



Lawrence Frank Loch

JUN 16, 1932 - APR 23, 2024



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Lawrence Frank Loch, of Muskegon, MI, formerly of Harpursville NY, died on April 23, 2024, at the age of 91, but his big personality, bigger heart and trademark one-liners will not soon be forgotten.

Larry was born on June 16, 1932, in Scranton, PA. He was immensely proud of his Polish heritage (which might have actually been more Russian and German, but the Polish had better food and music so Polish we were). He graduated from the Johnson School of Technology and on May 15, 1954, made the best decision of his life (according to Rosemary), and married Rosemary Jane Avery. Their special brand of love, respect and hard work was the backdrop to raising 3 great kids, 8 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren that all adored “Poppy” (particularly when he wasn’t playing one of his signature practical jokes on them).

Shaped by childhood summers spent working on the family farm, Larry learned to get up before the sun, work hard and do things the right way, and he committed himself to instilling those values in his kids. Sleep past 8:00 AM on Saturday – not a chance, that was “sleeping the day away.” If you were awake, you might as well help with whatever work needed to be done, sometimes age appropriate, other times not so much. He bestowed on us his love of a great-looking lawn, a properly-coiled garden hose, symmetry in shrubbery and the most level wood pile imaginable.

A life-long Lutheran, Larry was a proud member of several church congregations throughout his life, first within the Missouri Synod before his move to the inclusive environment of the ELCA. He shared his time and talent with each of these congregations, serving on councils, making repairs, ushering services, and providing rides for shut ins and the homeless (until dementia provided a little more adventure than desired). He spent nights and weekends for months laying slate flooring in a new church building because the congregation “didn’t have the money.” His willingness to support the people and mission of his church was limitless. Except for Potluck Dinners. He didn’t do Potluck.



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His desire to give went beyond the church and extended into the greater community. He was passionate about helping and believed that “no matter your situation, someone always had less and needed more from us.” He was a volunteer ambulance driver in his 20’s and again in his 60’s and 70’s. He volunteered for local and national election days and campaigned for and won local elected positions in the community. He became a NY Magistrate following his retirement and spent many years engaging with residents, local and state law enforcement and generally having a lot of fun with his co-workers, Robin and Jim, at the court. He loved the opportunity to “ride along” with the county snowplow. He held the important job of navigating the snow blade around mailboxes. If awards were given, he’d have a chest full of medals for mailbox “kills”. At 75 he delivered Meals on Wheels, “for the old people.” He was quick to lend a hand to his neighbors by plowing their driveways, mowing their lawns or simply entertaining them with his quick wit and humor. A huge thanks to the neighbors on Robinhood for not calling the authorities when he started mowing their lawns daily, needed or not (we were a little slow to get the blades removed from the tractor).

Larry is survived by his wife of nearly 70 years, Rosemary Loch; 3 children: Debby Jaquith, Scott (Nancy) Loch, and Dani (Michael) Zizak; 8 grandchildren: Shannon Jaquith Chrisp, Brent (Stacie) Jaquith, Brooke Jaquith (Kerith Gabriel), Joshua (Karlee) Loch, Hannah (Brian)Denholm, Mason Zizak, Spencer Zizak, and Chase Zizak; and 15 great-grandchildren. Larry is preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Emma Loch, and his brother Frank Jr.

Larry had no aspirations to go to Medical School but that is exactly where he is going, Harvard nonetheless. In his final act of giving to others, Larry’s brain was donated to the Harvard Medical School research project to identify the cause and hopefully, one day, the cure for Alzheimer’s. Imagine the fun he would have with that, his Polish brain going to Harvard!

Larry would tell you to “save your money” but if you do have a little extra “burning a hole in your pocket”, consider making a donation to either the Alzheimer’s Association or First Lutheran Church of Muskegon for the Dar Al Kalima School. He would get a kick out of that.

A Celebration of Life will be held in July, consult the family for details. Arrangements by The Lee Chapel of Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services, 6291 Harvey St, Norton Shores, MI, 49444.



Tribute Wall

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Brad Mcavoy posted:

My condolences to Rosemary and family. It was a pleasure working with Larry at the Ambulance Squad and in the Town Court for several years. Always looked forward to the German Band concerts at the Town Gazebo when he made the sauerkraut and sausages.

May 9 at 4:07 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Lawrence by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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