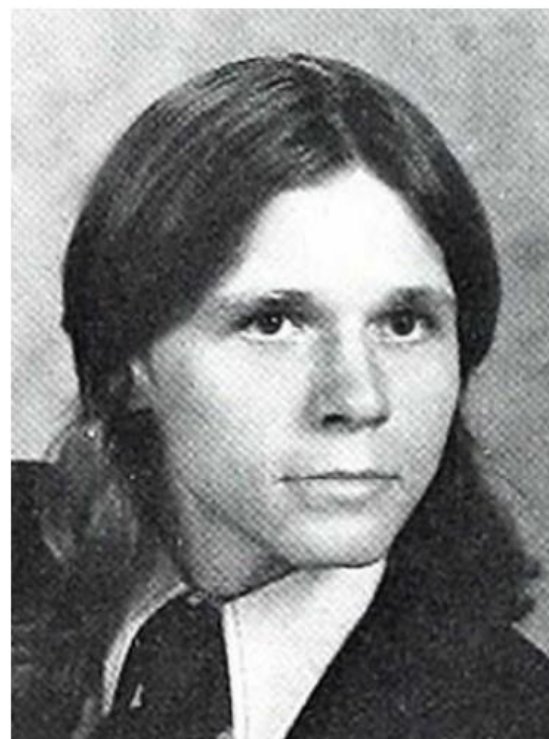
Surviving are his wife, Lori Hawk of LaPorte, IN; five children, Lindsey Hawk of LaPorte & Megan Hawk of Chesterton, Amanda (Johnny) Lemon of LaPorte, IN and Angie Wingett and Dan Kebacinski both of Michigan City; 3 grandchildren, Olivia Lemon, Kylee Hawk, and Brielle Lemon; his parents, Carl (Lois) Hubner of Tavares, FL and Edna Kotwa of LaPorte; one brother, Bill Hubner of Elkhart, IN; and a grandmother, Catherine Hubner of LaPorte, IN. He also leaves behind a very special dog, Pixie Jean Hawk.

Ronald Paul Helterbrand (Age: 50)

11/07/1956 – 06/19/2007



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Ronald Paul Helterbrand, 50, died at 7 a.m. Tuesday, June 19, in Phoenix, AZ. Survivors include a son, Dusitn of LaPorte; a daughter, Kaylynn Sanchez of North Liberty; brothers, Ray of LaPorte and Charles of Phoenix; a sister, Joan Callahan of LaPorte; two granddaughters; and caretaker and close friend, Jay Tvedt of Phoenix, AZ.

Rickey Allen Herren (Age: 22)

11/24/1955 – 09/24/1978



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Rickey Herren, 22, Hamlet, was killed early Sunday morning when he lost control of his car on Indiana 421 near the Indiana Toll Road in LaPorte County and struck a railroad overpass head-on, state police said. Police said Herren was alone in the car traveling at a high rate of speed. The impact with the overpass split the car in two, police said. There were no witnesses to the 4:30 a.m. accident.

He was born Nov. 24, 1955, in Valparaiso, a son of August and Shirley (Inman) Herren.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He worked at the Oasis Truck Stop, Westville.

Survivors include his parents of Hamlet; two brothers, Jerry of LaPorte and William at home; three sisters, Mrs. Ralph Berrier of Gautier, Miss., Mrs. Shirley (Maria) Martin of Hamlet, and Mindy Herren, at home.

Roger John Hewitt (Age: 47)

02/17/1958 – 04/21/2005



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Mr. Roger John Hewitt, 47, of Broomfield, Colo., and formerly of LaPorte, passed away Thursday, April 21, 2005, at 6:12 p.m. at his home of natural causes. He was born Feb. 17, 1958, in LaPorte to John and Shirley (Ohlis) Hewitt.

Mr. Hewitt was a software developer in Colorado. He was a 1976 graduate of LaPorte High School and a former member of St. John's Lutheran Church in LaPorte.

Surviving are his parents, of LaPorte; one sister, Diana Quinn of the LaPorte area and one brother, Wayne of LaPorte.

He was preceded in death by one brother, Kevin; and his grandparents, John and Edith Hewitt, and Norman and Lucy Ohlis.

Jeffrey C. Hines (Age: 31)

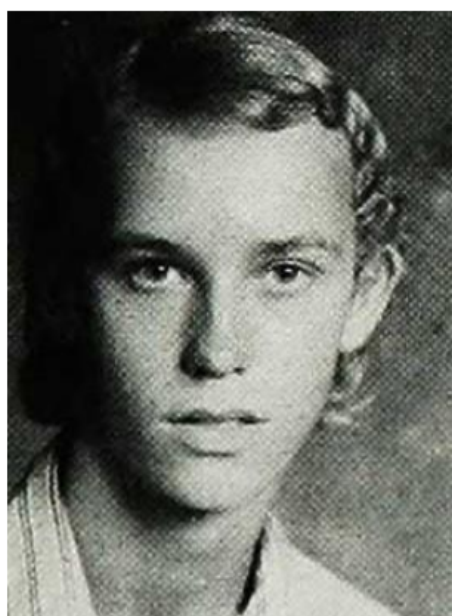
03/30/1958 – 01/18/1990



1974 LPHS

The_San_Francisco_Examiner
1990_01_23

HINES, Jeffrey C. — January 18, 1990; peacefully at rest; talented, enlightend and loving soul; loved dearly by family and friends. A Remembrance gathering will be held.



1975 LPHS

Jon Claire Louis Hogan (Age: 68)

11/09/1957 – 09/27/2025



1976 LPHS



Jon Claire Louis Hogan, 68, of La Porte, passed away peacefully at 2:22 p.m., Saturday, September 27, 2025 at his home in La Porte.

He was born on November 9, 1957, in La Porte to Robert Eugene and Shirley (Reinoldt) Hogan.

Jon adored and loved spending time with his grandchildren. He enjoyed watching sports games and was a lover of animals. Jon was greatly loved by all who knew him and will be truly missed.

He is survived by his daughter, Julie Kmak; sister, Karen (Ed) Gerke; brother, Kevin (Jeanne) Hogan; three granddaughters, Hailey, Emiley, Abigail; and his wonderful neighbors, Carol and Jerry.

Jon was preceded in death by his parents; and brother, Robert Bruce Hogan.

Daniel Joseph Ingole (Age: 32)

06/02/1957 – 03/29/1990



1972 BOSTON



1974 LPHS

LAPORTE — A 32-year-old La-Porte man was killed early today when his car slammed into the rear wheels of a semi-truck at Boston and Bach streets.

Daniel J. Ingole, of 202 Jefferson Ave., was pronounced dead at the scene by LaPorte County Coroner Steve Wurster. The victim suffered a broken neck and internal injuries, Wurster ruled.

City police said speed apparently was a factor in the crash. Ingole was headed east on Bach Street, where it curves south across railroad tracks at Boston Street, when his auto crashed into the north-bound semi at the tracks.

Investigators said he apparently was driving too fast to negotiate the curve, crossed the center and hit the side of the truck's rear wheels.

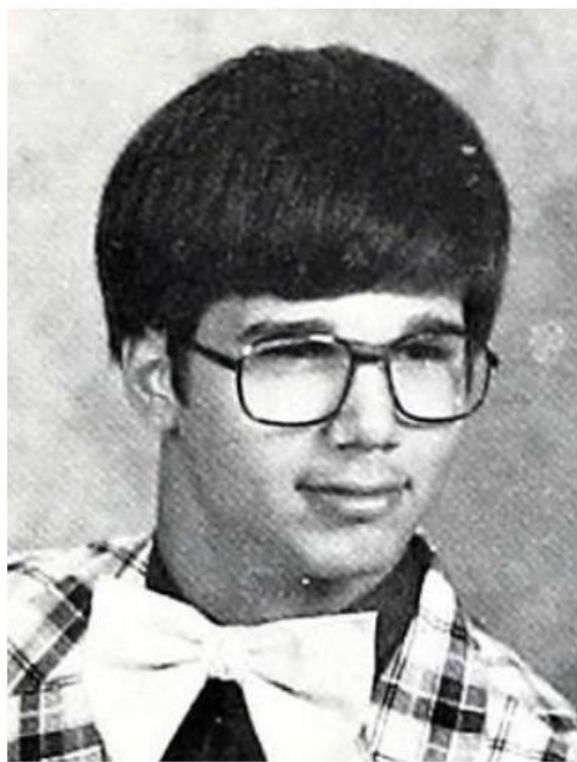
Wurster said the accident occurred about 2:30 a.m.

City police were still investigating the accident late this morning.

The identity of the truck driver, who was not hurt, was not available.

Gregory Paul Iseminger (Age: 55)

07/17/1958 – 04/26/2014



1976 LPHS



Saturday, June 7, 2014 at 5 PM

Gregory Isemingers Celebration of Life

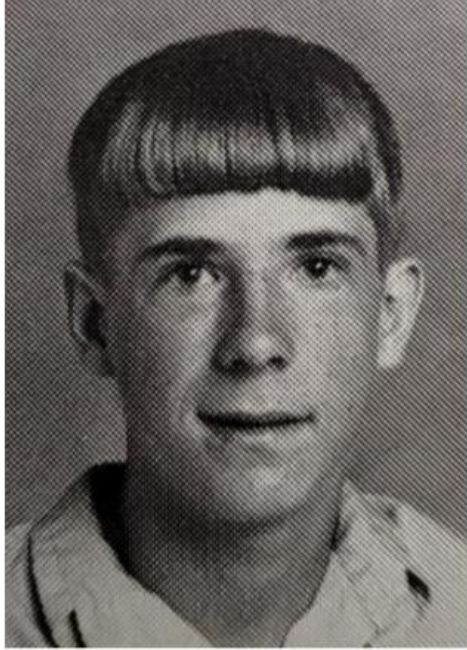


Gregory Paul Iseminger

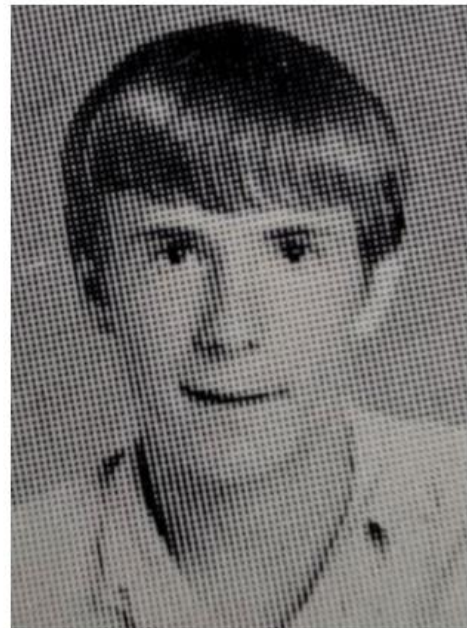
BIRTH 1958
DEATH 2014 (aged 55-56)
BURIAL [Westville Cemetery](#)
Westville, La Porte County, Indiana, USA
MEMORIAL ID 284069889 · [View Source](#)

Steven Mark Jemiolo (Age: 32)

02/17/1958 – 08/01/1990



1972 KESLING



1973 KESLING

Steven M. Jemiolo
Feb. 17, 1958-Aug. 1, 1990
LAPORTE — Steven M. Jemiolo, 32, of 3405 Silverbrook Ave. died at 5:08 p.m. Wednesday after an automobile accident on County Road 500 East near Indiana 4. He was born Feb. 17, 1958, in Lewiston, Maine, and moved to LaPorte 19 years ago from Lewiston. Surviving are three sisters, Vicki Miller of New Castle, Ind., Kristi Maitland of LaPorte and Joni Jemiolo of West Palm Beach, Fla.; a brother, Joseph of LaPorte; his parents, Joseph and Nancy Jemiolo of LaPorte; and his grandmother, Pauline Evans of Cornish, Maine.

Iva Joyce Johnson (Age: 21)

10/31/1956 – 12/22/1977



This page is dedicated to the INDOT employees who have lost their lives while serving Indiana citizens. Following is a list of INDOT employees fatally injured on the job since 1969.

Fatality Since 1969	Name	District/Division	Date
21	Iva Joyce Johnson	LaPorte	December 22, 1977

Iva Johnson
HAMLET, Ind. — Funeral services for Iva Joyce Johnson, 21, of RR 1, pronounced dead at 5:25 a.m., Thursday, at the site of an accident at U.S. 35 and U.S. 20, will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Cutler Funeral Home.

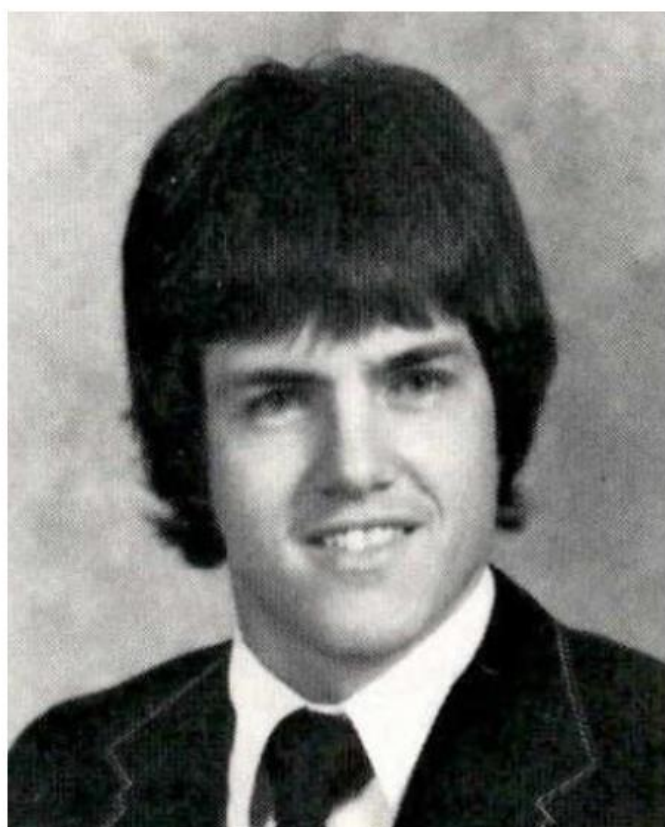
Rev. Wallace Jones will officiate and burial will be in Tracy Cemetery. Friends may call at the funeral home after 4 p.m. today and until time of services Saturday.

She was born Oct. 31, 1956, in LaPorte, and had lived here all her life. Miss Johnson was an employee of the Indiana State Highway Dept., where she had worked since April.

Surviving is her mother, Mrs. Joyce Johnson, RR 1, Hamlet; four brothers, Robert Johnson and Richard Johnson, both of Hamlet; Gary Johnson, with the U.S. Armed Forces in Germany and Dennis Johnson, also of Hamlet and two sisters, Mrs. David (Cindy) Gee, Hamlet and Miss Janet Johnson, at home. She was preceded in death by her father, James Johnson.

Jeffery Lynn Jones (Age: 67)

08/29/1957 – 02/16/2025



1976 LPHS



Jeffery L. Jones, 67, of La Porte, passed away unexpectedly at 8:29 p.m., Sunday, February 16, 2025 at home.

He was born on August 29, 1957, in La Porte, to Robert and Janis (Grandorf) Jones.

Jeffery was a truck safety inspector and proudly served on the Center Township Fire Department for many years. He later went in business for several years owning three different bars in South Bend, Moondog's; Moondog's North; and AJ's Burger Shack and Pub. Jeffery enjoyed fishing, boating, and spending time with grandchildren and family. He loved spending time with his granddaughter riding golf carts and going shooting. Jeffery loved to make people laugh and had a comedic sense of humor. He also loved playing with and feeding his granddaughter's goats, rabbits and many other animals on his son's property. Jeffery's favorite pet was his granddaughter's cherished and beloved giant Bernese Mountain dog, "Puppy T". He loved mowing and would often sneak out to his son's property to cut the grass while his son Grant was at work. Jeffery was greatly loved and will be truly missed.

Surviving are his two children, Grant Amor (Jones) and Britne Lynn Jones; two brothers, Michael (Rondi) Jones and Mark (Cathy) Jones; sister, Cindy Bechinski; two grandchildren, Aynsley Paige Amor (Jones) and Ayden; three great grandchildren, Dixie Marie, Khylen and Layani; his former spouse, Diane Amor; one sister-in-law, Sandy Jones of Calabash, NC; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Garry Jones; and one brother-in-law, Rich Bechinski.

Richard Allen Joschko (Age: 66)

02/09/1957 – 02/28/2023



1971 LP 7TH GRADE



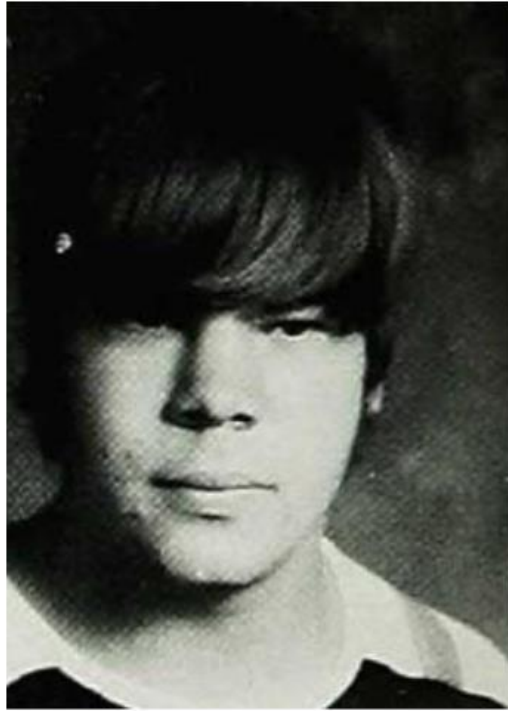
Richard Allen Joschko, age 66 of Richfield, Hennepin County, Minnesota passed away February 28, 2023. Rick was born February 9, 1957 in LaPorte, Indiana. As a youngster he moved with his family to Coon Rapids, Anoka County, Minnesota, United States and grew up there.

Joschko, Richard "Rick"

Richard Allen Joschko, age 66 of Richfield, MN passed away Feb 28, 2023. Rick was born Feb. 9, 1957 in LaPorte, Indiana. As a youngster he moved with his family to Coon Rapids, MN and grew up there. Preceded in death by parents Orla and Melvin Joschko, sister Judy Jacobson, great nephew Evan Jacobson. Survived by sisters Cindy Sutton (Ron), Patty Pray (Jeff), brother in-law James Jacobson, many loving nieces and nephews, relatives, and friends. A celebration of life will be planned at a later date.

Mark Allen Justice (Age: 68)

08/17/1957 – 12/20/2025



1975 LPHS



Mark Allen Justice, 68 of La Porte, Indiana passed away Saturday, December 20, 2025 at his home with his loved ones.

Mark was born on August 17, 1957 in La Porte to the late Allie and Diane (Schutz) Justice.

Mark retired from Laborers Union #81. He was very active in the 4-H Fair and served as a Clinic Leader with the 4-H Horse & Pony, was a member of the Sons of the American Legion, and The Presbyterian Church of La Porte. He was an avid Bear's Football fan. He was a man who worked with his hands. Most important were his grandchildren which he loved and adored.

On April 22, 1978 Mark married Mari (Hough) Justice who survives with their children; Sarah (Micah) Spitzmesser of La Porte; Allie (Becky) Justice of Kingsbury, Indiana; grandchildren, Marcus, McKenna, and Samuel Spitzmesser; sisters, Julie (Tim) Walters of Brownsburg, Indiana, Janet Justice of Michigan City, Johannah Justice of Brownsburg, Indiana; several nieces and nephews; and bonus children.

Pamela Sue Keith Phillips (Age: 56)

03/22/1958 – 09/24/2014



1976 LPHS



Pamela Sue Keith-Phillips March 22, 1958-September 24, 2014 Ms. Pamela Sue Keith-Phillips, 56, of La Porte, Indiana, died Wednesday September 24, 2014 at in La Porte, IN.

She was born March 22, 1958 in Logan, West Virginia, the daughter of Jasper Keith and Euna (Baisden) Keith. Pamela attended the First Freewill Baptist Church of LaPorte.

She worked two years as a registered nurse for Sanctuary at St. Paul's in South Bend, IN., retiring in 2012. She was a RN/MDS Coordinator, and attended continuing education workshops and seminars.

Pamela is a "kid at heart", she loved watching movies, especially Christmas and animated movies with her grandchildren. Pamela loved shopping and meeting friends and family at restaurants.

She is survived by her former spouse, Ross Phillips of Knox, IN; by her children, Carrie (Jose) Ponce of La Porte, IN, Jason (Rachel) Phillips of Culver, IN., Brandy (Danny) Pace of La Porte, IN, Heather Quinn (Christopher Kabowski) of La Porte, IN., Dakota Phillips of Knox, IN; sixteen grandchildren, Morgyn Ponce, Markos Ponce, Charity Pace, Jacob Pace, Alea Pace, Jeremiah Pace, Trina West, Sienna West, Zach West, Lucas West, Caden Kabowski, Chloe Kabowski, Peter Bakich, Isaac Phillips, Anaiah Phillips, and Chastity Phillips.

Pamela was preceded in death by her parents, grandparents, two grandchildren, Seth Oyola, and Brianna Pace.

Laura Lee Kidwell Forrester (Age: 59)

05/30/1957 – 08/17/2016



1973 LPHS



Laura L. Forrester passed away peacefully in her sleep on August 17, 2016. Laura had a passion for the beach as well as helping anyone in need. She regularly went out of her way to make others feel loved.

Laura is survived by her husband, William Forrester; her two sons, Aaron (Amber) Forrester and Erik Forrester; two grandsons, Shane and Ryan Forrester; step-son, Jason Forrester and many dear friends.

Joseph David Kinch (Age: 44)

01/27/1956 – 04/08/2001



1973 KESLING

Mentioned in sister's obituary:

Kaye D. Armstrong-Lotter

Preceding in death were her parents; two sisters, Linda Kidwell, and Susan Cannon; and three brothers, Joseph, Louis, and Robert "Link" Kinch.

OBIT INFORMATION:

Name Joseph David Kinch

Birth 27 Jan 1956 South Bend S, Indiana

Death 8 Apr 2001

Louis Wayne Kinch (Age: 47)

12/04/1957 – 08/19/2005



1973 KESLING

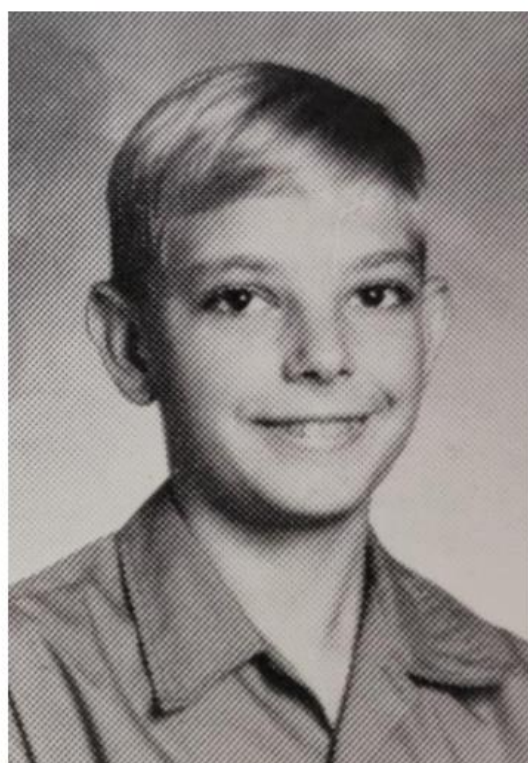
Mentioned in sister's obit:

Kaye D. Armstrong-Lotter

Preceding in death were her parents; two sisters, Linda Kidwell, and Susan Cannon; and three brothers, Joseph, Louis, and Robert "Link" Kinch.

Clifford Wayne King (Age: 59)

06/21/1957 – 01/09/2017



1971 LP 7TH GRADE



Clifford Wayne King age 59, of the Wilder Community passed from this life at his home on Monday, January 9, 2017. He was born in Roane County Tennessee June 21, 1957 to Geraldine Velia Savage King and the late Clifford Lee King.

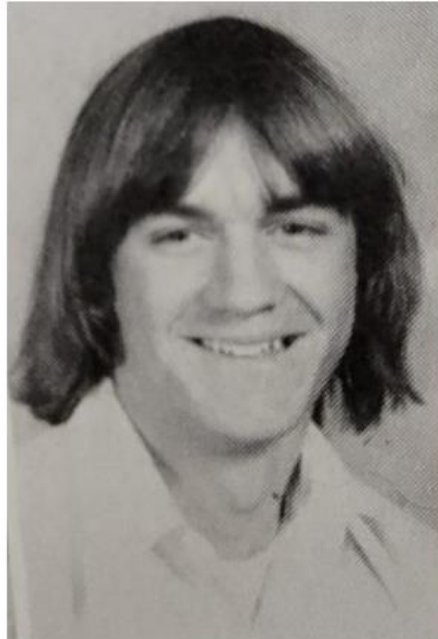
He loved to cruise along the twisty, two-lane, cliff-hugging roads of the Upper Cumberland on his motorcycle. He treasured every moment with his grandkids, fishing, camping and being in the outdoors. He was a proud member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans Myers/Zollicoffer Camp 1990 & the American Legion Post 434 of Kingsford Heights IN.

He is survived by his mother, Geraldine Savage King; son, Thomas Osborn & wife Laura of LaPorte, IN; daughters, Anita King & Cynthia King of LaPorte IN & Mary King of Kingford Heights IN; brothers, James King & wife Jackie of Fish Lake IN, Darrell King of Livingston, TN & Tony King & wife Suzanne of Rolling Prairie, IN; sisters, Cathy King of FL & Melissa BonDurant & husband Ronald of Elkhart IN; 16 grandchildren; and several uncles & aunts & cousins.

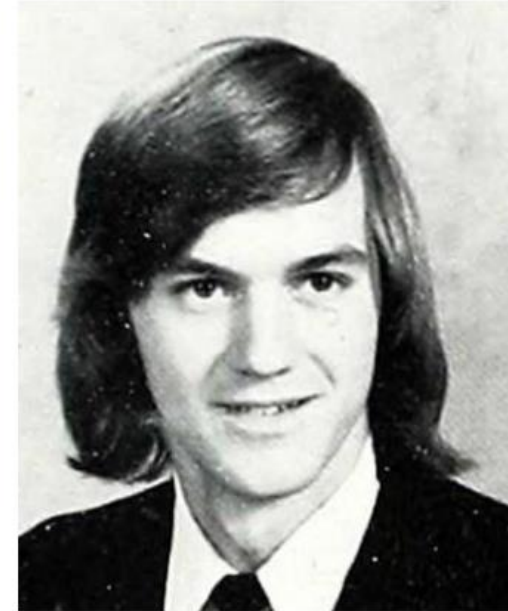
He was preceded in death by his father, Clifford Lee King & granddaughter, Aubrey Bazemore.

Edward James King (Age: 62)

07/04/1956 – 12/16/2018



1974 LPHS

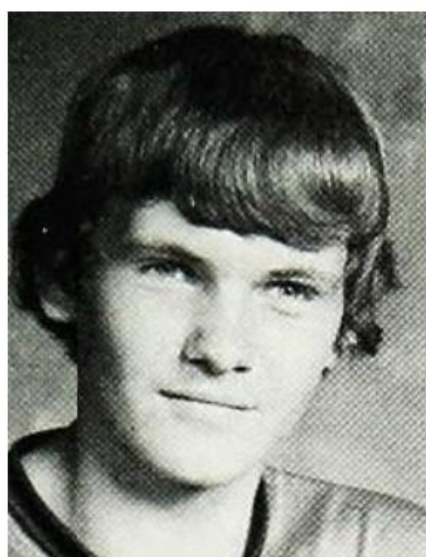


1976 LPHS

When Edward James King was born on July 4, 1956, in Indiana, his father, Edward, was 43 and his mother, Stella, was 37. He married Teresa Louise Russ on June 24, 1977, in La Porte, Indiana. They had one child during their marriage. He died on December 16, 2018, in Indianapolis, Indiana, at the age of 62.

Patrick Edwin Klimczak (Age: 58)

05/28/1958 – 02/13/2017



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Patrick Klimczak, 58, of La Porte, passed away peacefully at 7:15 p.m., Monday, February 13, 2017 in his home surrounded by his family and friends.

He was born on May 28, 1958, in La Porte, IN, to Stanley and Evelyn (Lipps) Klimczak.

Patrick enjoyed gardening and card playing. He loved watching his nieces and nephews participate in their various athletic competitions. Patrick was a simple guy who enjoyed spending time with his family and friends.

Surviving are his six nephews, Adam (Grethchen), Daniel (Laura), Tony, Steve (Angela), Chris (Kayla), and Ben Klimczak; one niece, Katie Klimczak; and several great nieces and nephews.

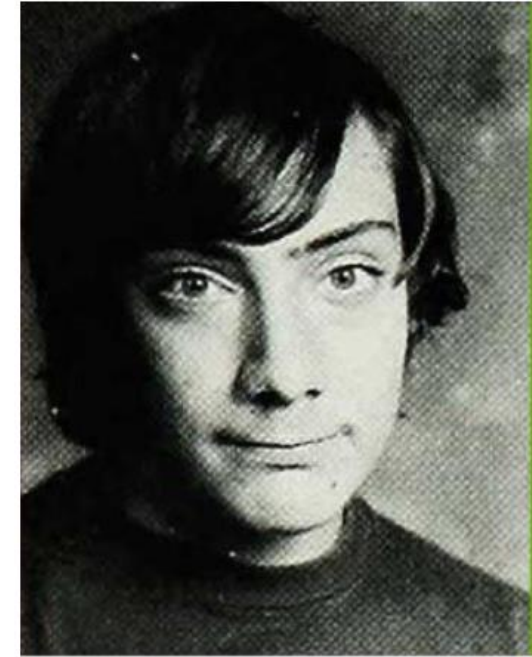
Preceding him in death were his parents; two brothers, Mike and Stanley Klimczak; and one sister, Donna Klimczak.

Michael Allen Koekenberg (Age: 48)

12/31/1957 – 05/13/2006



1974 LPHS



1975 LPHS

Mr. Michael Allen Koekenberg, 48, of 711 Ridge St., LaPorte, died suddenly Saturday, May 13, 2006, at 11:30 a.m. at his home.

He was born Dec. 31, 1957, in LaPorte to Frank and Betty (Flitter) Koekenberg and was a lifelong LaPorte resident.

Mr. Koekenberg worked at New York Blower for 29 years as a receiving/stockroom employee. He was a 1976 LaPorte High School graduate. He was a member of Teamsters Local 135, a union steward and a member of the Contract Committee at New York Blower. He loved sports, especially NASCAR, hockey and fishing.

On Dec. 31, 1981, in LaPorte, he married Lydia A. Hudson, who survives.

Also surviving are one daughter, Gretchen of Longwood, Fla.; one son, Jon Michael A. of LaPorte; three sisters, Jeanne Campbell of Fish Lake and Joan Hensell and Patty Breseke, both of LaPorte; and his stepfather, Jack Etherton.

His parents; one daughter, Jessica Lynn; and all his grandparents preceded him in death.

Paul Allen Konieczny (Age: 66)

08/02/1957 – 08/02/2023



1976 LPHS



On Wednesday August 2nd, on his 66th birthday, Paul Allen Konieczny suddenly and unexpectedly passed away.

Born to Stephen and Mary in La Porte, Paul attended Sacred Heart School prior to entering the public school system and graduating from LPHS in 1976. Out of a deep admiration for his uncle Joe Vargyas, Paul followed Joe's lead and proudly served in the Marines upon graduating high school.

After his service, Paul worked many years traveling the country as an independent contractor for Ceiling and Floor Restoration. This suited him well as he loved making new acquaintances, finding beauty and kinship in even the most unlikely of places. Of course, it never took long before those around him knew he was a true Green Bay Packers fan. As an avid golfer, he always had his clubs ready to shoot a round wherever he happened to be.

Paul was preceded in death by his father and mother, brother Mark, and nephew Kristopher, all of La Porte. He is survived by his son Jason; stepdaughters, Amanda and Andrea; partner Dawn Nelson; sisters Barbra (Robin), Sally and Ann; as well as brother John (Ali); niece, Katelyn; nephews Brian and Stephen; great nieces, Raegan and Nova; and 10 grandchildren.

Paul loved all animals, large and small, helping critters in need however he could.

"Some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they made a difference in the world. But the Marines don't have that problem." – Ronald Reagan.

Karl Joseph Kraus (Age: 44)

06/09/1957 – 10/26/2001



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Mr. Karl J. Kraus, 44, of 8 N. Depot St., Rolling Prairie, died Friday, Oct. 26, 2001, at 2:15 p.m. at LaPorte Hospital after an 8-month illness.

He was born June 9, 1957, in Chicago, to James A. and Ruth A. (Strischek) Kraus. Coming from Calumet City, Ill., he lived in Rolling Prairie for 41 years.

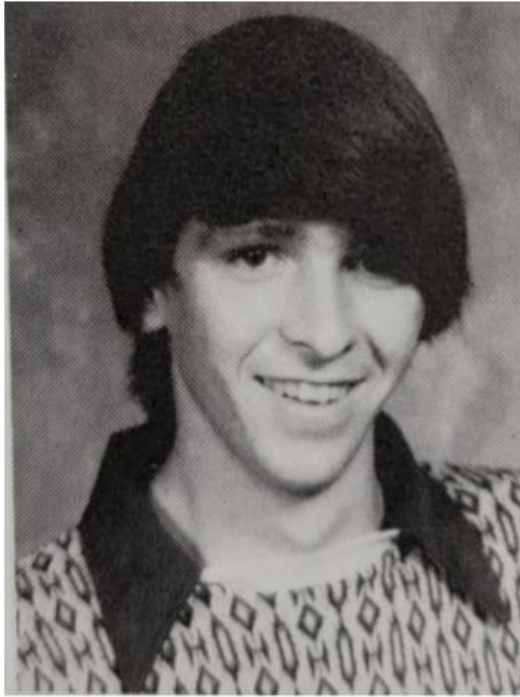
Mr. Kraus worked for 28 years as a machine operator for Jones Enterprises in LaPorte and was a former member of St. Peter Catholic Church.

Survivors include his mother of LaPorte, two sisters, Donna Pettis of LaPorte and Karyn Campos of Kingsford Heights; three brothers, Kenneth and Steven, both of LaPorte, and Thomas of North Judson; and two special friends, Chris Marshall and Richard Milich, both of Rolling Prairie.

His father and grandparents preceded him in death.

Steven J. Kraus (Age: 67)

09/13/1956 – 03/16/2024



1974 LPHS



Steven J. Kraus, 67, of La Porte, Indiana, passed away Saturday March 16, 2024 at his home in La Porte, IN. with his wife by his side.

He was born September 13, 1956 in La Porte, Indiana, the son of Ernie Kraus and Lora (Orcutt) Kraus.

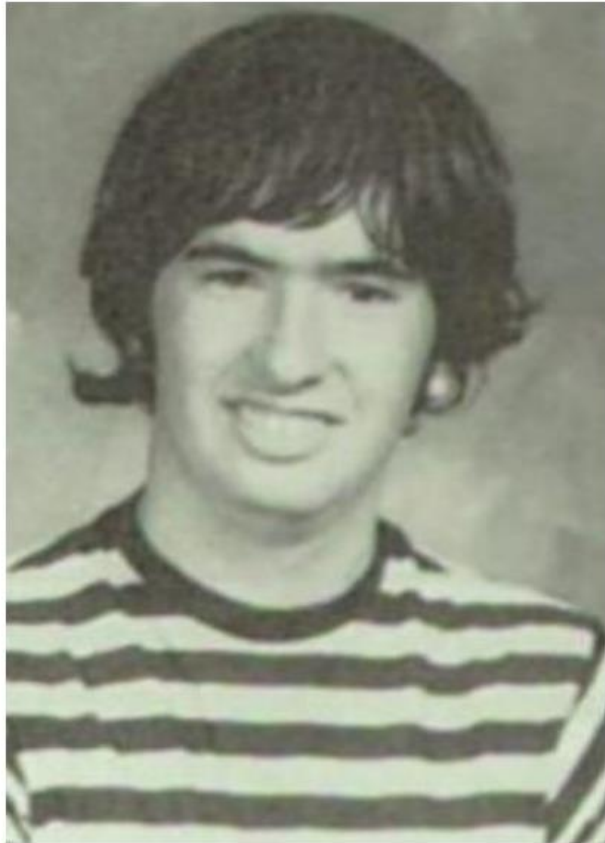
Steve loved to go fishing and going to the park with his dog Joey. Steve retired from New York Blowers after many years of service.

Steve is survived by his wife Anita, his children Julie (Matt) Hopkins; son Josh Kraus; 2 grandchildren Kristopher and Corinna Hopkins; 2 sisters, Christina (James) Caudill and Nikki (Shawn) Bush; brother Roger Kraus; as well as many uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews; also his beloved dog Joey.

Steve was preceded in death by his father Ernie, and two brothers.

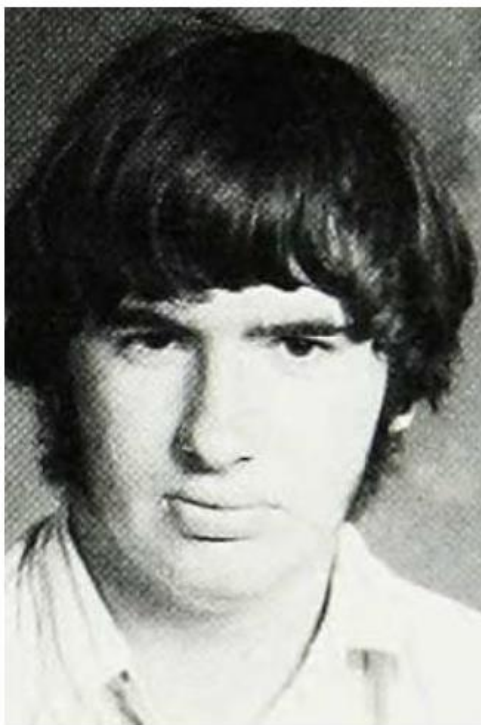
Edward Henry Kroening III *(Age: 17)*

08/26/1957 – 08/16/1975



1974 LPHS

A 17-year-old LaPorte youth, Edward H. Kroening III, was shot to death at his home Saturday, police said. A 15-yearold has been taken into custody in connection with that shooting, police said.



1975 LPHS

Mary Katherine LaBerge Stainko (*Age: 67*)

05/07/1958 – 02/28/2026



1976 LPHS



Mary Katherine Stainko, age 67 of Porter, IN, passed away peacefully on February 28, 2026, at her home. She was born on May 7, 1958, in Denver, CO, to Lee and Delores (Bradway) LaBerge, both of whom preceded her in death.

On June 29, 1984, she married the love of her life, Andrew “Andy” Stainko Jr., who survives in Porter, IN. They were married for 41 wonderful years. She is also survived by her loving children, Sarah (Jason) Short of Mooresville, IN and Andrew III (Rachael) Stainko of Lafayette, IN; her adoring grandchildren: Henry, Leslie, and Andrew IV; and by her siblings: Jim (Carmen) LaBerge of Kingston Springs, TN, Kim Butzler of Michigan City, IN, and Cheryl (Don) Walker of LaPorte, IN; and by her many nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her siblings: Peggy Bohle, Joseph LaBerge and Beverly Cannan.

Mary graduated from LaPorte High School and went on to obtain her Bachelor of Science degree at Purdue University and graduated in 1984. During this time she studied medical technology and completed her training at St. Mary Medical Center.

Mary became a registered Medical Technologist (ASCP) and worked for Alverno Laboratories. She was hired at Franciscan Health Michigan City (formerly St. Anthony Hospital) in March 1993. She worked in all areas of the clinical laboratory, but her favorite departments were Hematology and Blood Bank. Mary took pride in her job and liked training students and new employees. She was dedicated to staying up to date in the field and enjoyed attending laboratory-related conferences. Mary was a member of the Indiana State Association of Blood Banks.

Mary enjoyed life. She fiercely loved her family and her dog, Winnie. She was dedicated to her work and was a Purdue sports enthusiast. She was a long time Chicago Bears and Chicago Cubs fan. She will forever be remembered as a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend.

George William Lehker (Age: 58)

07/30/1956 – 12/24/2014

George William Lehker

July 30, 1956 - Dec. 24, 2014

ROLLING PRAIRIE

George William Lehker
age 58, of Rolling Prairie
passed away on Wednesday,
December 24, 2014,
at his home.

George was born in La
Porte, IN, on July 30,
1956 to Walter and Roberta
(Carnes) Lehker.

On May 17, 1980, he
married Tara Bock who
survives. Also surviving
are his beloved daughter
Rachel Lehker of Rolling
Prairie, IN. He was preceded
in death by his parents.

George worked in sales
and service for Diedrich
Drill, Inc. for 28 years. He
was a member of Maple
Grove United Methodist
Church in New Carlisle.
George loved riding on his
tractor and spending time
with his dog, Bo.

Jeffrey Edward Leksa (Age: 46)

12/27/1957 – 02/27/2004



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Mr. Jeffrey E. Leksa, 46, of 6092 W. Johnson Rd., LaPorte, passed away at 9:00 p.m., on Friday February 27, 2004, at his residence. He was born December 27, 1957, in Sumter, South Carolina to Edward and Pauline Meek Leksa Jr., who preceded him in death.

Mr. Leksa, received his masters degree from Northwestern University in Chicago Illinois, and had worked for the American Medical Association, as a statistic analyst, for the past 20 years.

He is survived by one sister, Joyce Elaine Leksa of Chicago, Illinois.

John S. Lemmon (Age: 60)

12/04/1957 – 01/05/2018



1975 LPHS



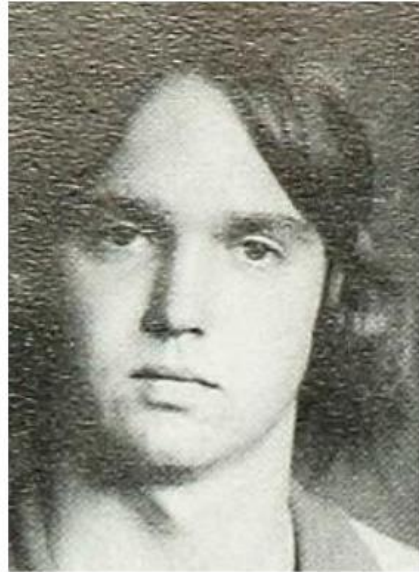
John Lemmon, 60, of Westville, passed away on January 5, 2018, in Crown Point. He was born on December 4, 1957, in Gary, Indiana to Forest and Lydia (Williams) Lemmon.

John worked for most of his life as a steel worker at Republic Steel. He also enjoyed spending his time wood working and doing farm work and helping anyone in need. He was a member of the Christadelphian Church in LaPorte.

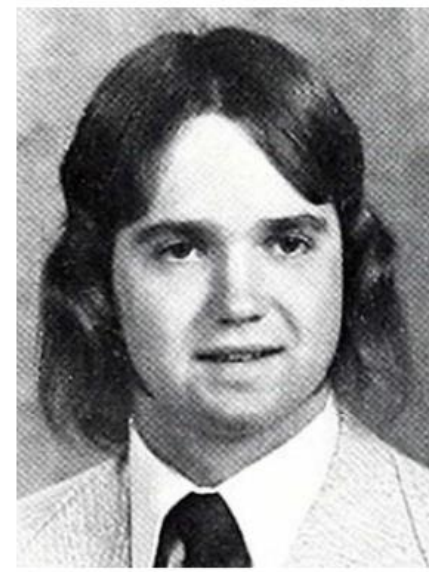
John is survived by his children John (Jenny) Lemmon of Westville, Chantal (Josh) Slatton of Westville, Julie (Jeff) Peeler of Ontario, Canada, Talia Cook and her fiancé, Tony, of New Carlisle, Stephen Lemmon of Westville, and Tommy Lemmon of Westville; siblings Thomas Lemmon of Westville, Mary Kestle of Valparaiso, Ruth Nehemiah of LaPorte, Jim Lemmon of Westville and Betty (Jim) Vogel of Texas. He is also survived by 16 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, and his beloved dog Duke.

Brad A. LeResche (Age: 34)

05/10/1958 – 08/18/1992



1975 LPHS

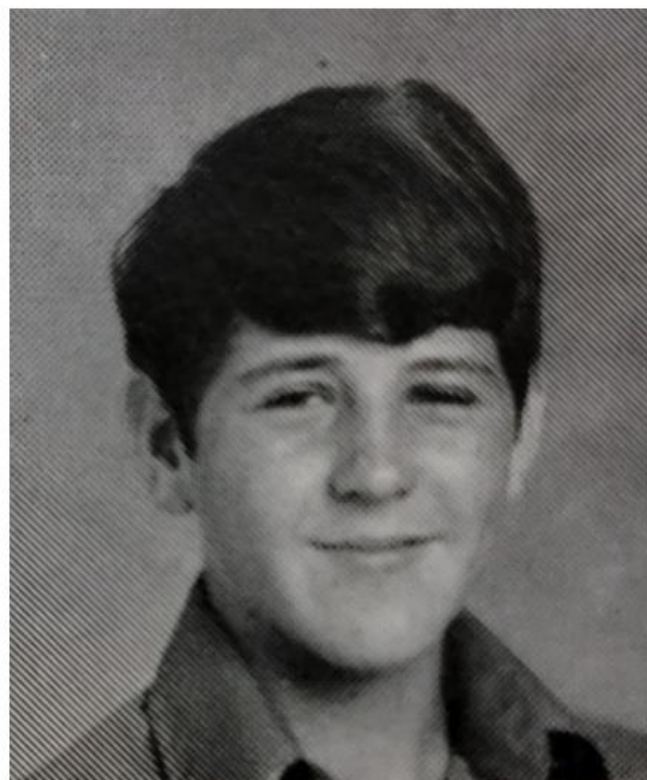


1976 LPHS

Brad Alan LeResche, 35, of Hagerstown, Md., and formerly of LaPorte, died Thursday, Aug. 20, 1992 in Hagerstown. Arrangements are pending with the Cutler Funeral Home and will be announced later.

Jay W. Levenhagen (Age: 60)

05/29/1957 – 08/20/2017



1972 KESLING



1973 KESLING

Jay W. Levenhagen, 60, of 746 Sunny Slope Drive, went home to be with the Lord on Sunday, August 20, 2017 at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center.

Born in La Porte, Indiana, he was the husband of Linda Brown Levenhagen and son of the late Bill Levenhagen, Jr. and Loraine Danker Levenhagen. He was a graduate and avid fan of Clemson University and the retired owner/operator of Mr. Waffle Café in Cowpens. He loved his family, neighbors and his home-place and attended Buford Street United Methodist Church.

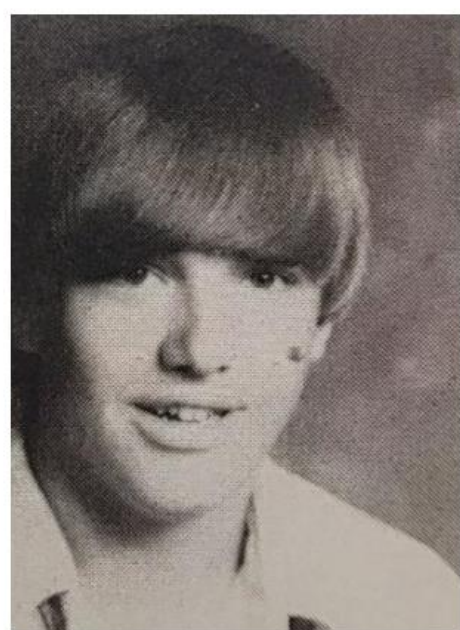
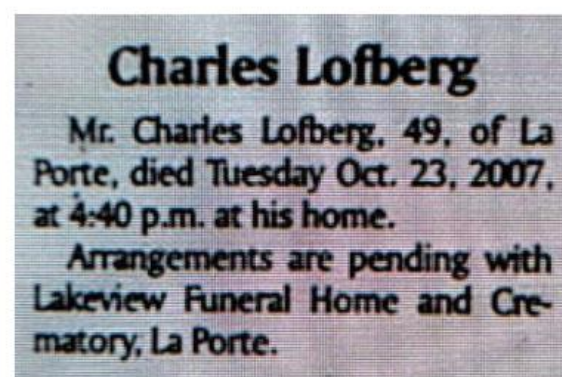
Surviving in addition to his wife are a daughter, Jade Levenhagen of Hendersonville, NC; a stepdaughter, Leslie Ware of Gaffney; a sister, Day Owens and husband, Eual of Old Fort, NC; four grandchildren, Jenna Foster, Jesse Smith, Dontae Watkins and Tasia Watkins; numerous nieces and nephews; special neighbors, Justin Ness, Thad Farish and Cecil Goforth; a special friend, Toby Sharpe. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by a brother, Eugene Payne and a nephew Brandon Lowe.

Charles William Lofberg (Age: 49)

12/19/1957 – 10/23/2007



1974 LPHS



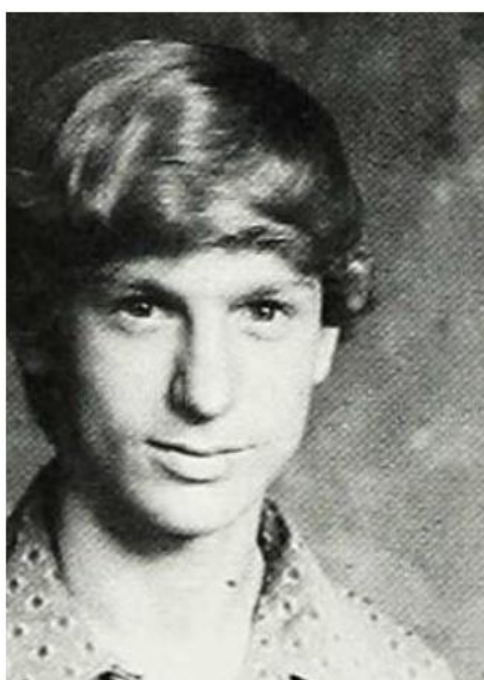
1975 LPHS

Larry Lee Martin (Age: 40)

07/28/1957 – 11/28/1997



1974 LPHS



1975 LPHS

Larry Lee Martin

ENGLISH — Larry Lee Martin, 40, of rural English, died Friday in an auto accident in Orange County.

Born July 28, 1957, in Floyd County, Ky., he was the son of Shirley and Betty Martin. He was employed by Kimball Corp. in Jasper.

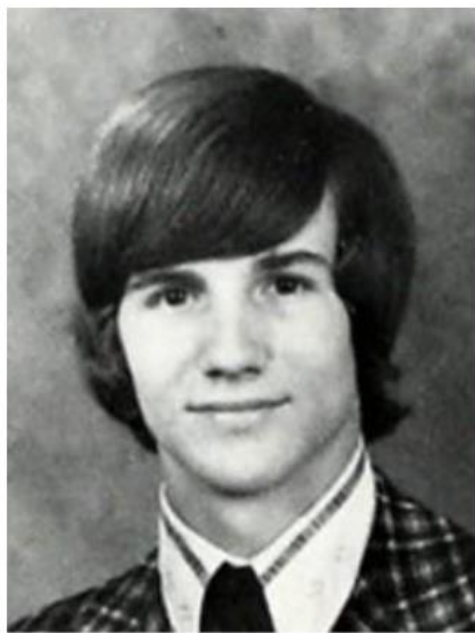
Survivors include his wife, Valerie (Slone) Martin; three sons, Larry Martin, Jeremy Martin and Kyle Martin, all of rural English; four brothers, Shirley Martin Jr. and Dennis Martin, both of Campbellsville, Ky., and Danny Martin and Dell Martin, both of LaPorte; two sisters, Sandy of LaPorte and Tresa of Fish Lake; and his parents, of Clarksville,

Jack Walter McMurray (Age: 25)

06/28/1958– 09/01/1983



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

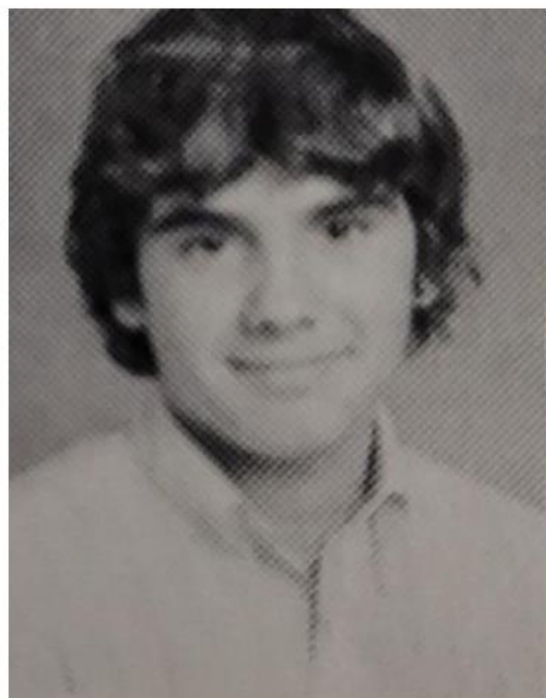
Jack W. McMurray
LAPORTE — Jack W. McMurray, 25, of Hebron, a former LaPorte resident, was found dead Saturday in Newton County. The Newton County Coroner is conducting an autopsy. Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday in St. Joseph Catholic Church, LaPorte, of which he was a member. Msgr. John C. Witte, pastor of the church, will officiate. Burial will be in Patton Cemetery, LaPorte. Friends may call from noon until 9 p.m. Tuesday and on Wednesday until the hour of service in Essling Funeral Home, where a wake service will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday.

He was born on June 28, 1958, in

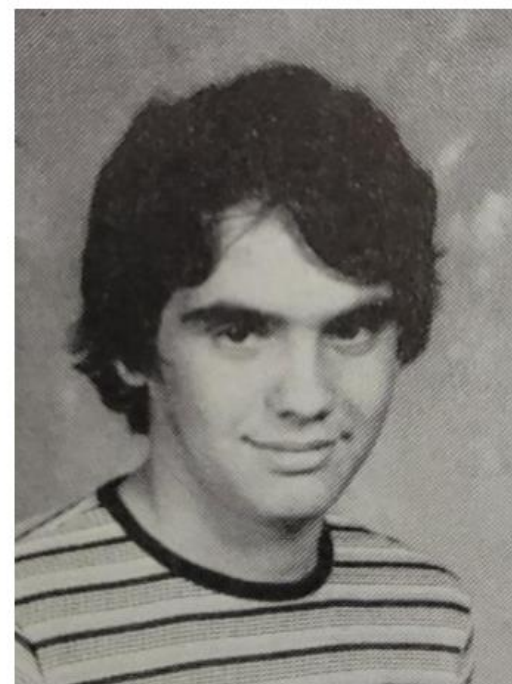
LaPorte, and had lived in LaPorte until 1982, moving to Hebron. On June 5, 1982 in LaPorte, he married Kathy Brown, who survives. Also surviving are his mother, Mrs. Emily McMurray; two sisters, Mrs. Alan (Diana) Lundell and Linda McMurray, a brother, Jeffrey McMurray, and his paternal grandmother, Mrs. Walter McMurray, all of LaPorte. He was employed as a draftsman at Cam-Tron Industries, Addison, Ill., and was caretaker at Indian Gardens Estate, Hebron. He was a member of Kankakee Valley Four-Wheel-Drive Club and Radio Emergency Associated Citizens Teams (REACT).

Randal Houston Merz (Age: 66)

12/09/1956 – 06/16/2023



1973 KESLING



1974 LPHS

When Randal Houston Merz was born on December 9, 1956, in LaPorte, Indiana, his father, Charles, was 22 and his mother, Patricia, was 20. He was married three times and had two sons.

He passed away peacefully Saturday, June 17, 2023 in Knox, Indiana.

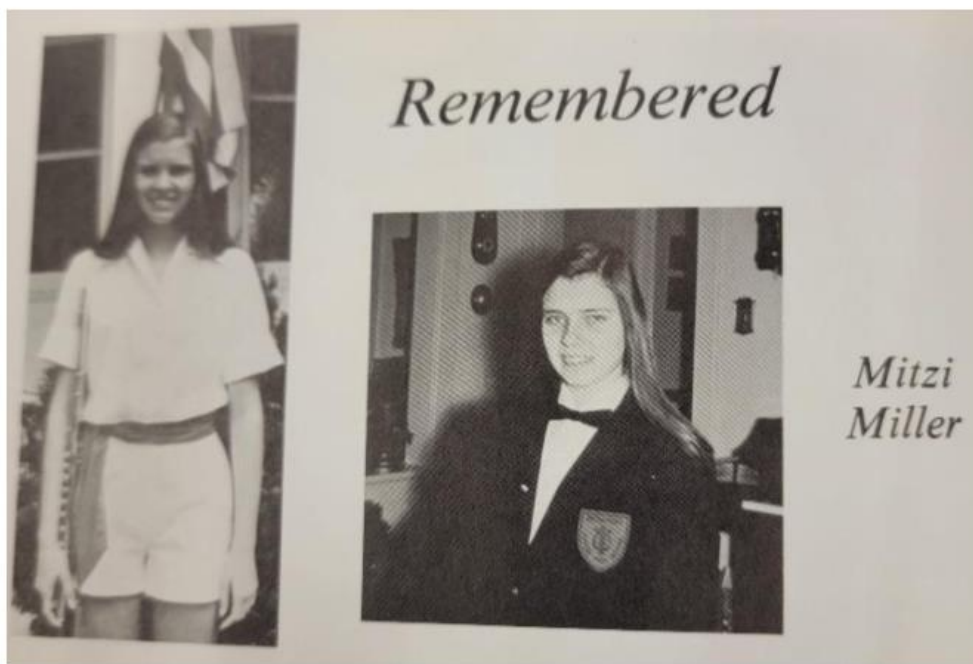
Mitzi Jane Miller (Age: 14)

10/23/1957 – 09/08/1972



1972 BOSTON

Miss Mitzi J. Miller
LAPORTE — Miss Mitzi Jane Miller, 14, of 1225 Weller Ave., died at 11:40 a.m. Friday in E Street Division Hospital of natural causes. Surviving are her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Robert Miller, three brothers, John of Seattle, Wash., David, a student at Purdue University, W. Lafayette, and Randy, at home, and her grandfather, Just A. Miller of Lafayette. Miss Miller's father is the superintendent of the LaPorte Community School Corp. Miss Miller was born on Oct. 23, 1957 in LaPorte and had lived here all of her life. She was a ninth-grade student at Boston Jr. High School, where she was a member of the band and orchestra, and the Girl's Athletic Assn. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church.



1972 BOSTON

Ellen Adele Mofield Clemons (Age: 27)

02/17/1957 – 04/18/1984



1971 LP 7TH GRADE



1972 BOSTON

Ellen Mofield Clemons

LAPORTE — Services for Ellen Mofield Clemons, 27, of 106 Judson Road, who died at 12:30 a.m. Wednesday at her home after an illness, will be at 1 p.m. Friday in Cutler Funeral Home. Burial will be in Pine Lake Cemetery. Friends may call from 5 to 8 p.m. today and from 8 a.m. until services Friday at the funeral home.

Mrs. Clemons was born Feb. 17, 1957, in LaPorte and was a lifelong resident of the area. Surviving are three daughters, Jennifer, Rebecca and Rachel Clemons, all at home; four sisters, Shawnn Mofield and Amy Mofield, both at home, JoAnne Fair of Mustang, Okla., and Connie Jo Sahyouni of Waukegan, Ill.; a brother, Dale Mofield at home; and her mother, Barbara Pfeiffer of LaPorte. A son, William Clemons, preceded her in death. She was a member of the Union Mills Baptist Church.

Stephen Hugh Monte (Age: 55)

12/15/1957 – 06/10/2013



1973 BOSTON



Stephen Hugh Monte, 55, of Bradenton, died Monday, June 10, 2013, at Kindred Hospital leaving no known survivors.

Services will be held at Kicliter Funeral Home, 517 8th Ave. W on July 10th at 11:30a.m. followed by a Military Service at Sarasota National Cemetery at 2:45p.m.

Biggy, you will be dearly missed by all.

Joan Frances Muller Kramer (Age: 63)

08/11/1958 – 06/21/2022



1976 LPHS



Joan Kramer, 63, of La Porte, Indiana passed away unexpectedly at her home Tuesday, June 21, 2022. She was born on August 11, 1958, in La Porte to Frank Muller and Frances (Grott) Muller.

On August 27th, 1977, Joan married Bruce Kramer who survives, along with their children, Corey Kramer of La Porte, Adam (Abbie) Kramer of La Porte; her mother, Frances Muller of La Porte; grandchildren, Mackenzie, Leo, Crew, and Kellan; sister-in-law, Julie Muller of La Porte; and siblings, Pete (Chris) Muller of La Porte, Frank (Debbie) Muller of La Porte, Paul (Cindy) Muller of Rock Falls, Illinois. She was preceded in death by her father Frank and brothers Jim and Tom Muller.

Joan had been employed with the La Porte Community Schools in Food Service and was a seamstress. She was a member of Holy Family Parish, Sacred Heart Church. She was passionate about painting and enjoyed filling her home with her artwork. She also had a wonderful green thumb and surrounded herself with as many flowers and plants as she could get her hands on. Above all, Joan loved spending time with her family and made wonderful memories with her grandchildren that they will forever cherish.

Dale E. Mullins (Age: 68)

09/26/1956– 07/31/2025



Dale E. Mullins, 68, of La Porte, Indiana, passed away on Thursday, July 31, 2025, at his home.

Dale was born on Sept. 26, 1956, in La Porte, Indiana, to Billy and Celia (Walter) Mullins.

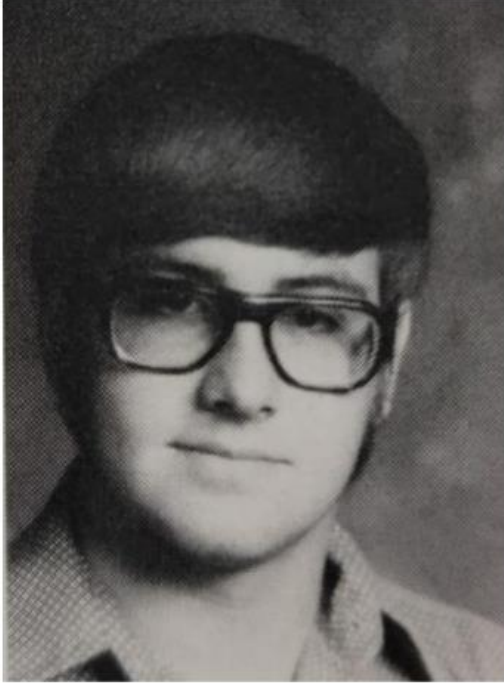
On Oct. 25, 2012, in La Porte, Indiana, he married Jeannellen "Jean" (Giggy) Mullins, who preceded him in death on Dec. 25, 2018. Surviving Dale are his stepchildren, Victoria (Donald) Wilson, Robert Giggy, David Stidham and Craig (Samantha) Stidham; many step-grandchildren; sister, Carol (Billy) Shook; girlfriend, Margaret Sawyer; nephews and niece, Logan Shook (Dawn Knous), Carrigan Shook (Terry Ogle) and Zaydan Shook; and great-nephew, Colter Ogle.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife; and brother, Ronald D. Mullins.

Dale worked in the maintenance department at Millburn Peat for many years. He enjoyed fishing, collecting stickers, fishing gear and guns. Dale enjoyed telling stories about his time in Louisiana with his brother, Ronnie. He also enjoyed shopping and going out to eat with his girlfriend, Margaret.

Michael Kent Murphy (Age: 48)

06/14/1958 – 07/24/2006



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

MICHAEL KENT MURPHY

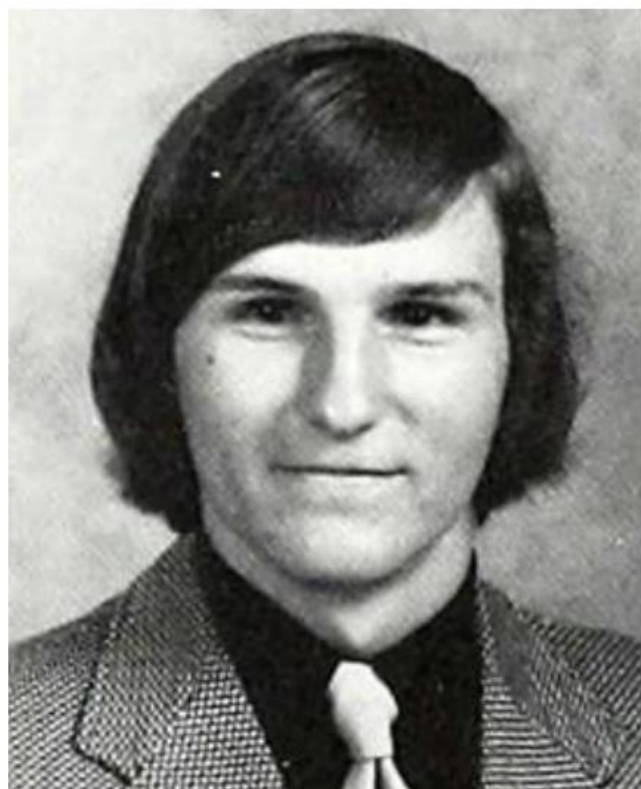
JULY 24, 2006

Michael Kent Murphy, 48, of Bokeelia, FL died unexpectedly from a long term illness on July 24, 2006. Mike was born June 14, 1958 in LaPorte, IN a son of Clarence and Dixie Barnhart Murphy. He was a Territory Sales Rep for Porter Paint Co. He had resided in Bokeelia since 1986 coming from LaPorte, IN.

Survivors include his parents, Clarence and Dixie Murphy, his sister and spouses, Kathy and Doug Dempsey of Mishawaka, IN, Carolyn and Dave Lashmit of Elkhart, IN; 3 nieces, Hannah, Lydia and Abby and a nephew, Michael.

John Henry Naegele (Age: 67)

01/04/1958– 03/12/2025



1976 LPHS



John Naegele Obituary John Henry Naegele, 67 of Union Mills, Indiana passed away Wednesday, March 12, 2025. He was born January 4, 1958 in LaPorte, Indiana the son of Billy and Alberta (Schultz) Naegele. John was a US Navy Seabee and was a member of Sacred Heart Parish in Wanatah. John retired from McCormick & Co. Inc. in South Bend, Indiana.

On November 26, 2004 he married Darlene Sample-Ritter, who survives in Union Mills. Also surviving are his sons John (Sarah) Naegele of Salade, TX and Billy (Colleen) Naegele of TN, daughters, Nicole Naegele of Demotte, IN, Jodie Ritter of Union Mills, IN, Kylee (James) Bowen of Union Mills and Ashly (Larry) Remkus of Union Mills, 20 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, his brother Ed Naegele of New York and his sister Deb (Doug) Wilhelm. He was preceded in death by his granddaughter, his parents, 2 sisters and a brother.

Our Papa will truly be missed. He was a wonderful father, grandpa, great grandpa, friend, uncle, brother and husband! We were truly blessed to have him in our lives for 23 years and now gone but not forgotten, he will live in our hearts and memories forever. We love you, Papa John. Thank you for being the man you were and loving us the way you did.

Dorothy Sue Nelson Seitz (Age: 55)

08/05/1958 – 09/18/2013



1975 LPHS



LPHS 76

Dorothy Sue (Nelson) Seitz, 55, of La Porte, IN, passed away peacefully at 1:40 a.m., on Wednesday, September 18, 2013 in her home. She was born on August 5, 1958 in La Porte, IN, to Cecil and Vera (Hundt) Nelson.

Dorothy was a homemaker who cared for her family. On September 24, 1978 in La Porte, IN, she married Jim Seitz, who survives. Also surviving is her mother, Vera Nelson of La Porte; three children, Jimmy Seitz of South Bend, Tracy Seitz of Elkhart and Christina Seitz of Logansport; two brothers, David (Patricia) Nelson and Don (Penny) Nelson both of La Porte; two sisters, Diana (Roger) Speakman and Darlene Contreras both of La Porte; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father.

Karen Marie Okrzesik (Age: 58)

03/02/1958 – 09/14/2016



1976 LPHS



Karen M. Okrzesik, 58, of La Porte, Indiana, passed away after a sudden illness on Wednesday September 14, 2016 at Indiana University Health La Porte Hospital.

She was born March 2, 1958 in La Porte, Indiana, the daughter of Frank J. Okrzesik and Margaret (Smith) Okrzesik.

Karen lived her life with fierce determination and was passionate about life. She loved being with her family and touched many peoples' lives.

She is survived by her two daughters, Amanda Galligan, and Amy Martinez; grandchildren, Xavier, Leah, Eijah, Quentin and Ri-Onna and Trea; two brothers, David (Krista) Okrzesik, and Dennis (Connie) Okrzesik; many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Karen was preceded in death by her parents, and one sister, Christine Okrzesik.

Jack Lavern Orsborn (Age: 19)

12/31/1955 – 06/19/1975



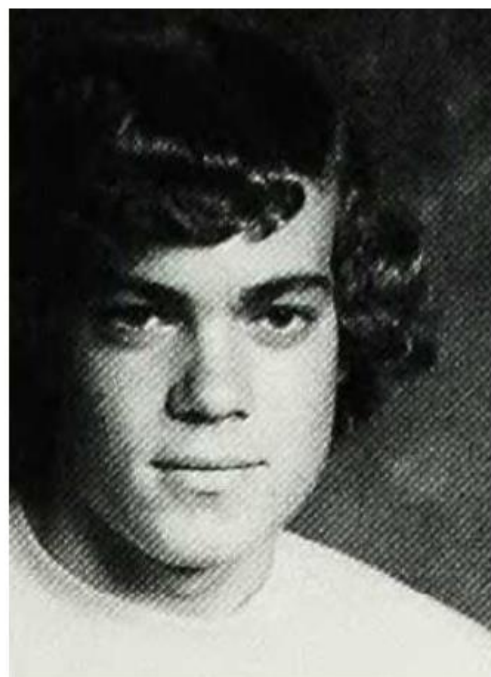
1973 KESLING

Jack L. Orsborn

LAPORTE — Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday for Jack L. Orsborn, 19, of 1727 Country Lane Drive, who died at 6 p.m. Thursday in Park Rapids, Minn. He was born in LaPorte Dec. 31, 1955, and was a life-long resident. He was employed at Indiana Home Improvement. On April 12, 1974 in West Palm Beach, Fla., he married Monica Gurrola, who survives, along with one daughter, Chanda, at home; his mother, Mrs. Edith Orsborn of LaPorte; three sisters, Mrs. Robert Reier, Mrs. Pamela Organ and Mrs. Randy Merchant, all of LaPorte; and two brothers, Charles W. and Marvin, both of LaPorte.

Keith Alan Parker (Age: 35)

09/12/1957 – 11/18/1992



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

LAPORTE — Keith A. Parker, 35, of Houston, Texas, formerly of LaPorte, died of natural causes at 2:30 p.m. Saturday in Twelve Oaks Hospital, Houston. Mr. Parker was employed at Dillards Department Store in Texas for 10 years. He was born Sept. 12, 1957, in LaPorte and had lived in the Houston area for the past 10 years. Surviving are his mother, Evelyn Parker of LaPorte; two sisters, Linda Parker of Tampa, Fla., and Kathy Parker of LaPorte; two brothers, Jeffery of Tampa and Dan of LaPorte; and two nephews, Jacob and Keegan Parker, both of LaPorte. He was a member of First United Methodist Church, LaPorte.

Linda Peel (Age: 14)

07/09/1957 – 06/29/1972



1973 BOSTON

LAPORTE — Miss Linda Peel, 14, of 503 Rockwood St., died at 4:40 p.m. Thursday in Pine Lake Division Hospital after a brief illness. She was born July 9, 1957, in Los Angeles, and had lived in La-Porte 11 years, coming from Tennessee. She was a student at Boston Junior High School and was a member of the First Wesleyan Church. Surviving are her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Powers; two sisters, five brothers and her grandmother, Mrs. Ada Ripley of Harris, Calif.

Michael D. Perlich (Age: 67)

04/25/1958 – 11/30/2025



1976 LPHS



Michael D. Perlich, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend, passed away on November 30, 2025, in Madison, Indiana. Born on April 25, 1958, in LaPorte, Indiana, Michael's journey through life was marked by kindness, generosity, and a deep love for his family and friends.

Michael dedicated the majority of his professional career to serving the community through his roles at Central Indiana Schools Federal Credit Union in Indianapolis, followed by FORUM Credit Union in Fishers.

A proud alumnus of Ball State University, Michael earned a bachelor's degree in 1980. He was known for his infectious laughter and ability to make those around him feel at ease, a testament to his kind and generous nature.

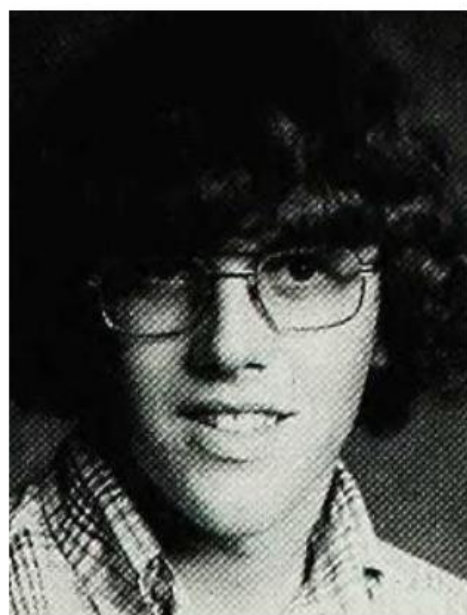
Outside of work, Michael treasured moments spent with his family, often enjoying evenings gathered around the fire on the deck. He had a passion for travel, frequently exploring new places with his loving wife, Gwynn. Among his many interests were fishing, working in his yard, and spending time outdoors. Michael appreciated a good cold beer and had a keen interest in learning German. In quieter moments, he found joy in reading and photography, hobbies that showcased his creative spirit.

Michael is survived by his loving wife of 45 years, Gwynn Perlich; his children, Nicholas Perlich, Anna Larrison, and their spouses, Amy Perlich and John Larrison; and his cherished grandchildren, Lucy Perlich, Wyatt Perlich, and Owen Larrison. He also leaves behind his cousin Jill Whitworth.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Loyal Perlich and Marilyn Perlich, whose memories continue to guide and inspire his family.

Larry Lawrence Peterson (Age: 46)

03/26/1958 – 02/12/2005



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Larry Lawrence Peterson, Jr. 46, of Union Mills, Indiana, died at 4:44 a.m. on Saturday, February 12, 2005 at LaPorte Hospital.

Larry was born March 26, 1958 to Larry and Janet (Herbst) Peterson, Sr. On May 29, 1982, in LaPorte, he married Susan Kashmer, who survives.

Also surviving are sons, Michael Lawrence and Nathaniel Andrew Peterson, both of Union Mills; his parents of Hamlet, IN; sister Sue L. Downs of Hamlet; brother James R. Peterson of Nokomis, FL; and godparents Joyce and David Daube of Hamlet.

A daughter, Jessica Lynn Peterson, grandparents Alford and Juanita Herbst and Landon (Jim) and Lorraine Peterson, and uncles Jerry and Jason (Jack) Herbst, preceded him in death.

Larry was a millwright at the US Steel Midwest Plant in Portage, Indiana for 16 years.

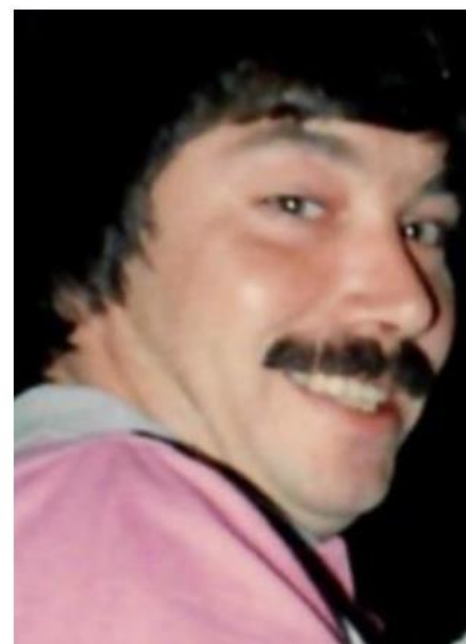
He was a 1976 graduate of LaPorte High School and had attended Purdue University for two years. He was a member of United Steel Workers #6103. He was an avid Notre Dame fan and loved camping, fishing and canoeing. He was passionately dedicated to his wife and children.

Jeffrey Paul Place (Age: 64)

06/09/1957 – 10/11/2021



1976 LPHS



Jeffrey Paul Place, 64, of La Porte, passed away unexpectedly at 9:21 a.m., Monday, October 11, 2021 in his home.

He was born June 9, 1957, in La Porte, Indiana, to Willard Leslie Place and Mary Ann Louise (Tanger) Place.

Jeff worked as a press operator at the La Porte Herald Argus and had been employed there in numerous positions since the age of 16. He loved his cats and was an avid Green Bay Packers fan. Jeff also enjoyed fishing and playing in softball leagues through the years. He will be dearly missed and remembered as having one of the world's biggest hearts.

Surviving are his former wife, Sharon Place of La Porte; one brother, Jim (Linda) Place of Fort Wayne; one niece, Leslie Armstrong; and two nephews, Brian and Scott Place.

Preceding in death were his parents, Willard Place and Mary Ann Engle; and paternal grandmother, Gladys Place.

Susan Ann Plant Karkiewicz (Age: 43)

10/02/1958 – 11/06/2001



1972 BOSTON



1973 BOSTON

Sue Karkiewicz

Oct. 2, 1958 – Nov. 6, 2001

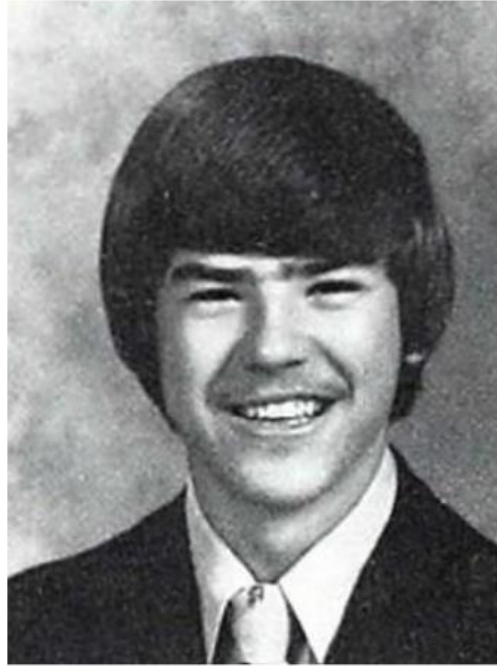
Sue Karkiewicz, 43, of Mahomet, Ill., formerly of Granger, Ind., died at 2 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 6, in Provena Covenant Hospital, Champaign, Ill.

She was born Oct. 2, 1958, in Michigan City, Ind., and was the daughter of John and Judith (Grabowski) Plant. A brother, Michael, preceded her in death with her parents on July 31, 1976.

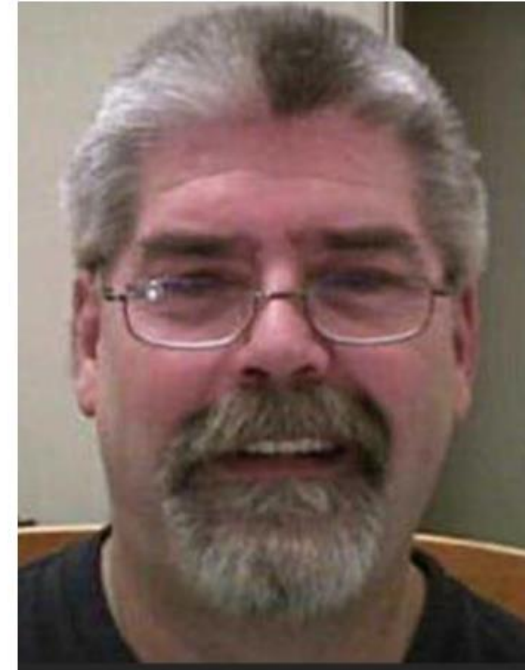
On Oct. 30, 1982, in Michigan City, as Sue Plant, she married Mark Karkiewicz, who survives. She is also survived by two daughters, Julie Karkiewicz and Kristen Karkiewicz, both of Mahomet; an

Derek Ray Patrick Plante (Age: 59)

12/24/1957 – 03/23/2017



1976 LPHS



When Derek Ray Patrick Plante was born on 24 December 1957, in La Porte, LaPorte, Indiana, United States, his father, Vernon Ray Greer Plante, was 32 and his mother, Shirlee Ann Chlebowski, was 25. He lived in Holly Hill, Volusia, Florida, United States in 2008.

He died on 23 March 2017, in Daytona Beach, Volusia, Florida, United States, at the age of 59.



Hannah Plante ▸ Derek Plante

March 29, 2017 · 🧑🏻‍🤝‍🧑🏻



Hey everyone, we are having **Derek Plante** 's service on April 8th at 1pm at the LDS church located at 1125 6th st daytona beach fl, 32117. Anyone and everyone is welcomed!



Michael Scott Popejoy (Age: 54)

04/18/1958– 08/18/2012



1976 LPHS



Michael Scott Popejoy, 54, of Indianapolis, IN, passed away peacefully at 1:30 a.m., Saturday, August 18, 2012. Lakeview Funeral Home & Crematory is caring for the arrangements.

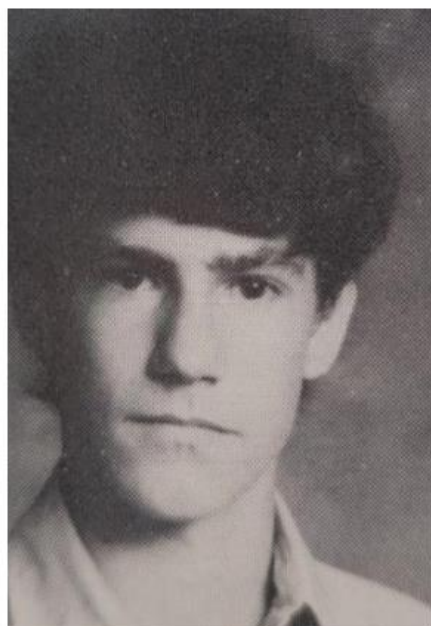
He was born April 18, 1958 in La Porte, IN to Gerald W. and Isla R. (Dozeman) Popejoy. Mr. Popejoy worked as a sales representative for Mile Rail Company in Indianapolis.

Michael was a singer and accomplished guitar player and had played with numerous bands throughout the years. He loved to ride his motorcycle and go camping with his daughters.

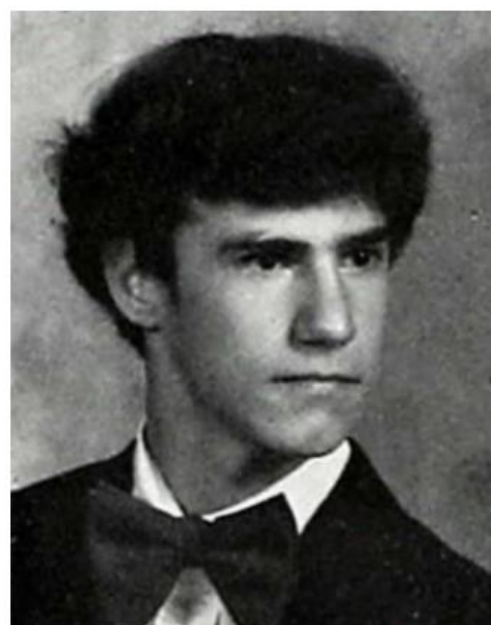
Survivors include two daughters, Sarah Popejoy and Kylie Popejoy, both of Colorado; his parents, Gerald W. and Isla R. Popejoy of La Porte; one sister, Michelle (Greg) Gardner of La Porte; and his former spouse and best friend, Patsy Popejoy of Colorado.

Daniel Edward Purkal *(Age: 50)*

11/05/1957 – 02/23/2008



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Daniel E. Purkal

Nov. 5, 1957 – Feb. 23, 2008

FISH LAKE — Daniel E. Purkal, 50, died Saturday in his home. Surviving are his parents, Richard and Doris Purkal; two daughters, Jessica Purkal and Kaitlyn Purkal, both of Fish Lake; a brother, David (Laura) Purkal of New Carlisle; a sister, Denis Dunbar of Walkerton; and his former wife, Paula (Bozek) Purkal of Fish Lake.

Becky Sue Salzer Hunt (Age: 45)

07/10/1956 – 12/14/2001



1974 LPHS



1975 LPHS

Becky S. Hunt

July 10, 196 – Dec. 14, 2001

MILL CREEK — Becky S. Hunt, 45, of 163 S. County Road 875 East, died at 9:45 p.m. Friday in Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center of natural causes. Survivors include her husband, Robert; two stepdaughters, Beth Hunt and Jennifer Hunt, both of LaPorte; her mother, Clara L. Salzer of Mill Creek; three sisters, Susan Bucher of Mill Creek, Sherry Nelson of LaPorte and Debora Tener of Elko, Nev.; two brothers, David Salzer of Nokomis, Fla., and Rick Salzer of Mill Creek; two half sisters, Rose Closs of LaPorte and Patti Williamson of Fish Lake; and two half brothers, Danny Salzer of LaPorte and Harry E. Salzer Jr. of Pensacola, Fla.

Danny Jerome Scalf (Age: 43)

02/15/1957 – 07/30/2000



1971 LP 7TH GRADE



1973 BOSTON

Name	Danny J. Scalf
Birth Date	15 Feb 1957
Death Date	30 Jul 2000

Ricky Lee Schmidt (Age: 66)

09/16/1958 – 06/11/2025



1976 LPHS



Ricky Lee Schmidt, 66, of La Porte, Indiana, passed away Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at his home. He was born Sept. 16, 1958, in St. Joseph, Michigan, the son of Dean Carl Schmidt and Gloria Jean (Krause) Schmidt.

Ricky grew up in Sawyer, Michigan, where he attended Lutheran school until seventh grade, and moved with his family to La Porte in 1972. He attended eighth grade at St. John's Lutheran in La Porte and graduated from La Porte High School, class of 1976.

Ricky worked for Lewis Bakery until his retirement in 2025. He attended the 1st Church of God, La Porte. In his younger years, Ricky ran track and cross country for La Porte High, played softball for various teams, and helped crew a friend's sailboat for many summers. He loved working on cars, which he considered his "toys," and recently installed a new engine in his jeep. He also enjoyed motorcycles, especially his Harley.

Ricky played the guitar for fun and was an avid sports fan, always cheering for the Detroit Tigers and Lions and U of M football. He will be missed by all who knew him

He is survived by his father, Dean Carl Schmidt; brother, Stephen Dean (Sarah) Schmidt of Huntsville, Alabama; two sisters, Brenda Robbins of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Cheryl (Ron) Wilson of South Bend, Indiana; aunt, Sharon (Richard) Barnes of La Porte, Indiana; eight nieces and nephews; and 14 cousins.

Ricky was preceded in death by his mother, Gloria Jean Schmidt.

Andrew James Scholl (Age: 42)

11/12/1957 – 07/07/2000



1974 LPHS



1975 LPHS

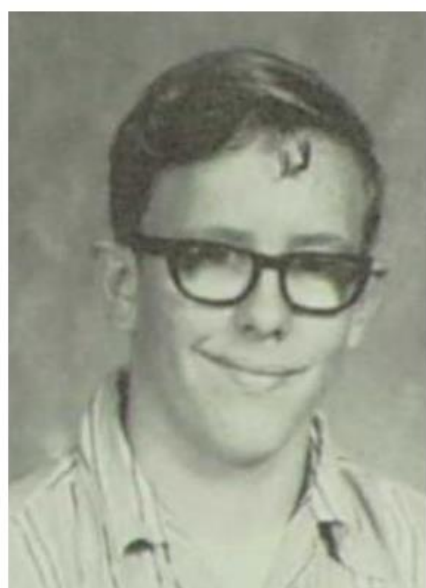
Andrew J. Scholl

Nov. 12, 1957 – July 7, 2000

MISHAWAKA — Andrew James Scholl, 42, of Smith Street, was found dead Friday in the 900 block of Lincoln Way West, Osceola. St. Joseph County Coroner Chuck Hurley is investigating the cause of death. Survivors include his stepmother, Joy Scholl of LaPorte; two sisters, Penny Scholl of Bainbridge Island, Wash., and Betsy Neal of Oxnard, Calif.; and three brothers, Matthew of Seattle, Sam of Steamboat Springs, Colo., and Michael Scholl of Miami.

Henry Herman Schrier, Jr. (Age: 58)

05/14/1957 – 01/11/2016



1974 LPHS



1975 LPHS

Henry Herman Schrier, Jr., 58, of La Porte, passed away on Monday, January 11, 2016 at IU Health La Porte Hospital.

Henry was born in La Porte on May 14, 1957 to Henry Herman and Kathaleen Lorainne (Cowgill) Schrier.

Surviving are his beloved children, Stephanie (Terry) Pierce of Pewaukee, WI, and Jason (Elizabeth) Schrier of Mattawan, MI; three grandsons; one granddaughter; siblings, Patricia (Wendell) Wiltfong of La Porte, Lauri (Calvin) Chapman of South Bend, Cynthia (Chris) Schrier of La Porte, Charles (Barbara) Schrier of Tiffin, OH, and Ronnie Schrier of La Porte; an uncle and two aunts; as well as several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded by his parents and two brothers, Donald E. Schrier and Robert E. Schrier.

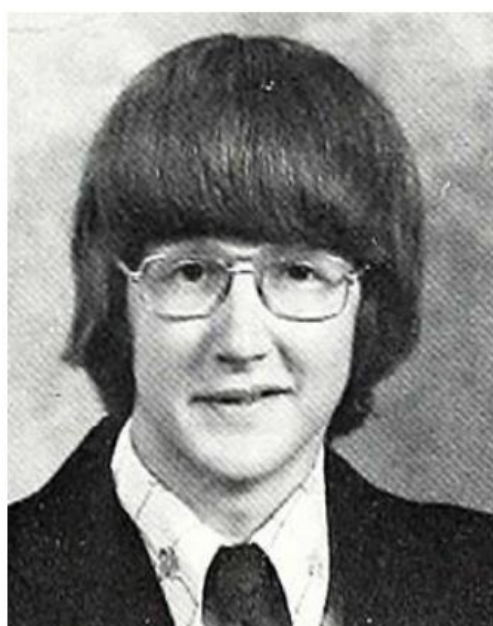
Henry was a mold maker for Teledyne retiring after 35 years. He was a member of the VFW and a past member of the SAL American Legion Post #83.

Randy Wayne Schrock (Age: 29)

01/04/1958 – 03/01/1987



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Randy W. Schrock

Private services for Randy W. Schrock will be Friday at the Raven Funeral Home, 1202 Kem Road, Marion, with Marion VA Chaplain Martin Hess officiating. Burial will be in the Marion National Cemetery.

Mr. Schrock, born in LaPorte, had been a Marion resident for eight years. He was a graduate of LaPorte High School and was an Army veteran.

He is survived by his father and stepmother, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd (Darla) Schrock, LaPorte; his mother and stepfather, Mr. and Mrs. Michael (Judy) Nalepka, Sarasota, Fla.; a brother, Rodney, Houston; a sister, Mrs. Lloyd (Pam) Setty, Bradenton, Fla.; a stepbrother, Patrick Conley, LaPorte; and a stepsister, Lisa Conley, LaPorte.

David Michael Sempstrott (Age: 44)

07/10/1955 – 01/16/2000



1972 BOSTON

David M. Sempstrott

July 10, 1955 – Jan. 16, 2000

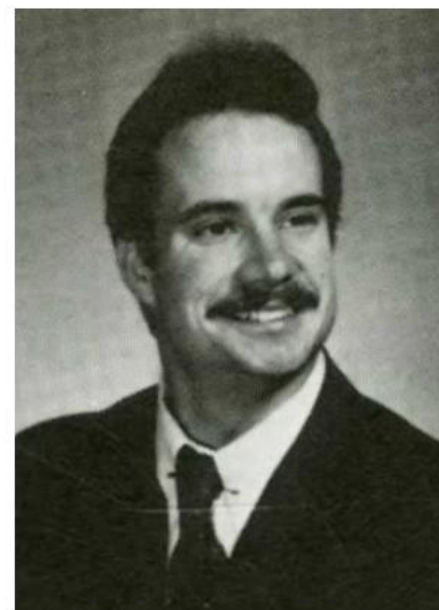
MICHIGAN CITY — David M. Sempstrott, 44, of Shelbyville, Ky., formerly of Michigan City, died at 12:10 p.m. Sunday in Jewish Hospital, Shelbyville, of natural causes. Survivors include his father, Cloyce Sempstrott of LaPorte; and a sister, Judith Ridley of LaPorte. Services will be at 1 p.m. today in Cutler Funeral Home, LaPorte, where friends may call from 10 a.m. until time of services.

Kurt Werner Shei (*Age: 43*)

10/01/1958 – 04/08/2001



1975 LPHS



Name	Kurt Werner Shei [Kurt W Shei]
Gender	Male
Race	White
Birth Date	1 Oct 1958
Birth Place	Hammond Lake, Indiana
Death Date	8 Apr 2001

Harold Lynn 'Doc' Shelton, Jr. (Age: 59)

04/17/1957 – 07/08/2016



Harold "Doc" L. Shelton, Jr., 59, of La Porte, passed away peacefully at 1:47 p.m., Friday, July 8, 2016 at South Bend Hospice House. He was born April 17, 1957, in La Porte, Indiana, to Harold and Lois (Carter) Shelton. Doc was awarded the Carnegie Hero Medal in 1986.

He had worked from 1984 – 2003 for La Porte Seamless Gutter. Doc loved spending time with his children and grandchildren. He was given an award from his brother for the best dog sitter.

Surviving are five daughters, Brandy Jones of AZ, Michelle and Nichole Shelton, Heather Ransom and Rachael Shelton, all of La Porte; seven siblings, Ron (Vicky) Shelton, Diana (Fred) Sullivan, Mary (Rod) Hodges, Pam (Merwyn) Wickett, Tim (Terri) Shelton, Robin Drake, and John (Alesha) Shelton; eleven grandchildren, Briana, Ben, Anwar, Desiree, Jadyn, Maddie, Brooke, Alyssa, Braylon, Ciarra, and Nevaeh; many nieces and nephews; and several of his "adopted" children. Preceding in death were his parents; and granddaughter, Brittany Jones.

Jean E. Shoaf Napier (Age: 21)

06/09/1957 – 12/24/1978



1974 LPHS

Mrs. Forrest (Jeannie) Napier
KNOX — Services for Mrs. Jeannie E. Napier, 21, of Rt. 5, who died at 8:30 a.m. Sunday in Wishard Memori-

al Hospital, Indianapolis, as a result of burns suffered in a fire in her home on Nov. 6, will be at 2 p.m. Thursday in the Braman & Son Memorial Chapel. Rev. Cleda Fahlgren, pastor of the Pentecostal Church of Jesus Christ, will officiate. Burial will be in Oak Park Cemetery. Friends may call today in the funeral home.

She was born on June 9, 1957, in Korea and had lived in the LaPorte and Knox areas for several years. Surviving are her husband, Forrest; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Shoof of LaPorte; a sister, Joan Shoof at home; and two brothers, Peter and Robert Shoof, both of LaPorte.

Gary Alan Simpson (Age: 45)

09/15/1957 – 02/27/2003



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

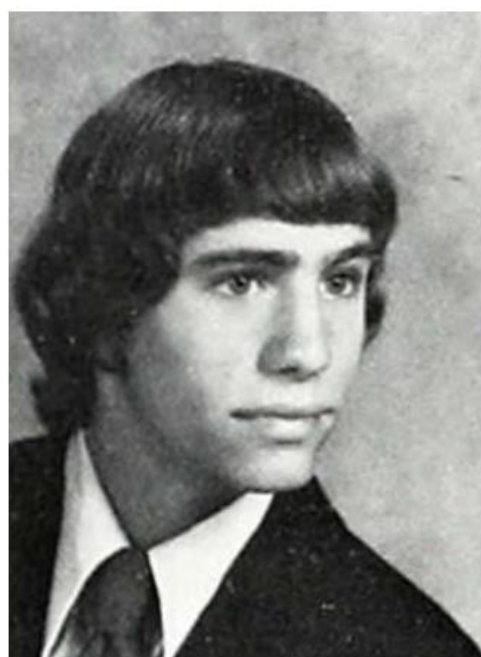
Gary A. Simpson

Sept. 15, 1957 – Feb. 27, 2003

LAPORTE — Gary Alan Simpson, 45, of 317 Talley St., died at 12:11 a.m. Thursday in LaPorte Hospital of an aneurysm. Survivors include his wife, Patricia L. (Perkins); a daughter, Paige Simpson of LaPorte; two sons, Garret and Caleb, both of LaPorte; his mother, Patricia Simpson of Mill Creek; and two sisters, Reathel A. Simpson of Mill Creek and Patricia A. Curlin of Michigan. Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday in LaPorte Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses.

Joel Daniel Skibbe (Age: 57)

08/27/1957 – 03/27/2015



1976 LPHS



Lake Mary resident, Joel Daniel Skibbe, 57, passed away in his home on March 27, 2015, after a 2 ½ year struggle with ALS. A celebration of his life will be held on Saturday, April 11, at 11:00 a.m. at Northland Church in Longwood, FL.

Joel was born on August 27, 1957, in Michigan City, Indiana, to James Edward and Joan Heiermann Skibbe. His father was a P.E. teacher and his mother was a registered nurse. Joel, along with his two brothers, Jeff and Jay, grew up in LaPorte, Indiana. He played many sports in his youth, but basketball was his favorite. In fact, when Joel played in the Maverick Basketball League in the 4th grade, he scored 261 points in 10 games. His basketball ability and leadership continued through high school, where he helped the LaPorte High School basketball team win the Sectionals after a 27-year drought. Joel attended Southwestern Michigan Jr. College before moving to Florida and graduating from the University of Central Florida in 1983.

He was immediately hired to teach P.E. at Wilson Elementary School in Seminole County, where he stayed for 30 years. The thousands of students he taught over the years meant so much to him, and the staff he worked with were like family.

Joel married Mary Ann Unrein nearly 25 years ago, on April 7, 1990. He took much pride and joy in his 3 children, Janelle Catherine, 21, Joel Daniel Jr. (J.D.), 12, and Jenna Grace, 10, all of whom survive him.

Joel enjoyed playing basketball, biking and running, but his favorite past-time was spending time with family and friends. Joel was preceded in death by his mother, Joan. He is also survived by his father, James; brothers, Jeffrey David and Jay Edward; and his many, many friends and coworkers.

Cindy Jo Smith Hauschild (Age: 60)

01/21/1958 – 02/19/2018



1975 LPHS



Cindy J. Hauschild, 60, of South Bend, Indiana formerly of La Porte, Indiana passed away Monday, February 19, 2018. She was born January 21, 1958 in Lafayette, Indiana to Chester and JoAnn (Lemming) Smith. Cindy was a homemaker and graduated from La Porte High School in 1976.

On June 27, 1981 Cindy married Jim "Haus" Hauschild who survives. Cindy is also survived by her father, Chester Smith of La Porte; her children, Monica Maiké of South Bend, Erica Hauschild of South Bend, Travis Hauschild of Lihue, Hawaii; grandchildren, Cody and Cory Pennington; and siblings, Terri (David) Ahlberg of Valparaiso, Tammy (Jim) Wilkinson of La Porte, Kevin (Debbie) Smith of La Porte; and a sister-in-law, Sue Bailey of Osceola, Indiana.

Linda Sue Smith Handley (Age: 57)

09/22/1958 – 05/13/2016



1976 LPHS



Linda S. Handley, 57, of Mineral City passed away at her home on Friday, May 13, 2016.

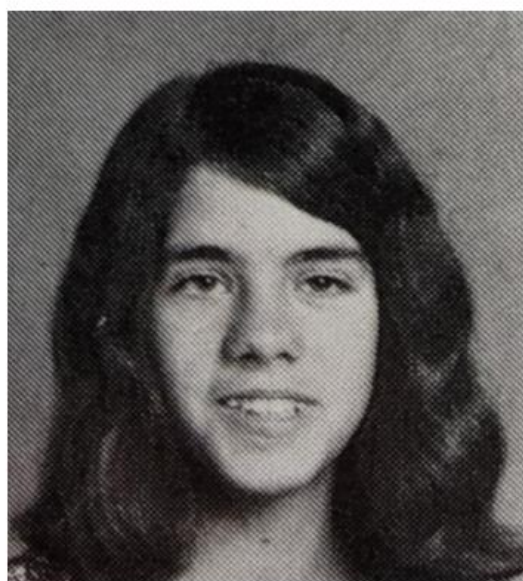
Born on September 22, 1958 in LaPorte, Indiana, she was the daughter of John and the late Helen Ann (Snauwert) Smith. She graduated from LaPorte High School with the class of 1976. She attended DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana. On September 16, 1978 she married Steve Handley, who survives. She worked as a secretary at St. Joseph Catholic School for over 15 years. She was a member of the St. Joseph Catholic Church in Dover.

Linda enjoyed cooking and tending to her home. Most of all, she loved spending time with her family. Linda will always be remembered for offering love, too much food and a home to many of her extended "children."

In addition to her father; John, and husband; Steve, she will be sadly missed by her daughter; Jenn (Luke) Siefker of Atlanta, GA; son, Ryan (Rebecca) Handley of Columbus; grandsons, Jackson and Mason Handley of Columbus; two brothers, Chuck (Jennifer) Smith of LaPorte, IN, and John (Lynda) Smith of Crown Point, IN; along with her nieces and nephews; Ashley Janek, Jillian Smith, Daisey Smith, Adam Smith, and Allie Edgecomb.

Mary J. Smith (Age: 16)

06/24/1958 – 06/27/1974



1972 KESLING

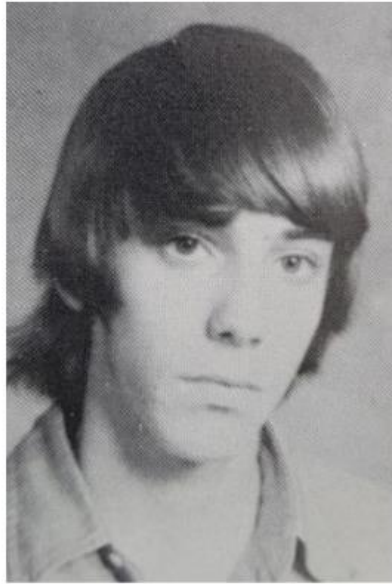


1973 KESLING

Miss Mary J. Smith
LAPORTE — Miss Mary J. Smith, 16, of 304 Colfax St., died unexpectedly at 12:05 a.m. today in the LaPorte Hospital. She was born June 24, 1958 in LaPorte. She was a student at LaPorte High School and a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church.
Survivors are her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Smith, LaPorte; four brothers, James, of Niles; Hugh, Cary and Eugene, all at home; two sisters, Patricia, of Chicago, and Julie, at home; maternal grandfather, Ray Thompson of Chicago and paternal grandmother, Mrs. James Smith of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mark Thomas Steigely (Age: 37)

05/12/1957 – 06/30/1994



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Mark T. Steigely

May 12, 1957-June 30, 1994

LAPORTE — Mark Thomas Steigely, 37, of 110½ Sutherland St., died Thursday afternoon of injuries he suffered in a car accident on Indiana 6 and County Road 525 East. Mr. Steigely was employed as a distributing manager for US Directories. He was born May 12, 1957. Surviving are a son, Robert of Albuquerque; his parents, Robert and Ruth (Grassmyer) Steigely of LaPorte; four sisters, Vicki Travis, Joyce Christenson and Julie Steigely, all of LaPorte, and Laurie Parsons of Westville; and two brothers, Guy of Chicago and Russ of Michigan City. He was a member of Kingsford Heights Wesleyan Church.

Deidre J. Stephani (Age: 19)

10/18/1957 – 07/16/1977



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Miss Deidre J. Stephanie, 19, of 1652 2nd, died at 9:20 a.m. Saturday at the LaPorte Hospital after a long illness. She was born here on Oct. 18, 1957, and lived here all her life.

She is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Stephani; a sister, Debi, and a brother, Douglas, both at home; her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Stephani of Hamlet and Mr. and Mrs. Bert Carey of LaPorte.

Miss Stephani was a member of the First United Methodist Church and was employed at the K-Mart LaPorte store. She was a 1976 graduate of Laporte High School.

Mary Jo Straub Zembala (Age: 62)

11/02/1957 – 07/30/2020



1976 LPHS



Mary Jo "M.J." Zembala, 62, of Huntington, IN, passed away on Thursday, July 30, 2020, at Parkview Regional Medical Center, Fort Wayne, IN.

M. J. was born on November 2, 1957, in LaPorte, IN, to Joseph and Elizabeth (Bowman) Straub. Her parents preceded her in death. She married Larry Zembala in 1981 and he survives and resides in Huntington.

M.J. was a 1976 graduate of LaPorte High School and a 1980 graduate of the University of Indianapolis. She worked in Human Resources/Payroll at North Judson-San Pierre School System and also worked as the Executive Director for Starke United in Knox, IN. She was a member of St. Mary Catholic Church. M.J. loved her kids, grandkids, and took joy in watching birds and taking care of plants.

Along with her husband, Larry, M.J. is survived by two sons, Alex (Kia) Zembala, Fort Wayne, IN, Kyle (Brittany) Zembala, Hoagland, IN; two brothers, John (Linda) Straub, Dan (Karen) Earl, both of LaPorte, IN; two sisters, Sandy Burkhart, Cherie Fuller, both of LaPorte, IN; and three grandchildren, Brenten, Emmsley, and Killian.

Along with her parents she was preceded in death by one sister, Penny Jedrysek.

Gerald Alan Strieter (Age: 63)

08/05/1957 – 05/03/2021



1974 LPHS



Gerald "Gerry" Strieter, 63, of La Porte, passed away peacefully at 9:00 a.m., Monday, May 3, 2021 in his home.

He was born August 5, 1957, in La Porte, Indiana, to Martin Carl and Grace (Dunaj) Strieter.

Gerry was a truck driver for several years. He enjoyed the outdoors, camping and fishing and spending time with family and friends, especially with his grandchildren. Gerry also enjoyed music and trains.

Surviving are his significant other; Sherry Strieter of Niles, MI; two children, Philip Strieter of La Porte and David Sorensen of Rolling Meadows, Illinois; three brothers, Carl (Judy) Strieter of Rolling Prairie, Robert (Sharon) Strieter of New Carlisle and Richard (Terri) Strieter of Rolling Prairie; three grandchildren, Jacob Veatch, Lydia Strieter and Celeste Barclay; and several nieces and nephews.

Preceding in death were his parents; and one son, Andrew Strieter.

Diane Irene Stupar (Age: 19)

12/09/1957 – 05/01/1977



1975 LPHS



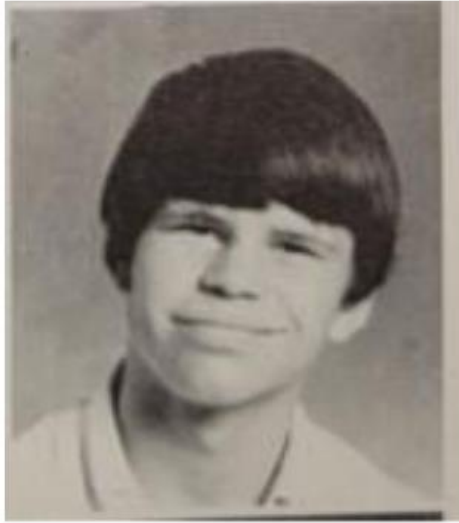
1976 LPHS

Miss Diane I. Stupar
LAPORTE — Services for Miss Diane I. Stupar, 19, of 703 W. 13th, who died at 7:35 a.m. Friday in LaPorte Hospital, will be at 10 a.m. Monday in St. Joseph Catholic Church with Msgr. John C. Witte, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery in LaPorte. There will be no calling hours. The Essling Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

She was born Dec. 9, 1957 in LaPorte and was a student at Purdue North Central and a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Survivors include her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Stupar of LaPorte; two sisters, Mrs. James Jonas of LaPorte and Miss Carol Stupar, both of LaPorte; maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Zaiac of LaPorte.

Brian Edward Talbot (Age: 22)

09/13/1957 – 11/30/1979



1973 BOSTON

Brian Edward Talbot
LAPORTE — Funeral arrangements are being made here for Brian Edward Talbot, 22, of 3 Kuehne Court, who was found dead March 18 near Golden, Colo. He was born Sept. 13, 1957. The Haverstock Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Cheryl Sue Taylor Simpkins (Age: 58)

07/22/1958 – 02/05/2017



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Cheryl Sue Simpkins, 58, of La Porte, Indiana passed away Sunday, February 5, 2017. She was born July 22, 1958 to Thomas and Pearl (Diedrich) Taylor. Cheryl graduated from La Porte High School in 1976 and had worked as a Clerk at Wilson Lumber.

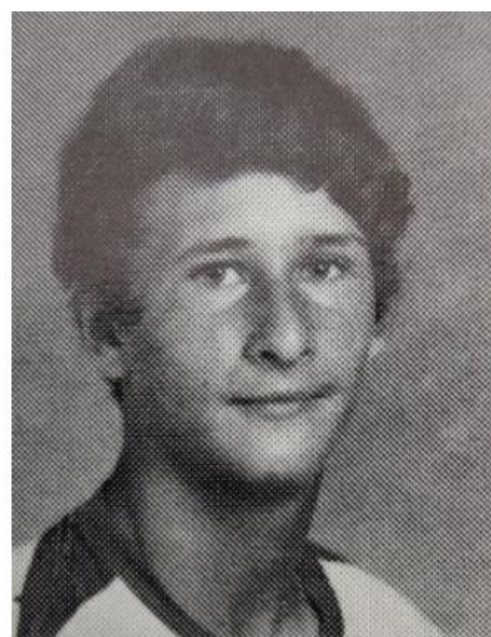
Cheryl leaves behind her mother, Pearl of La Porte; a sister, Karen (Joseph) Macalka of La Porte; four brothers, Allen (Tari), Dennis (Susan), Kevin, and Randy (Sherry) Taylor all of La Porte; two sons, Frank and Adam Simpkins; and three grandchildren.

John Joseph Tomal (Age: 15)

11/20/1957 – 12/18/1972



1971 LP 7TH GRADE



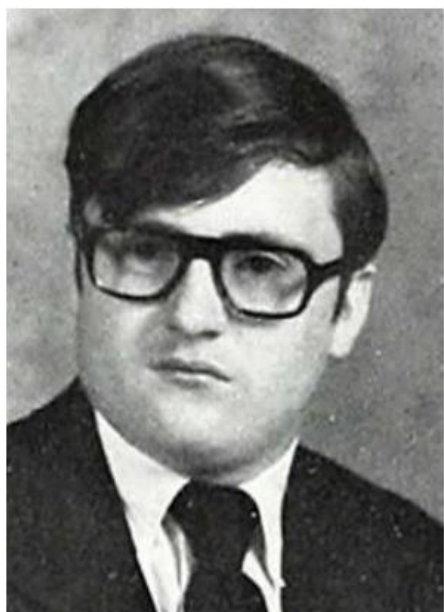
1972 KESLING

TOMAL — Services for John Joseph Tomal, 15, of Rt. 2, Fish Lake, Walkerton, who died at 5:30 p.m. Monday in St. Luke's Hospital, Chicago, after a six-month illness, will be held at 10:30 a.m. Thursday in St. Joseph's Cemetery. Rev. Leonard Kronkowski, pastor of St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Fish Lake, officiating. John was born on Nov. 20, 1957 in LaPorte.

Surviving are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Tomal of Fish Lake; three sisters, Christine, Mary, and Gloria, all at home; four brothers, Michael of LaPorte, Daniel, Anthony, and Eric, all at home and his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. William Starosta of Fish Lake, and Mr. and Mrs. Jasper Tomal of Bass Lake, and Mrs. Sophie Tomal of Elkhart.

Dale Edward Turner (Age: 65)

04/29/1957 – 10/09/2022



1976 LPHS



Dale E. Turner, 65, of La Porte, Indiana, went to be with his Lord and Savior Sunday October 9, 2022 at Community Hospital in Munster, IN, with his sister, Mary and brother, Clay by his side.

He was born April 29, 1957 in La Porte, Indiana, the son of Roscoe Turner and Mima (Stamper) Turner.

A lifelong resident of the area, Dale graduated from La Porte High in 1976 and immediately joined the United States Army as a Dental Specialist, serving for four years. After service he began a career as a tool and die maker for Teter, retiring in 2006.

Dale was a man who loved and surrounded himself with the Lord. He was an active member at South Center United Baptist Church in Hamlet, IN, where he was involved in and led youth activities as well as fulfilling callings as a Deacon and Treasurer. He was a loving Uncle who enjoyed just hanging out with his nieces and nephews. Dale would also take the boys and camp out in his sister's backyard. He was an avid reader of his beloved Bible and Western novels. Above all else, Dale devoted himself to God, read the scriptures, and prayed like no other.

He is survived by his three sisters, Mary (John) Hutchinson of La Porte, IN, Calla (Eric) Arnholtz of Union Mills, IN, Mima Jean (John) Eddy of Kingsford Heights, IN; two brothers, Clay (Dawn) Turner of New Carlisle, IN, Darial Turner of Indianapolis, IN and many nieces and nephews.

Dale was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Roscoe, Paul and Carl Turner and sister, Victoria Lemley.

Martin J. Upp (Age: 63)

06/1958 – 12/2021



1974 LPHS



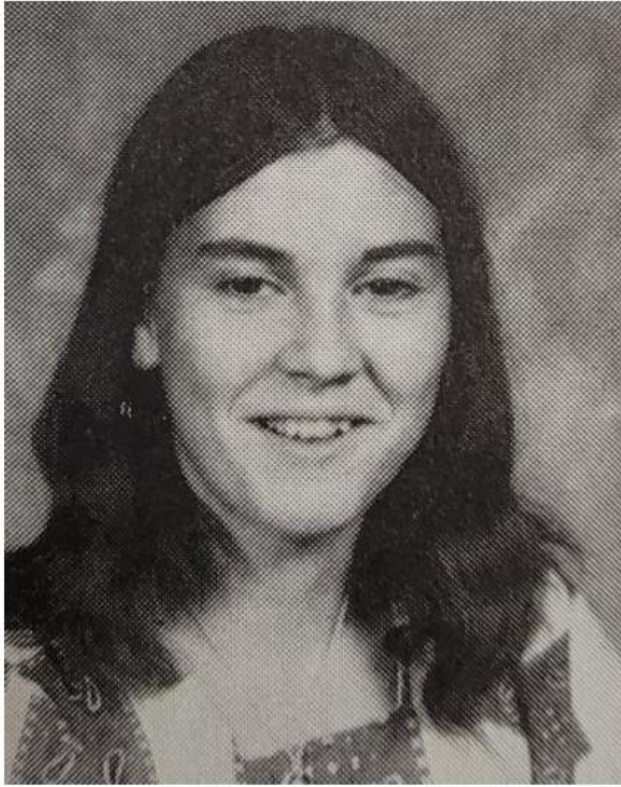
1975 LPHS

No obituary found but listed in mother's obituary as having passed away.

Ann was preceded in death by her son, Martin Upp, in December 2021.

Julie Ann Vacura Pacheco (*Age: 64*)

09/16/1957 – 07/18/2022



1974 LPHS



Julie Ann Pacheco of Orlando, Florida passed away on Monday, July 18, 2022 at the age of 64. She was born on September 16, 1957 in Gary, Indiana.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Emil Vacura Jr. and Gwendolyn Vacura, and her brother Michael Vacura.

Julie is survived by her daughters, Virginia "Ginny" Sigle and Elizabeth "Beth" (Robert) Watts; Brother, Marvin Vacura; Sisters, Janis Stephens and Adele Blake; 4 grandchildren and many other family and friends to cherish her memory.

Russell Wayne Veatch (Age: 22)

10/01/1957 – 09/14/1980



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

Russell W. Veatch

LAPORTE — Services for Russell W. Veatch, 22, of 306 North St., who died at 2:40 a.m. Sunday in LaPorte Hospital, as the result of a motorcycle accident which occurred a few minutes earlier at the intersection of J St. and 1st St., will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday in the Essling Funeral Chapel.

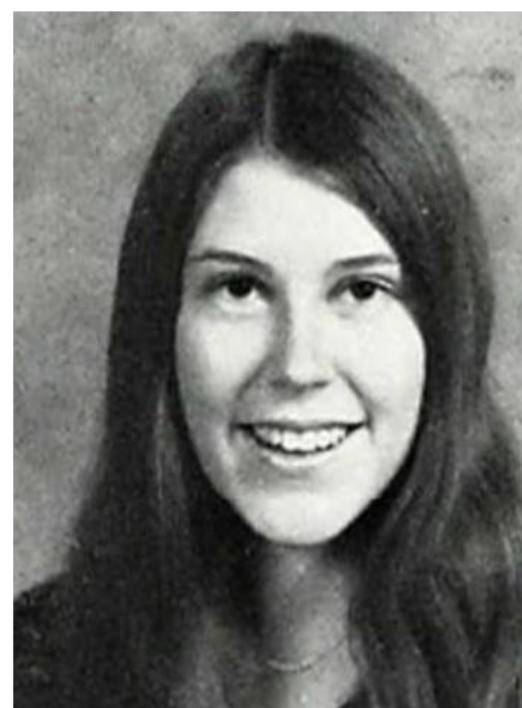
He was born on Oct. 1, 1957, in LaPorte, and had been a lifetime resident of this area. Survivors include his parents, William and Harlene (Cook) Veatch, of LaPorte; a sister, Cindy of Knox; three brothers, Robert of Bergstrom Air Force Base, Austin, Tex.; Rodger of LaPorte and Randall at home; a maternal grandmother, Mrs. Ramona Cook of LaPorte; paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John Proud of LaPorte and Willard Veatch of Red Wing, Minn., and a great-grandmother, Mrs. Harry Bowen of Logansport. He was an employee of Pullman Standard, Hammond.

Carole Grace Wade (Age: 20)

10/02/1957 – 11/06/1977



1974 LPHS



1975 LPHS

Carole Grace Wade was born in LaPorte, In, Oct. 2, 1957 and died in LaPorte Nov. 6, 1977 from an auto accident. Parents are Robert M. and Jane Bernadette (Moore) Wade. She was a Merit Scholar at Indiana University. (From Robert Price)

Photographer, Friend Are Killed In Crash

An Associated Press stringer photographer and his girl friend were among 12 persons killed on Indiana streets and highways over the weekend.

LaPorte County police said ROBERT E. LEWIS, 21, 11325 Knollridge Court, and CARROL GRACE WADE, 20, Brownsburg, died yesterday afternoon when their car was hit broadside by another auto at the junction of U.S. 6 and Ind. 39 about 6 miles south of LaPorte.

Lewis died of a broken neck and Miss Wade of massive head injuries.

Miss Wade's brother, Brian Wade, 19, was listed in guarded condition today at LaPorte Hospital with extensive facial lacerations, possible internal injuries, a broken wrist and a broken leg.

Investigators were unable to determine who was driving the car, which police said pulled onto U.S. 6 into the path of an auto driven by Bonnie K. Grandchamp, 26, Chicago. The Grandchamp car was unable to stop, police said.

Lewis, a junior this fall at Indiana University's Bloomington campus, worked as an AP stringer photographer for a year and a half.

His assignments included the Anthony G. Kiritsis kidnaping ordeal last February, the state high school basketball finals and the Indianapolis 500-mile race. His photo of driver A.J. Foyt Jr. shouting at a reporter before last May's race received wide play across the country. He had covered Indiana University for the AP this fall.

Douglas Neil Watson (Age: 63)

12/07/1957 – 11/12/2021



1973LPHS



Douglas Neil Watson, 63, of La Porte, Indiana, passed away Friday November 12, 2021 at his home. He was born in Rensselaer, IN, on December 7, 1957, the son of Edward and Dorothy (Snow) Watson. On December 3, 1988, he married Charlotte (Stacy), who survives him.

Doug served in Germany in the United States Army as a PFC, working in communications. He was honorably discharged in 1979 as a sharpshooter and M16 expert. While in Germany he worked with German Shepherds, having a love for them ever since. He moved to La Porte 34 years ago from Hope, Arkansas. Doug was a chief inspector for Teledyne Casting. An avid sportsman, he enjoyed hunting and fishing, bagging deer, boar and coyotes, and was a huge Packers and Yankees fan. Doug also rode a Harley and had a classic Chevelle convertible. He loved and was very happy bird watching and spending time with his precious grandchildren and very spoiled German Shepherd, Porter.

Along with his wife, Doug is survived by his son, Charles Anthony (Desiree) Stacy, Walkerton, IN; daughters, Tricia Watson, Magnolia, AR, Sarah (Cole) Drake, Magnolia, AR, Stefani Howard, Alabama; brother Lauren Sprague Jr.; sisters, Marina (Matt) Blivens, San Diego, CA, Coral Graham, St. George, Utah; grandchildren, Aubrey Stacy, U.S. Marine in training Nathan Stacy, Hunter Stacy, Paige Stacy, Emma Drake and Coby Drake.

Douglas was preceded in death by his parents and step father, Lauren Sprague Sr.

Steven Howard Wedow (Age: 64)

11/04/1957 – 04/21/2022



1976 LPHS



Steven "Steve" Howard Wedow, 64, of La Porte, passed away unexpectedly at 1:15 p.m., Thursday, April 21, 2022 in his home.

He was born November 4, 1957, in La Porte, Indiana, to Ralph Howard and Betty Louise (Franks) Wedow.

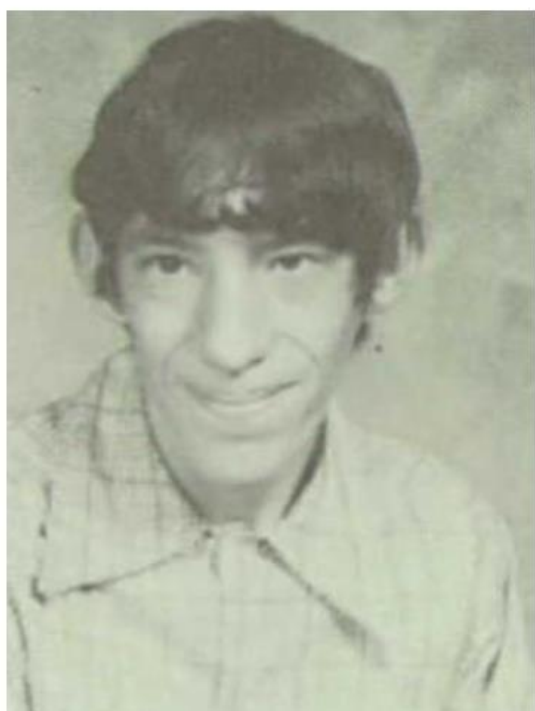
Steve graduated in 1976 from La Porte High School. He earned a Bachelor of Science from the School of Management from Purdue University. A lifetime foundryman, starting his career at Teledyne working with his father. He retired as a manager in 2012 from Sampco, South Bend. Steve was a sports enthusiast, being an avid fan of Chicago Cubs, Bears, Bulls, Blackhawks and enjoyed Purdue football and basketball. He loved all things Purdue, close friends and his softball crew.

Surviving are his sister, Beth (Jay) Brackemyre of Minneapolis, Minnesota; niece and nephews, Carl and Joel Brackemyre of Minneapolis, Minnesota, Jamie (Chris) Schenkel of Carmel, Indiana and Greg Wedow of Indianapolis, Indiana; great niece and nephew, Harper and Brody Schenkel; sister-in-law, Lorraine Wedow of La Porte; and many friends.

Preceding in death were his parents; maternal grandparents; paternal grandparents, Lawrence and Edith Wedow; and one brother, Mark Wedow.

Keith L. Weldon (Age: 50)

12/31/1956 – 11/10/2007



1974 LPHS

THE MARKET
NOVEMBER 14, 2007

KEITH L. WELDON

WALKERTON, IN - Keith L. Weldon, 50, died Saturday, November 10, 2007 at his home. He was born December 31, 1956, in LaPorte, Indiana to William and Lilly (Hemminger) Weldon.

Keith was an employee of Marshall-Starka Development Center, Plymouth, Indiana.

He is survived by his mother, Lilly Weldon of Walkerton, five sisters: Sarah Robinson of Walkerton, Dianna Pointon of Plymouth, Rose Heck of Ober, Indiana, Bonnie Armentrout and Kathy Weldon, both of Hamlet, Indiana and three brothers: Rolland of Inwood, Indiana, Rick and Mark, both of Walkerton. He was preceded in death by his father, William, one sister and one brother.

Services will be held Wednesday, November 14, at 1pm CST at Rannells Funeral Home, with Pastor Louis Armentrout officiating. Burial will be in the Oak Hill Cemetery, Plymouth.

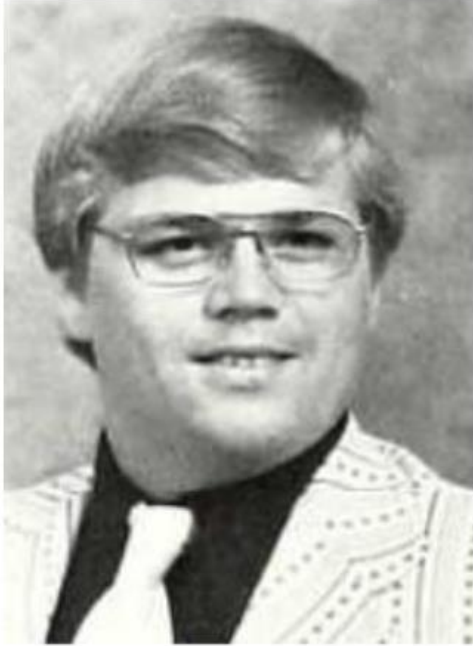
Arrangements were made by Rannells Funeral Home, Hamlet Chapel.

Keith Weldon, 50, died Saturday in his home.

Survivors include his mother, Lilly Weldon of Walkerton; sisters, Sarah Robinson of Walkerton, Dianna Pointon of Plymouth, Rose Heck of Ober, Bonnie Armentrout and Kathy Weldon, both of Hamlet; and brothers, Rolland of Inwood and Rick and Mark, both of Walkerton.

Robert Elvis Wheaton (Age: 57)

03/19/1958 – 01/03/2016



1976 LPHS



Robert "Bob" Elvis Wheaton, age 57, of La Porte, passed away on Sunday, January 3, 2016 at IU Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis, IN. Robert was born on March 19, 1958 in La Porte, Indiana. On October 23, 1976, he married Lorena Marie Wilhelm; she survives.

Also surviving are three children, Tamara (Adam) Lemley, Michael R. (Melissa) Wheaton, and Nicole (Richard) Kaehler all of LaPorte, IN; seven grandchildren, Deziray, Brice, Noah, Airron, Makailyn, little Richard, and Robert; mother, Janice Irene Morris of LaPorte, IN; and siblings, Lisa Wheaton of La Porte and Ronald (Christine) Wheaton of Union Mills, IN. He was preceded in death by his father, Raymond Morris in 2013.

Bob worked as an Engineering Manager at IPW for the last ten years. Before that time, he worked for over 25 years at Berkel Incorporated in LaPorte, IN. He loved church, bowling, and spending time with his family. Bob was very "special" and will always be remembered for his incredible sense of humor and tenacious work ethic.

Felicia Lee Wilhelm Pens *(Age: 45)*

07/04/1958 – 06/12/2004



1976 LPHS

Felicia L. Wilhelm

July 4, 1958 – June 12, 2004

KINGSFORD HEIGHTS — Felicia L. Wilhelm, 45, of 524 Severn Court, died at 10 p.m. Saturday in her home of natural causes. Survivors include a daughter, Angelica Wilhelm of LaPorte; her stepfather, Patrick McMahon; two sisters, Debbie Lovvorn of LaPorte and Andrea Myers of Buchanan; and a brother, Gary Wilhelm of Roland, Okla.

Michael Eugene Williams (Age: 28)

01/07/1956 – 08/25/1984



1971 LP 7TH GRADE



1973 BOSTON

28-year-old dies after fall in elevator shaft

LAPORTE — Services for Michael E. Williams, 28, of 1401 Spruce St., who died at 3:14 a.m. Sunday in Memorial Hospital, South Bend, following an accidental fall in an elevator shaft at Rumely Hotel in LaPorte.

Williams was born Jan. 7, 1956, in LaPorte, where he lived his lifetime. Surviving are two daughters, Shannon Williams and Nicole Williams, both of LaPorte; a son, Michael Williams of LaPorte; three sisters, Judy Price and Tonya Price, both of Walkerton, and Carmaiha Price of LaPorte; two brothers, Kenneth and Dennis Price, both of LaPorte; his mother, Bonnie Price of Walkerton; and his father, Austin Williams of Morristown, Tenn. Mr. Williams was an employee of Hownet-Austen Division.

Carol Ann Wolbert Lukac (Age: 64)

04/15/1957 – 01/15/2022



1971 LP 7TH GRADE



Carol Ann Lukac, 64, of Kingsbury, passed away on Saturday, January 15, 2022 at Northwest Health - La Porte.

Carol was born in La Porte, IN, on April 15, 1957 to William Leroy and Elizabeth Ann (Snyder) Wolbert.

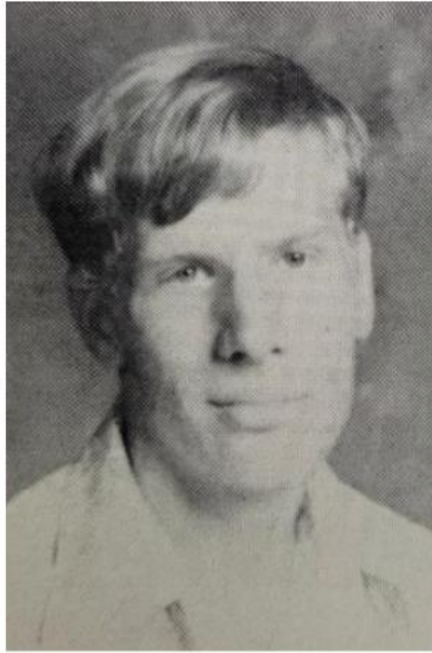
On September 29, 1984, she married Raymond Earl Lukac who preceded her in death on November 19, 2020. Surviving are her children, Matthew (Sarah) Lukac of La Porte and Alisha Lukac of Kingsbury; granddaughter, Hazel Lukac of La Porte; as well as many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; and brother, Roger Wolbert.

Carol was a caregiver and homemaker. She was a member of 4-H and enjoyed baking and bowling. Carol loved nothing more than spending time with her granddaughter.

James Harley Wolfe (Age: 51)

11/27/1957 – 03/02/2009



1975 LPHS



1976 LPHS

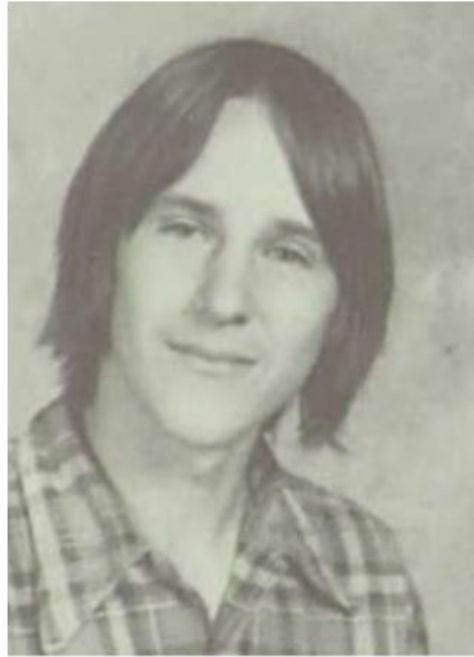
James H. Wolfe

Nov. 27, 1957- March 2, 2009

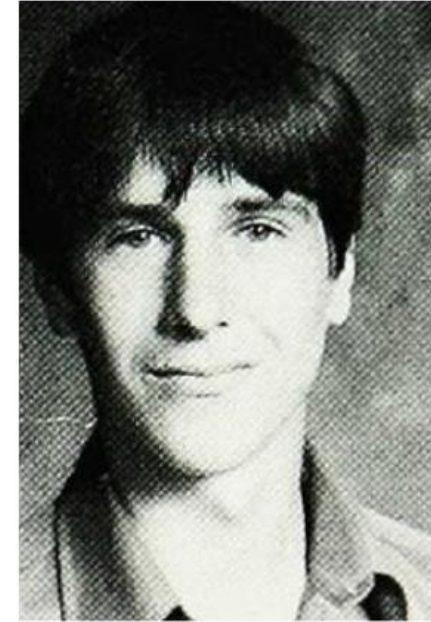
LAPORTE— James H. Wolfe, 51, passed away at 11:30 p.m. Monday, March 2 in the St. Francis Hospital & Health Centers, Indianapolis. Survivors include his wife, Trudi Wolfe; his father, Paul Wolfe; a son, Mark Wolfe; a daughter, Noel Wolfe; a sister, Rachel Anderson; and brothers, David Wolfe and Samuel Wolfe.

Terry Lee Woods (Age: 48)

12/11/1957 – 09/05/2006



1974 LPHS



1975 LPHS

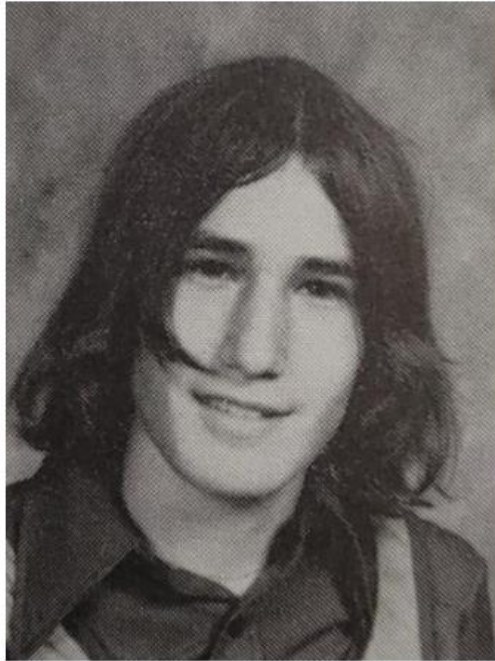
Mother's obituary states:

Bonnie was preceded in death by her first husband, William Eugene Woods, in 1969; her parents; second husband, Wert Pointer (2018); two sons, Thomas Woods and Terry Woods.

Name	Terry Lee Woods
Birth Date	11 Dec 1957
Last Residence	46350, La Porte, La Porte, Indiana
Death Date	5 Sep 2006

Thomas G. Wurster (Age: 67)

02/07/1958 – 03/07/2025



1974 LPHS



Thomas G. Wurster, 67, passed away March 7, 2025 at his home in Osceola. He was born February 7, 1958, in Laporte, IN.

On February 28, 1993, he married Michele "Mickey" Harding; she survives along with a daughter, Misty Wurster, stepdaughter, Jennifer Scutchfield, 3 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. Also surviving is a sister, Kathy and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Donald & Marie (Whiteside) Wurster, a brother, and 2 sisters.

He enjoyed playing horseshoes, tinkering, fishing and riding his motorcycle.

Clarice Lynn Zobrist Lubs (Age: 66)

11/12/1958 – 05/11/2025



1976 LPHS



Clarice Lynn Lubs (née Dipert), age 66, passed away on May 11, 2025, in Midwest City, Oklahoma after a short and difficult battle against lung cancer.

Born on November 12, 1958, in Peoria, Illinois, Clarice spent her early years in Kingsbury, Indiana. She graduated from LaPorte High School in LaPorte, Indiana, in 1976, where she was a member of the gymnastics team-an early testament to her energy and determination. Throughout her youth, she was also active in the Tracy United Methodist Church youth group and a long-time 4-H member.

In 1980, Clarice relocated to Oklahoma City, where she began a long and distinguished career at Tinker Air Force Base. Starting in October 1982, she became a civilian aircraft engine mechanic and electrician, dedicating over four decades to her work. Her commitment and leadership were recognized when she became a shift supervisor nearly ten years ago-a role she held with pride until her retirement in May 2025.

Beyond her professional life, Clarice had a deep passion for animals-particularly Doberman Pinschers. Raising and breeding them brought her great joy and fulfillment over the years. She also channeled her entrepreneurial spirit into running a successful Mary Kay cosmetics business for many years.

Clarice is survived by her husband Brad Lubs (married July 28, 1979); her sisters Jan (Bob) Morrison of South Bend, Indiana, and Sue Zobrist of Mesa, Arizona; and her brother Dan (Amy) Dipert of Walkerton, Indiana. She also leaves behind several nieces and nephews who will remember her with affection.

She was preceded in death by her birth parents Nancy (Wilson) Dipert and Wayne Zobrist; her adoptive father C. Wayne Dipert; and her sister Myrna Dipert.

Clarice's life was marked by dedication-to her work, to the animals she loved, and to those around her. May her memory bring comfort to those who knew and loved her.