



Leon Petraszak

November 16, 1937 - June 11, 2024

Leon Andrew Petraszak, 86, a life-long Berlin community member and business owner, died peacefully at ThedaCare Appleton Medical Center on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, surrounded by family, after a 10-year struggle with Alzheimer's Disease and other health issues.

Leon was born on November 16, 1937 to Gertrude (Disterhaft) and Andrew Petraszak. He proudly graduated from Berlin High School in 1955 and shared fond memories of playing football with friends.

His football team was inducted into the BHS Athletic Hall of Fame in 2018 and was a life-long supporter of the BHS Alumni Association.

He married his beautiful bride, Elaine (Bradley) Petraszak on June 22, 1956 at St. Michael's Church in

Berlin. Leon & Elaine did live in Madison and Appleton for a short period of time, but returned to Leon's

beloved Big Island Road in the Town of Seneca and resided at the Petraszak Homestead for the last 26

years. Leon had no grass growing under his feet as he was always busy working, from his early career as

a union excavating operator for Central Contracting and then as a self-employed business owner of

Petraszak & Sons Excavating. Leon never claimed to be perfect and often pondered in later years whether or not he did "life" right and sought comfort at weekly mass, even on the Sunday before he passed away, making sure to inform the altar kids that he too was an altar boy many years ago. He belonged to the Catholic Knights of Columbus and cherished socializing with many other community members.

During their 2 weeks short of 67 years of marriage, Leon and Elaine raised 7 successful children, who all value the importance of family and hard work.

Leon enjoyed many years of working, camping, traveling to many US states and other countries, spending winters in Florida for 20 years, hunting all sorts of wildlife, fishing, woodworking, working on his family genealogy and spending time with family and friends at social events, holidays and family reunions.

He was preceded in death by his parents; parents-in-law (Clara [Klotzbuecher] Bradley); his 4 brothers-in-law (Mike Eggleston, Brian Flanagan, Gary Freund & Sam Bradley); 2 sisters-in-law (Marilyn Bradley Freund and Sharon Roberts Bradley).

He is survived by his wife, Elaine Petraszak; 7 children: David (Linda) Petraszak, Dean (Karen) Petraszak, Diane Agrell, Doug Petraszak, Darla (Mike) Blank, Donna (Rich) McMartin and Dan (Holly) Petraszak; 18 grandchildren: Garrett (Sydney Todd) Petraszak, Dan (Cindy) Wheaton, Missy (Rich) Himmelman, Andy (Megan) Petraszak, Josh (Theresa) Petraszak, Jason (Kerby Berger) Agrell, Chris (Abby) Agrell, Jenni

(Andrew) Wendt, Rachel Petraszak, Gretchen (Michael Vitt) Petraszak, Samuel Petraszak, Paul (Sara) Blank, Kevin Blank, Julia (Codey) Sauer, Richie (Rebecca Mularski) McMartin, Emily (Tyler) Schubert, Addison Petraszak & Owen Petraszak; and 19 great grandchildren: Steele, Douglas, Layla, Abby, Hailey, Ashley (Zak), Alex, Andrew, Gabriel, Blake, Kenleigh, Brooks, Myla, Lily, Levi, Luca, Leo, Oakley, Jayce and more on the way. He is also survived by his sister (Virginia Petraszak Eggleston) and sister-in-law (Beatrice Bradley Flanagan); nieces and nephews, as well as other relatives and friends.

Alzheimer's Poem

Do not ask me to remember

Do not try to make me understand.

Let me rest and know you're with me.

Kiss my cheek and hold my hand.

I'm confused beyond your concept.

I am sad and sick and lost.

All I know is that I need you to be with me at all cost.

Do not lose your patience with me.

Do no scold or curse my cry.

I can't help the way I'm acting,

Can't be different though I try.

Just remember that I need you,

That the best of me is gone.

Please don't fail to stand beside me,

Love me till my life is done.

-Owen Darnell

Thank you to Patriot Place staff, ThedaCare Berlin staff and ThedaCare Appleton staff for the excellent

care and kindness shown to Leon and our family.

Cemetery Details

St. Michael's Catholic Cemetery

Berlin, WI 54923

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **19**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

Visitation

JUN **20**. 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

JUN **20**. 11:00 AM (CT)

All Saints Catholic Parish
N8566 WI-49
Berlin, WI 54923
(920) 361-5252

Tribute Wall



“ *Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Leon Petraszak*



Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home - June 18, 2024 at 01:12 AM

DM

Beautiful video!

Donna McMartin - June 17, 2024 at 10:51 PM

IR

A fully life ❤️

Irina - June 24, 2024 at 05:18 PM

IR

“ *I always remember Leon – even though he is now in heaven. For me, from Berlin in Germany, it is unimaginable that he is no longer here, because he was always far away. He visited us with his snoring machine and had a huge camera with him (is the film still around?). He filmed everything he saw. That was very funny. I was supposed to go hunting and shoot beavers. That was crazy! But I couldn't do it. Leon made me a burger, and the patty was as big as the whole pan. It was so wonderful to be a guest with you in Berlin. Such amazing people, all of the Petraszaks!! Leon forever in my heart / best wishes* ❤️ **IRINA**



Irina - June 24, 2024 at 05:10 PM

ST

“ *My condolences to Leon's family. I had the pleasure of accompanying Leon and his sons on a Colorado elk hunt and will always have fond memories of Leon and that trip.*

Steve Jansen

STEVE - June 20, 2024 at 07:49 AM

MS

We are sending our condolences to the family of Leon Petraszak. Sorry to hear of your sorrow. Mike and Jan Shanklin

Mike and Jan shanklin - June 20, 2024 at 08:16 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Leon Petraszak.*



June 19, 2024 at 09:01 AM

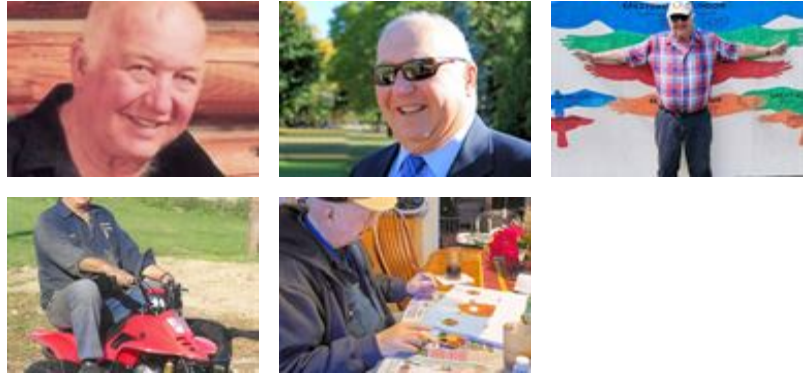
LF

“ *Love from Ron & Shannon Congdon family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Leon Petraszak.*

Love from Ron & Shannon Congdon family - June 19, 2024 at 09:01 AM



“ 309 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home - June 17, 2024 at 09:04 PM



“ *Brian Pope, John Bakker and friends purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Leon Petraszak.*



Brian Pope, John Bakker and friends - June 17, 2024 at 04:58 PM



“ *Sorry for your family's loss in the passing of Leon. His legacy will live on. He dug the basement for our home and put in our driveway 20 years ago this August.*

Ron, Susie Piechowski

Ron Piechowski - June 14, 2024 at 10:00 AM

DO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Donna - June 13, 2024 at 03:33 PM

DO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Donna - June 13, 2024 at 03:31 PM

DO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Donna - June 13, 2024 at 03:27 PM

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Donna - June 13, 2024 at 03:25 PM

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Donna - June 13, 2024 at 03:19 PM

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Donna - June 13, 2024 at 03:18 PM

DO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Donna - June 13, 2024 at 03:18 PM

DM

“ Dad's health took an unexpected turn on Monday and when family visited and prayed with him on Tuesday before he passed, he was still smiling and thankful to everyone for coming to see him. He went to sleep peacefully with us around him.

Donna McMartin - June 13, 2024 at 10:16 AM

RK

Sorry for your loss! Prayers for the family

robert j kurczek - June 17, 2024 at 10:12 PM