



Donald Gene LaFave

DEC 14, 1938 - AUG 6, 2024



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Donald Gene LaFave

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Mr. Donald Gene LaFave, age 85, passed away on Tuesday, August 6, 2024 in Muskegon, Michigan. Don was born in Muskegon on December 14, 1938, baptized at Sacred Hart Catholic Church, and graduated from Muskegon Catholic High School in 1957. On June 29, 1963, Don married the former Sally Ann Jacobson. He was a veteran of the United States Air Force and was stationed in Japan during the end of the Vietnam War. Don was employed by the Michigan Department of Corrections as a prison guard for the Brooks Correctional Facility for 17 years prior to his retirement. He had previously been employed by Dresser Industries for 15 years. Don also spent 20 years volunteering for Habitat for Humanity, having helped build 99 homes. He was an avid fisherman and enjoyed hunting. Don was also a talented bowler, throwing three “300” (perfect) games, and was part of several local leagues. He will be missed by his loving wife of 61 years, Sally; two daughters, Shawn (Jeff) Church and Meredith (Joshua Larson) LaFave; six grandchildren, Skylar, Jeffrey Jr., Marley, Savannah, Le-Anna, and Maddox; two step-grandchildren, Jasmine and Hailey; and many nieces, nephews, and great-nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Lawrence and Leola Willis and four siblings, Marge Umlor, Aubrey LaFave, Lola Somerville, and Larry Willis. MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL will be celebrated 11:00 AM Wednesday, August 14, 2024 at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church (239 West Clay, Muskegon, MI 49440) with Fr. Kyle Kilpatrick presiding. MEMORIALS in memory of Don may be directed to Habitat for Humanity. You may sign his online guestbook at www.sytsemafh.com Arrangements by The Lee Chapel of Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services, 6291 Harvey St., Norton Shores, MI 49444.



Events

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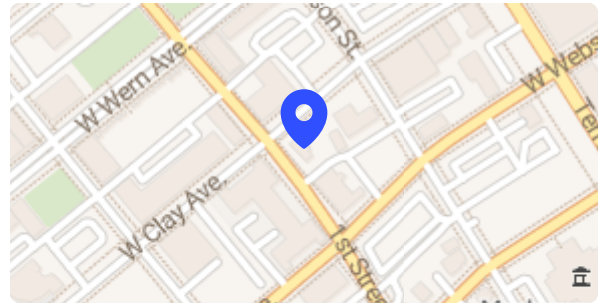
Mass of Christian Burial

 **Wednesday**, August 14, 2024

 11:00 AM ET

 **St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church**

239 West Clay, Muskegon MI 49440





Tribute Wall

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With Love, Wayne, Jan, Brad And Susie sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the LaFave family.



August 12 at 12:41 PM



Emma Jean Vines lit a candle in honor of Donald.

I send my condolences and prayers to Don's family. We worked together at the DOC.Great person and officer. May God's grace and mercy be with you always. 🙏



August 10 at 9:23 AM



Jeff B Holstine lit a candle in honor of Donald.



August 10 at 1:18 AM



Jeff B Holstine August 10 at 1:31 AM

Nobody was funnier than Don and Jim Furham together. Alway's keep everyone laughing. Don also helped me with some work on my house I bought in 1980. As my supervisor he was always there when I needed a print change or some new tooling for a job. Great Memories. RIP my Friend.



Jeff B Holstine August 10 at 1:20 AM

Good Memories of working with Don and a Friendship at Dresser Ind. My Deepest Sympathy to the Family.



Memories only last if you share them

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



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