



Laurence McIntyre

July 26, 1938 - March 14, 2020

When he walked through the door of the Sassafras Cafe each morning, his broad smile beaming, the regulars would turn to him and ask, "What's going on in Green Lake, Larry?"

And he knew. This city boy, who moved to the small town at the age of 63, found a new sense of joy and purpose in this tightly-knit community. A two-term alderman, Larry drove a van for seniors, was active in the local recovery community, and became known throughout the county as "Larry the Uber Guy." He loved people. Larry had an infectious smile, an endless supply of corny jokes, and a genuine curiosity that made people want to talk to him. He collected the news of the small town through his daily walks. When they asked him what was going on in Green Lake, Larry knew.

Larry passed away on March 14, 2020 after a four-month illness, tended by his beloved wife, Barbara. He was 81.

He was born Laurence Francis McIntyre on July 26, 1938, to Helen Sullivan McIntyre and Lawrence Francis McIntyre in Chicago, Illinois.

Larry graduated from St. Ignatius high school in 1956, where his passion for basketball soared, becoming a star on the team. He attended Loyola University in Chicago and was thrilled to make their team.

He enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard in 1959, and was sent to Alameda, California, serving in the Pacific. At 6ft.4 he was the tallest man on his ship. On his first day at sea his crew announced "As long as we have McIntyre we don't need any ladders!"

Larry returned home to the Coast Guard Reserve, serving six more years. His favorite duty was to steer the USCGC Ice Breaker Mackinaw through the Sault Ste. Marie locks. The vessel is a museum now. During these years he began his banking career as Assistant Vice President in business development at North Shore National Bank, continuing as an officer at Madison Bank and Albany Bank. He was President of the

Roger's Park Lions Club in the 70's.

In 1965 he married Patricia Ann White; the young couple had three daughters. Then in 1971, tragedy struck, and Pat died. Larry was left to raise his three girls: Catherine, age 5, Colleen, age 3, and Cara who was just 9 months old when their mother passed. They moved to Skokie, Illinois and Larry hired Marcella C. Koenig, a retired nun, to help with the girls. She was an integral part of the family for many years until her passing. These years of struggle found Larry often working a second job at night in security at McCormick Place, Solo Cup and Tempel Steel, to make ends meet.

Upon retiring from the banking industry, with the girls grown, Larry moved to the northern suburb, Lake Bluff, Illinois where he worked for WW Grainger Corp as a head of security at the headquarters in Vernon Hills and Lake Forest. He often worked for owner Bill Grainger as his personal assistant, bodyguard and driver.

In 1997 two events transformed Larry's life. He met his future wife, Barbara in January and in September- with the support of Barbara and his daughters- he entered recovery for alcoholism. A new life began for Larry. He got involved with Barbara's horse business, Foxly Farm, in Mettawa, Illinois. Larry enjoyed going to the horse shows with her students, and he became close to Barbara's three children.

In 2002, Larry's youngest stepson, Sean, graduated from high school, and Barbara retired and sold the farm. Together they moved to Green Lake. These were rich years for Larry. He rejoiced in his 9 granddaughters. He threw himself into the convivial, easygoing life of the town. He and Barbara started "Barblar Antiques" with a booth in Princeton (at Woolbright's River City Antique Mall, when they opened in 2006) and also in Green Lake. He joined the Rotary for a few years, was a member of Thrasher Opera house and Town Square. Berlin Senior Center hired him as their van driver.

Larry was a fixture in the local recovery community, especially the Tuesday morning group meeting at Our Lady of the Lake church. After serving two terms as alderman, his third election was a tie, and decided by a coin toss, which he lost. He joked that "only in Green Lake can someone be elected by the flip of a coin!" He and Barb traveled the country, from Alaska to Arizona and Florida with many trips to NYC, Cleveland and Chicago to visit family.

Larry brightened the lives of all he touched. His famous, broad smile came from his heart and expressed the joy of a man who persevered through tragedy and struggle to find peace, love and acceptance.

Larry will be sadly missed by his loving wife, Barbara Babcock Clune. He was blessed with three children and three stepchildren; Catherine McIntyre Heuck (Dave), Colleen McIntyre Burke, Cara McIntyre Batke (Kevin), Michael William Clune (Lauren), Jennifer Margaret Clune, Sean Austin Clune (Michelle). He loved his 9 beautiful granddaughters. Also survived by his sister, Elaine (late Ralph) Beaudoin; sisters-in-law, Judith White Jesswein (Richard), Margaret Babcock Harper (Mike), Martha Babcock Pafralides (Bobby); brothers- in-law, William Foster Babcock, Jr. (Tracy Webster), Richard Fayerweather Babcock III; 13 wonderful nieces and nephews; 11 grand-nieces and grand-nephews, and so many friends and family, especially Paul Baker, dear wise friend and mentor.

Due to the Corona virus pandemic, Larry's funeral will be postponed until summer. A memorial service will be announced on the Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home website: wieckiskipchakfuneralhome.com

A DVD of Larry can be viewed on the website in a few weeks.

May God hold Larry in the palm of His hand.

A Laurence McIntyre memorial fund has been established through the funeral home.

Comments



“ Barb, my deepest condolences to you and the family. Larry was a fixture in Green Lake and will be sorely missed. He was a friend to me when I first moved into town and always had a smile.

Mike Starshak - April 05, 2020 at 04:31 PM



“ Since the day I was born, you were there. Hard to imagine you are gone. Thank you for all the memories over a lifetime. Say "Hi" to Mom and Dad.



Elaine M Beaudoin - March 31, 2020 at 04:16 PM



“ What a lovely obituary for a great man. I am honored I got to know Larry in this little town he loved so much. Thinking of you Barb an family.

Love,
Star Lietz

STAR LIETZ - March 31, 2020 at 03:08 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home - March 31, 2020 at 12:08 PM



“ Uncle Larry will be greatly missed, condolences Aunt Barb, family, and Larry's family.
Please reach out to me if you need anything

Despina - March 31, 2020 at 07:42 PM