



## Duane Schmudlach

June 20, 1937 - January 4, 2024

Duane Arnold Schmudlach

June 20, 1937-January 4, 2024

Duane was the second child born to his parents, Frank Schmudlach and Esther (Zahn) Schmudlach at their home in the Town of Poy Sippi on June 20, 1937. Duane passed away on January 4, 2024, at the age of 86, at Juliette Manor, with pneumonia and kidney failure.

He graduated from Berlin High School in 1955. He then attended UW Oshkosh to obtain a Liberal Arts Degree.

On September 12, 1956 he enlisted in the United States Army. While on active duty he became a PFC in the Airborne Unit as a parachutist. He spoke often of jumping out of airplanes because it gave him one extra dollar per month. He was stationed at Fort Campbell, KY. After his release from active duty on June 19, 1958, he remained in the Army Reserves until June 10, 1962. Duane married the love of his life, Caroline Tesch on April 11, 1959. They shared 64 years of marriage. They had five children.

He grew up on a farm and continued to have the love of farming all his life. Duane also worked at Olsen's Mill, Morgan Doors, Lawent Iron and Metal, Don Wagner's Auction Service, and also on Don Wagner's farm.

Duane had a love for tractor and truck pulling and was a proud member of D & J Pulling Team. He won many trophies with his red 1969 Dodge 4 X 4 truck.

He enjoyed all of his family and looked forward to seeing his grandchildren. Duane had fun gardening, auctions, building things, going to the casino, going for rides, and spending time with “mother”. He was good at acting off to make people laugh.

Duane is survived by his wife, Caroline; four daughters, Yvonne (Tom) Wustrack, Cindy (Sam) Wilson, Michele (Darryl) Betro, Kathy (Doug) Wiese; and one son, Michael (Jill) Schmudlach; twelve grandchildren, James (Amy) Schilder, Candi (Jeremy) Johnson, Jonathon (Jenny) Schilder, Brian Wilson, Bailey (Isaac) Trzebiatowski, Bethany Betro, Bryson Betro, Karisa Wiese, Kody Wiese, Teagan, Larschied, Sierra (Fiancé Brad Jones) Schmudlach, and Conner Schmudlach. He is further survived by eight great-grandchildren, Preston, Ryker, Harrison, Jessa, Jace, Leo, Sophie and Walter; a special nephew, Randy (Sue) Tesch; many other nieces, nephews, brother and sisters-in-law; and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Walter (Marilyn) Schmudlach, sister, Ramona (Wilber) Tesch; granddaughter, Lisa Wilson; and grandson, Ben Betro.

The family would like to thank the staff of Juliette Manor for their wonderful care and letting Duane into their hearts.

# Cemetery Details

## Nepeuskun Cemetery

Berlin, WI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 11. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home  
116 S Adams Ave  
Berlin, WI 54923  
(920) 361-2050

## Visitation

JAN 12. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. John Lutheran Church  
168 Mound Street  
Berlin, WI 54923  
<http://www.stjohnberlin.org>

## Funeral Service

JAN 12. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. John Lutheran Church  
168 Mound Street  
Berlin, WI 54923  
<http://www.stjohnberlin.org>



# Tribute Wall



“ *Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Duane Schmulach*



---

**Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home** - January 09, 2024 at 09:15 PM



“ *316 files added to the album LifeTributes*



---

**Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home** - January 09, 2024 at 09:13 PM

JO

“ *Rest in peace uncle Duane, my fondest memories were getting up early milking cows and fixing things on the farm. Driving the old go cart on the farm then when you moved closer to town coming down and helping cut wood then in the winter driving the old Evinrude snowmobile and pull behind sleigh with all my cousins great memories thank you for being a big part of my life, love ,Johnny*

---

**johnmeshak** - January 08, 2024 at 09:02 PM

DE

*Rest in peace Duane! You were a great man! You had many friends and I was one of them. I still remember the crazy day we had when we cut wood on a very cold day and we were supposed to go out that night with your daughter Yvonne and Jim But that never happened because we were much to tired. I remember all the good times we shared together, and will never forget them. You helped us with moving many times also. I will always remember your kindness your laughter, and most of all just you. Thanks for always being a big part in our life . Love Duane &Gail*

**Duane & Gail Ewald** - January 13, 2024 at 07:57 PM

CB

“ Prayers to all of the Schmudlach family, may God comfort you all during this tearful time

**Chris Beck** - January 08, 2024 at 03:53 PM

CB

“ Chris Beck lit a candle in memory of Duane Schmudlach



**Chris Beck** - January 08, 2024 at 03:47 PM

VS

“ Sending my sympathy to all of Duane's families 🙏

**Valerie (Putzkie) Scheuers** - January 07, 2024 at 05:57 PM

PL

*Loved playing bingo with Duane at JM but you had to keep an eye on him.  
My condolences go out to the whole family.*

**Pamela Lind** - January 08, 2024 at 11:45 PM