



Leonard Leo Goeke

December 16, 1929 - August 13, 2017

Leonard Leo Goeke age 87, of Algonquin, IL, formerly of Washington, IA, died Sunday, August 13, 2017 at his residence following a brief illness.

Funeral services will be held 11:00 a.m. Friday, August 18, 2017 at the Jones & Eden Funeral Home in Washington. Calling hours will begin noon Thursday, August 17, 2017 at the Jones & Eden Funeral Home where the family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Thursday evening. Interment with Military Honors will be held 3:00 p.m. Friday at the Pleasant Township Cemetery in Ewart, Iowa. Memorials may be directed to the One Eighty Teen Center in Washington, Iowa. Online condolences may be sent for Leonard's family through the web at www.jonesfh.com

Leonard Leo Goeke was born December 16, 1929 in Geneseo, IL to Arthur and Neva (Boyd) Goeke, being the fourth of eight children. At the age of ten, he had moved eleven times finishing fifth grade at Montezuma, IA. After graduating from eighth grade at Scott #7 Country School, he stayed home to help his parents for four years. He did odd jobs, and while working at the lumber yard scooping coal, he decided to obtain his high school education. In January 1951, Leonard enlisted in the U.S. Navy and reported to the Great Lakes Training Center for boot camp. In March 1951, he was assigned to the USS Cascade AD16 at the Philadelphia Naval Yard. Later, he attended SK Supply School in San Diego, CA. He completed his high school education from Montezuma High School while in service.

On April 23, 1951 he married the love of his life, Annagrace Arnaman, in Millbourne, PA. They lived in Philadelphia, PA and after serving four years in the Korean Conflict, he was honorably discharged in 1955. The couple returned to Montezuma, IA where they farmed ten years and welcomed three sons, Randall Leon, Terrell Anthony and Bennett Jay, to their household. They moved in 1966 to Washington, IA and continued to farm. A daughter, Rosaleen Annette, was born April 23, 1967 on their 16th Wedding Anniversary. The Goeke's purchased and moved to a smaller farm in 1972 when he became employed with Northrup King Seed Company, working 24 years in soybean research and retiring in

1995. His greatest joy and satisfaction outside of his family was inventing research equipment for the company. They moved to a retirement community located in Illinois, "The Clarendale of Algonquin", in October 2016 to be closer to family. During their married years, the Goeke's reaffirmed their wedding vows on their 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and most recently their 66th anniversary in April 2017.

He was a member of the Ewart and Washington United Presbyterian Churches, serving as an ordained Elder and Deacon. At Washington, he served on the Building Committee, Pulpit Committee, sang in the choir and participated on the Council of Religious Affairs. In later years, he happily served as usher in the church. He enjoyed children and taught Sunday school for many years. Knowing Leonard, you realized his faith in the Lord was always sincere and never questioned.

Leonard was a member of the American Legion Post No. 29. As a Rotary member for 28 years, he held the office of Director of Community Services, was a Paul Harris Fellow and received the Rotarian of the Year Award in 1995.

His numerous hobbies included woodworking, playing cards, and traveling. Pastimes included singing and dancing to country music. With his personality, he never met a stranger and his talents were unlimited. Some of his work can be seen in the United Presbyterian Church. Birdhouses were his specialty, but he enjoyed little children and made wooden toys to distribute to young and old alike as Santa Claus. It was his joy to visit individual children events, hospitals, care centers and individual families.

After retiring, Leonard composed a book of poems he had written throughout the years entitled, "Poems From the Heart" and also wrote his autobiography named appropriately, "A Different Life". A dream came true by having a book signing in 2010.

Leonard is survived by his wife, Annagrace, of 66 years; three sons, Randall (Gloria) of Williamsburg, IA; Terrell (Linda) of Chicago, IL; Bennett (Alycia) of Edmond, OK; one daughter, Rosaleen (Jonathan) of Algonquin, IL; 12 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; and 7 great-great grandchildren. Also, by three brothers Kenneth (Betty) of Florence, SC; Donald (Carol) of Rio Linda, CA; David of Vinton, IA; one sister, Beverly of Montezuma, IA; several nieces; nephews; and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents; one sister, Ardella; and two brothers, Arthur and Keith.

Romans 13:10

"Love does no wrong to anyone, that's why it fully satisfies all of God's requirements. It is the only law you need."

Cemetery

Events

Pleasant Township Cemetery

Ewart, IA,

AUG
17

Calling Hours 12:00PM - 07:00PM

Jones - Eden Funeral Home
116 East Main, Washington, IA, US, 52353

AUG
17

Family will receive friends 05:00PM - 07:00PM

Jones - Eden Funeral Home
116 East Main, Washington, IA, US, 52353

AUG
18

Funeral Service 11:00AM

Jones - Eden Funeral Home
116 East Main, Washington, IA, US, 52353

Comments



“ Annagrace,
My heart goes out to you and your family during this sad time. I had the pleasure of knowing you and Lennard when we visited my sister Marian, Keith and Family on our visits to Minnesota. You were a great couple and my husband and I enjoyed our visits with you both. My husband past away on March 31 2003.
Love and prayers to you and your family
Elsie M Woods



Elsie M Woods - August 18, 2017 at 11:29 AM



“ Dear Ben, Alycia, sweet AnnaGrace & family,

Russ and I send our hugs and prayers at this difficult time. May you find the peace and comfort that your firecracker, Leo, would want you to have as you all say goodbye to him. I remember a VERY special holiday when he and his lovely wife came to Oklahoma to visit. What a time we had singing Johnny Cash and dancing the night away!!! Leo was a fantastic dancer, and I loved his mischievous twinkle and infectious love of life! I will forever treasure that memory and maybe someday we'll dance and sing together again. All our love, Russ & Liz Butler Edmond, OK

Russ & Liz Butler - August 17, 2017 at 08:56 PM



“ Dennis & Sandi Wolfe lit a candle in memory of Leonard Leo Goeke



Dennis & Sandi Wolfe - August 17, 2017 at 07:13 PM



“ Our hearts go out to the entire family- Leonard was always such a 'big' presence during our high school years - his laugh and smile lit up the room- what a wonderful man and wonderful memories. Rosaleen- my prayers are with you. Jeff and Renee (Sojka) Cunningham

Renee (Sojka) Cunningham - August 17, 2017 at 04:03 PM



“ ANNAGRACE AND FAMILY--WHAT A JOY AND DELIGHT TO KNOW THIS DEAR MAN LEONARD, IT WAS OBVIOUS HOW HE LOVED HIS WIFE AND FAMILY. ALSO HE CLEARLY LOVED THE LORD. IT WAS WONDERFUL TO BE ABLE TO SEE MORE OF HIM WHEN HE MOVED TO THE ALGONQUIN AREA . A FEW YEARS BACK HE THRILLED CHILDREN AND ADULTS ALIKE MAKING INTERESTING GIFTS WITH HIS WOODWORKING TALENTS. WE HAVE SOME OF THEM AND THEY WILL BRING GREAT MEMORIES. HE WILL BE MISSED GREATLY BUT IF ANYONE HAS THEIR TRUST AND LOVE IN THE LORD AS DID LEONARD, THEY HAVE THE PROMISE OF MEETING HIM IN HEAVEN WHERE THERE IS NO SICKNESS OR SORROW BUT BEING IN ETERNITY WITH OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST. OUR SYMPATHY WITH MUCH LOVE AND PRAYERS TO ALL.. SHIRLEY AND WILBUR OGDEN, AURORA, ILL.

SHIRLEY AND WILBUR OGDEN - August 17, 2017 at 12:11 PM



“ Will and Shirley Ogden & family purchased the Sapphire Skies Bouquet for the family of Leonard Leo Goeke.



Will and Shirley Ogden & family - August 17, 2017 at 11:10 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Leonard Leo Goeke.



August 17, 2017 at 08:01 AM



“ Rose - our hearts go out to you and your family during this sad time. Praying you are able to find a smile remembering all the good times shared with your Dad. I'm so glad the girls were able to dance for him last year. I know it made him so happy. Sending hugs!!

Jim, Jackie, and Emma Farr

Jackie Farr - August 17, 2017 at 06:28 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Leonard Leo Goeke.



August 17, 2017 at 12:14 AM



“ The Bartley-Thomas Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Leonard Leo Goeke.



The Bartley-Thomas Family - August 16, 2017 at 05:42 PM



“ June Hancock lit a candle in memory of Leonard Leo Goeke



June Hancock - August 16, 2017 at 12:40 PM



“ I always enjoyed Leonard's visits to Arkansas. He brought stories and smiles.

June Hancock - August 16, 2017 at 12:41 PM



“ Steve Chalupa lit a candle in memory of Leonard Leo Goeke



Steve Chalupa - August 16, 2017 at 07:10 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Leonard Leo Goeke.



August 15, 2017 at 09:57 PM



“ Annagrace and family: I am so sorry to hear about Leonard. Leonard was a wonderful man, and his love for Annagrace was admirable. I was lucky enough to purchase his Poems of the Heart book and thought everything he wrote was so beautiful! I loved hearing his stories about his time in the services and about his life. He made a special gift for my daughter, Emma when she was young and diagnosed with cancer. He made her a wooden angel and a butterfly. These were very special to Emma and she still has them, 9 years later. Thinking of you all at this difficult time.

Angela Langstraat
Washington, Iowa

Angela Langstraat - August 15, 2017 at 02:34 PM



“ Gail & Sharon Niffenegger lit a candle in memory of Leonard Leo Goeke



Gail & Sharon Niffenegger - August 15, 2017 at 01:06 PM



“ Rosaleen and family, so sad to hear of your family's loss. Your dad was fun loving and always smiling. May good memories surround you in the times ahead.

Sue Ellen Dawson Hegstrom - August 15, 2017 at 10:59 AM



“ As I was growing up, he was a favorite uncle. Always looking at the bright side, even in times of stress. Dad (Art) and I spent a lot of time with Leonard, and the family. For a couple years we farmed right next to them. We made hay together, we picked corn together, and so much more. Leonard taught me to look at what could be. He was always inventing, or modifying something. He helped our family move the farm, and dairy operations to the farm next to theirs, and we helped them move their farm operations to Washington. Nothing like driving a stake and platform truck with 2 speed axel, loaded with farm equipment when you are 19. I am glad that I had the opportunity to spend some time with him at dad's funeral 2 years ago. I should have spent more time with him over the years. And his book was fantastic. My daughter has my copy, so she can share with the twins what it was like to live and farm in the 50's and 60's in central Iowa. Uncle Leonard will be missed by many.

Charles Goeke - August 15, 2017 at 08:10 AM



“ Annagrace and family, so sorry to learn of Lenards passing. Certainly glad you had moved closer to family. May all of your fondest memories carry you thru the difficult times. He had many wonderful talents and achievements to be proud of and lived life to the fullest. Prayers to you all!
Sharon Crone

Sharon Crone - August 15, 2017 at 07:14 AM



“ With Love, Wynne, Melissa, Karen and Linda purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Leonard Leo Goeke.



With Love, Wynne, Melissa, Karen and Linda - August 14, 2017 at 02:28 PM