



Leo Lynn Birgy

August 17, 1945 - June 17, 2013

Leo Lynn Birgy, 67, of South Boardman, succumbed to cancer at his home surrounded by his family on Monday, June 17, 2013. Leo was born August 17, 1945 in Petoskey, the seventh and youngest child of his loving mother Elsie and father Leo Birgy. Leo grew up in the Fife Lake area and married the love of his life Bertha Ann Stone on February 1, 1964. Together they moved to the Detroit area where Leo began his career as a Brick and Stone Mason working for the Brick Layers Union Local #26 and started their family. In 1976 Leo and Bertha moved their family back to South Boardman, and continued to work locally as a Mason, eventually establishing Leo Birgy Masonry working with his nephews and friends, retiring in 2002. Leo enjoyed fishing, hunting, his cabin in Canada, vintage cars and winter get-aways out west with his wife. He found joy in watching sports, especially the "Tiggers." Family was most important to Leo, he loved getting together for family functions and spending time with them. He found joy in helping family and friends in any way he could. He was a man deeply loved in his community because of his smile and generosity. Leo was a loving and generous husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend to many. Leo will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Leo is survived by his beloved wife of 49 years, Bertha Ann Birgy; his loving daughters Kaylynn (Duane) Rickenberg, Barbara (Chris) Birgy Arnold; his brothers and sister-in-laws Gerald & Lillian Birgy, Michael & Margaret Birgy, John & Ruth Birgy, Alan & Kay Birgy; his sweet granddaughter Shelby (David) Moore; and many nieces and nephews. Leo was preceded in death by

his parents Elsie and Leo Birgy and his sisters Beverly Webb and Sharon "Chickie" Melchert. Visitation will be on Friday, June 21st from 2-4pm and 6-8pm, and on Saturday, June 22nd from 10-11am at Kalkaska Funeral Home, 152 S. Cedar St., Kalkaska. A celebration of his life will take place in the Chapel of Kalkaska Funeral Home on Saturday, June 22nd at 11:00 AM. Terry Birgy will officiate. Burial will follow in Boardman Township Cemetery with a luncheon at the American Legion in Fife Lake. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the American Cancer Society or Heartland Hospice. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Kalkaska Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Boardman Township Cemetery

4668 Boardman River Rd SW
South Boardman, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 21. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Kalkaska Funeral Home
152 S Cedar St
P.O. Box 1457
Kalkaska, MI 49646

Visitation

JUN 21. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Kalkaska Funeral Home
152 S Cedar St
P.O. Box 1457
Kalkaska, MI 49646

Visitation

JUN 22. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Kalkaska Funeral Home
152 S. Cedar
Kalkaska, MI 49646
(231) 258-3346

Service

JUN 22. 11:00 AM (ET)

Kalkaska Funeral Home
152 S Cedar St
P.O. Box 1457
Kalkaska, MI 49646

Tribute Wall

 Denise White

“ *Denise White lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy*



Denise White - June 22, 2013 at 08:09 AM

 JS

“ *Jerry And Connie Stone lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy*



Jerry and Connie Stone - June 22, 2013 at 06:42 AM

 JS

Sis, Kay Barbie, Duane, Chris, Shelby and David, and all the Birgy Family. There just isn't enough space or time for anyone to write all the great things that Leo had done for everyone or the memories that he has left in each of our lives. We could write and write and then we will remember something new to share. When we made our last move from South Carolina to Michigan he and Sissy were there to help us. When I was out looking to buy our home up here and couldn't find one in the right price range there was Leo. He and I went to all the Modular home places that he was laying Foundations for and he help me pick out our first home back here in Michigan. Jerry was still in Savannah Ga. and couldn't be here to do this so Leo was my Savior. You will be missed by everyone that knew you and you knew ALOT of people. Love Jerry and Connie

Jerry and Connie Stone - June 22, 2013 at 06:52 AM



my deepest condolences to the Birgy family, he was a wonderful man, he will be deeply missed, and fondly remembered at Ituksum Camp, in Ontario, Canada

Sincerely, Denise White

Denise White - June 22, 2013 at 08:08 AM

“ Uncle Lynn is one of the kindest, most gentle man that I have ever known. He was never critical, but always saw the best in all of us.....always a smile on his face...one that will certainly be missed.

Music has always been such a vital part of my life. The lyrics of "If You Could See Me Now" keep coming back to me.....they put death into very real perspective for the Believer in Jesus Christ.....I can just envision Uncle Lynn saying these words to all of us.....

Verse 1

Our prayers have been answered
I finally arrived
The healing that had been delayed
Is now realized
No one's in a hurry
There's no schedule to keep
We're all enjoying Jesus
Just sitting at His feet

Chorus:

If you could see me now
I'm walking streets of gold
If you could see me now
I'm standing tall and whole
If you could see me now
You'd know I've seen His face
If you could see me now
You'd know the pain's erased
You wouldn't want me
To ever leave this place
If only you could see me now

Verse 2

My light and temporary trials
Have worked out for my good
To know it brought Him glory

*When I misunderstood
Though we've had our sorrows
They can never compare
To what Jesus has in store for us
No language can share,,,,,(chorus)*

Elaine Birgy - June 21, 2013 at 09:52 AM

MB

“ *Mike And Margaret Birgy lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy*



Mike and Margaret Birgy - June 21, 2013 at 09:01 AM

MB

What a loss to this family and to all of his friends. Bert, Kay, Barbie, Duane, and Chris. We love you all and all of our prayers are with you. We are so thankful to have had such a wonderful brother, brother-in-law and Uncle. He will be so missed.

Mike and Margaret Birgy - June 21, 2013 at 09:04 AM

PB

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you Bertha and your family and Leo too, he is with the Lord now and in a much better place, God Bless all of you! Pauline Mottice-Palmer*

Pauline Mottice-Palmer-dear friend of Be - June 20, 2013 at 09:53 AM

KB

“ My thoughts and Prayers are with all of the Birgy Family as they mourn the loss of Leo. I have such fond memories of spending time with the Birgys!! and a good portion of the reason for those fond memories were because of how Leo and Bert always made myself and my son feel so welcome and that we were part of the family. Their love for each other and family and friends and strangers was abundant. Special Hugs go out to Bert with prayers for strength and peace. Also to my very best friend, Kay, who I wish did not have to endure this heartbreak. Love you all. God Bless

Kim Brenneman - June 19, 2013 at 09:11 PM

AS

“ Alice Reber Straughen lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy



Alice Reber Straughen - June 19, 2013 at 09:08 PM

KB

“ Kim Brenneman lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy



Kim Brenneman - June 19, 2013 at 08:48 PM

MO

“ Dearest Bert and Family. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers. Was so happy to see you the last time we met outside the store. Take care dear one! Much love, and of course a hug! Mary (McPherson) Owens.

Mary (McPherson) Owens - June 19, 2013 at 03:06 PM

JS

“ Jenny Soden lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy



Jenny Soden - June 19, 2013 at 02:54 PM

PB

“As a kid growing up, there were so many different Birgy men of my Dad’s age that I simply looked up to and admired. Birgy men that I wanted to be like when I grew up.

Even though many of these men were actually cousins, I always thought of them and referred to all of them as “Dad” or “Uncle”; and that has never changed to this day.

Leo Birgy was one of those men that sat high on a pedestal for me... He was a hard worker, he was a large image in my mind (always has been), he always had cool cars and a presence about him.

I naturally paired my Dad and Leo in the same category because I knew that they were both really good masons and you ALWAYS heard people talk about their quality of work.

They were men who were very similar in character; to that of the occupations they had. Their handshakes also represented them well and knowing that they worked with brick, block, cement and other materials that came from basic elements of the earth; you simply respected where they came from, what they endured in their lives, who they were, what they did and what they created.

Leo was a man, who in my mind, was someone always committed to his trade, his wife, his daughters and his family. My love and respect for him will only continue to grow with a never ending appreciation of who he is. Not only like the workmanship of his craft, he has truly built something with his family that will stand the test of time.

Paul Birgy - June 19, 2013 at 11:02 AM

TD

“ Dear Bert and Family, We wanted you to know that our love and thoughts and prayers are with you at this very difficult time. Leo was a treasure that made all of your lives together better. He will be missed by everybody that knew him.

Love, Tom and Mary Dionne

Tom Dionne - June 19, 2013 at 08:48 AM

TJ

“ Tim and Jade From Ituksum



Tim Jensen - June 19, 2013 at 07:37 AM



“ Sweet Liberty was purchased for the family of Leo Lynn Birgy.



June 19, 2013 at 05:10 AM

TN

“ Tracy (Ziehm) Nichols lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy



Tracy (Ziehm) Nichols - June 19, 2013 at 04:25 AM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Leo Lynn Birgy.* ”



June 19, 2013 at 01:05 AM



“ *Ray & Wanda Capling lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy* ”



Ray & Wanda Capling - June 19, 2013 at 12:20 AM



“ *Tracee Crabtree lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy* ”



Tracee Crabtree - June 18, 2013 at 10:07 PM



“ *Leo Lynn Birgy* ”

Lisa Birgy - June 18, 2013 at 09:20 PM



“ *Cathy Haskin lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy*



Cathy Haskin - June 18, 2013 at 09:05 PM



So sorry for your loss--Ted & Cathy Haskin

Cathy Haskin - June 18, 2013 at 09:05 PM



“ *Holly Larr lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy*



holly larr - June 18, 2013 at 09:04 PM



“ *Heidi (Nyson) Winn lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy*



Heidi (Nyson) Winn - June 18, 2013 at 08:35 PM



“ *So sorry Bert, Kay and Barb to hear about your husband and father. Such a nice person and glen and I had so much fun with u guys, back in our day of kids. Prayers will be with u. Sally, Woodin*

Sally Woodin - June 18, 2013 at 08:05 PM

EB

“ When I was a young man Uncle Lynn got my brother and I permission to bow hunt a piece of private property not far from his house. He would always tell us "if you get one and need a hand come get me". Words I'm guessing he came to regret. He should of watched me shoot before offering that up. Many times I would show up at his house at 8:00 at night to take him up on his offer. He would ask what I shot and I would usually say "not sure but it was a big deer all by itself". That translated to mean we would spend the next 2 hours knee deep in mud walking around a swamp with little chance of finding it. Looking back now I'm sure the last thing he wanted to do after laying blocks all day was to leave his recliner at 8:00 at night and walk around a swamp for 2 hours but that was Uncle Lynn. I don't think he was ever to tired to help someone. One of the greatest men I've had the honor of knowing. Gonna miss him like crazy

Eric Birgy - June 18, 2013 at 08:00 PM

RH

“ Ralph Hall lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy



Ralph Hall - June 18, 2013 at 07:14 PM

RI

“ Randy And Julie Ingersoll lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy



Randy and Julie Ingersoll - June 18, 2013 at 07:13 PM

RI

Your whole family is in our thoughts and prayers. So sorry for your loss.

Randy and Julie Ingersoll - June 18, 2013 at 07:14 PM

PC

“ *Pam Clifford lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy*



Pam Clifford - June 18, 2013 at 05:42 PM

PC

We will miss you Len, and our hearts will ache, but you are at peace now, and in the arms of our Blessed Lord. This is not goodbye, but until we meet again.

Pam Clifford - June 18, 2013 at 05:48 PM

CS

“ *Christine Wedyke Seely lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy*



Christine Wedyke Seely - June 18, 2013 at 04:45 PM

CS

“ *CeCe Strange lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy*



CeCe Strange - June 18, 2013 at 04:18 PM

GD

“ *Gina Demars lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy*




Gina Demars - June 18, 2013 at 03:47 PM

PP

“ *Polly & Wayne Piltz lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy*



Polly & Wayne Piltz - June 18, 2013 at 02:12 PM

 Tammy Birgy

“ *Tammy Birgy lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy*



Tammy Birgy - June 18, 2013 at 01:28 PM

BG

“ *Lynn was one of the kindest men I have ever met. He was always there if he knew there was a need..and his laugh was contagious! I always thought of him as a "quiet lion". Such sweetness and such strength. I will miss him*

Bonnie Gonyer - June 18, 2013 at 01:08 PM

SR

“ Dennis & I are so glad that we knew Lynn. He was a great guy and will be sorely missed by friends and family.

Shirlie Rolston - June 18, 2013 at 01:05 PM

JG

“ I am so sorry to hear of Leo passing. He always had the greatest smile and when he came in Yankee Boy (which was often) it was always a pleasure to see that smile. My thoughts and prayers go out to the entire family. Always a friend. Jan Garrett

Janice Garrett - June 18, 2013 at 12:50 PM

AN

“ Angela lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy



Angela - June 18, 2013 at 12:40 PM

AN

This yellow candle reminds me of the smile you always had on your face, you brought sunshine into any room you entered. I never ever remember seeing you get angry or have cross words for anyone. You were a blessing to have as an uncle and God sees you were a blessing to people in general. You have touched people in their heart and souls in more ways than one can express into words. You were an awesome man that a lot of us looked up to in more ways than one. I am just sorry I could not make it up to Michigan to see you.

Angela - June 18, 2013 at 12:46 PM



“ As I sat here thinking about what to write something’s came to mind. Uncle Lynn always had a smile on his face and a sweet little chuckle. I’ll never forget when Little Jerry was younger and thought Uncle Lynn was his PAPA, the little kids always got them two confused and he would laugh so hard when they realized it. Something else I thought about which might seem a little strange but as I was thinking it made total since to me. I truly can’t think of one of us nieces and nephews who Uncle hasn’t helped build our foundation. FOUNDATION which seemed so minor at the time when we were building our homes but if you really think about it he was a HUGE part of us Building our FOUNDATIONS, our Homes, and our own little families. Thank you Uncle Lynn for always being so caring and using your talents to help us build our FOUNDATIONS in so many ways. We Love you and you are going to be missed more than words can say.

Tammy Birgy - June 18, 2013 at 10:55 AM



“ Tim Juli Newland lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy



Tim Juli Newland - June 18, 2013 at 10:30 AM



“ Nichole Abernethy Demma lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn Birgy



Nichole Abernethy Demma - June 18, 2013 at 10:10 AM

JB

“ JONI ANN BIRGY lit a candle in memory of
Leo Lynn Birgy



JONI ANN BIRGY - June 18, 2013 at 07:43 AM

VH

“ Vern Haley lit a candle in memory of Leo Lynn
Birgy



vern haley - June 18, 2013 at 07:42 AM

 Stacy
Chaffee

“ Stacy Chaffee lit a candle in memory of Leo
Lynn Birgy



Stacy Chaffee - June 18, 2013 at 07:15 AM

RV

Roger & Linda VanPamel

Roger&Linda VanPamel - June 18, 2013 at 07:58 AM



“ Uncle Lynn will be greatly missed by us all...:) He was such a giving man and always had a smile and a little chuckle to share.. I cant think of any of us kids who when we look at our homes wont think of the time and labor he spent putting in our FOUNDATIONS.. HUMMMM the Foundation, the foundation of our homes, and family. Thank you Uncle Lynn you will be truly missed and you are LOVED.... Jerry and Tammy

Tammy Birgy - June 17, 2013 at 10:59 PM



“ So sorry for your loss,he was a great man and friend,I can still hear him say when he was putting in our basement and it was full of water,'Don` t worry,it will be fine"and in the end it was!!We will miss him so much and was so lucky to have made some more great memoirs these last 3 years!! He loved you and was so proud of his family. God got another Angel today!! Good bye my friend. Lajuana (Black-Billett) and Roger Franken



lajuana Franken - June 17, 2013 at 09:47 PM



“ Leo will missed greatly by many. He was a very good man! With a smile I'll never forget. My prayers to the entire family.

Kayla Quillin - June 17, 2013 at 09:31 PM