



Leo Elgain Ruby

May 13, 1943 - October 27, 2016

Leo Elgain Ruby, 73, passed on unexpectedly at home Thursday, October 27, 2016. Leo was born in Pigeon, Michigan on May 13, 1943. In 1957, he and his family, along with his grandparents Nels and Lottie Harder, and his Uncle Claude and Aunt Florence Ruby moved to Kalkaska and bought a dairy farm on M-66. In his youth, Leo was baptized, and in his later years he listened to recorded homilies given by Fr. Norm Dickson of St. Mary of the Woods Parish. Leo graduated in 1961 from Kalkaska High School, and went on to serve in the United States Coast Guard. He spent 25 years as the manager at the House of Pets in Traverse City. He went on to work at Pets and Things in Kalkaska for 8 years, where he learned to operate a mop for the first time. In his retirement years Leo spent most of the growing season gardening and continued to expand his menagerie of pets, including chickens, pigeons, peacocks, doves, pheasants, canaries, finches, fish, frogs and lizards-plus one stray cat taken in to round things out. He gave his surplus fruits, vegetables and eggs to K.A.I.R. (Kalkaska Area Interfaith Resources) the local food bank for the needy. Leo enjoyed fishing on Clam Lake and hunting deer with his good friend Tony Bouchey, his brother Ken and his cousin Joe Reinig. He was known for his good sense of humor and was presented with the WCCW Good Guy Award. Many fond memories will come to mind at the mention of his name. Left to cherish his memory are his brother Ken (Yvonne) Ruby, sister Doloris Ruby (Pat Hayes), uncle Eugene (Shirley) Martin, five nieces; Angela Douglas, Holly Green, Brandy Newburry, Angie Krumm, Nancy

Marsack, nephew John Marsack, and many cousins and friends. Leo was preceded in death by his parents Elgain and Viola Ruby. The funeral will take place on Friday November 4, 2016 at 12:00 pm at the Kalkaska Funeral Home, 152 S. Cedar St., Kalkaska, MI 49646. Fr. Norm Dickson will officiate. Final visitation will begin one hour prior to service and a graveside service will follow at Evergreen Cemetery. Lunch will follow graveside service in the lower level of the Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, those planning on an expression of sympathy may wish to consider memorials in Leo's honor to K.A. I. R. Arrangements entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Evergreen Cemetery

272 West St.
Kalkaska, MI 49646

Previous Events

Final Visitation

NOV 4. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

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

Service

NOV 4. 12:00 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

RA

“ Leo and I were friends in the 1970s, when he lived over the shoe store in Traverse City, and I lived in Grand Rapids. Fishing, and anything about animals, wine making, and partying was Leo's expertise. Visits to his parent's farm in Kalkaska was always special and so familiar, as I am originally a farmer from McBain and Lucas. Leo taught me how to take care of aquarium fish, and his mother taught me how to make rhubarb jam and pie crust. What wonderful people, wonderful memories, and the memories of a lost love.

Roger Allen - December 23, 2018 at 11:20 PM

KS

“ So sorry to hear of Leo's passing. Have so many memories of us kids running around in the Barns and the fields. And setting and watching in the living room all of his fish tanks. As cousins we had a lot of fun. Condolences to the family from Karen RUBY Sowders

Karen Ruby Sowders - November 16, 2016 at 07:23 AM

SP

“ Leo & his family have been my husbands families neighbors since 1957.He has done many random acts of kindness that no one will ever know about and will truly be misses. our thoughts and Prayers go out to Tony, Ken and Dee & their families.. Your neighbors truly care and share your loss

Sarah Peck - November 04, 2016 at 11:09 AM

TF

“ *The Pollen Family purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Leo Elgain Ruby.*



The Pollen Family - November 04, 2016 at 09:01 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Leo Elgain Ruby.*



November 04, 2016 at 08:53 AM

MK

“ *Mike & Tina Reinig and Jackie Kennedy purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Leo Elgain Ruby.*



Mike & Tina Reinig and Jackie Kennedy - November 03, 2016 at 08:36 AM

MD

“ I knew Leo from the house of pets in Traverse City. Many times I brought him doves to sell and some birds he had I bought. He gave me the Kaytee neon sign when house of pets closed. He hand raised a mexican red headed amazon parrot in the shop and I fell in love. Cleo is 26 years old and I still remember the day Leo showed him to me at the store. Leo to me was special in many ways. I will never forget him. And very sad to find that he has passed on. Memories of your kindness and love will live on in my heart forever. I will always miss you. You will not be forgotten. Mark D.

Mark D - November 03, 2016 at 02:16 AM

PP

“ We are so sorry for Leo's family and friends. Unfortunately we did not know Leo well but know that he was surrounded by a wonderful and loving family. We are warmed by learning of his kindness and generosity for the needy. We are sure that Jesus has welcomed him into His Kingdom

Patti and Pete - November 02, 2016 at 07:59 AM

MK

“ Mark & Ruth Musselman And Todd ,Tim,Matt Kolhagen purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Leo Elgain Ruby.



Mark & Ruth Musselman And Todd ,Tim,Matt Kolhagen -
November 02, 2016 at 06:56 AM



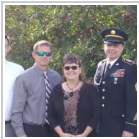
“ Dear Cousin Leo...you were always so caring and funny. You had such a sincere passion for animals (I can relate 😊). We will all miss you greatly. RIP!!! One more for old time sake:
 OOOO-LEEEEE-OOOOOO! ❤️😇
 With much love, Cousin Crazy Mary 😊

Mary Schwarck - November 01, 2016 at 09:34 AM



“ He was well loved and well known for the passion for animals

Crystal Sleight - October 31, 2016 at 09:39 AM



“ 18 years ago this coming December Leo, who had been running House of Pets for 25 years, came to me while I was building my new store and said he wanted to come help me with my store. I told him I could not afford him as he was way to experienced, he laughed and said that was fine he did not want anything anyway he just wanted to stay busy doing what he loved to do. He helped to set lights, mud the ceiling which was not fun, paint and he learned how to mop, he told me once that he had never mopped before me. lol I loved that man. Rip my dear friend.

LaVonne Barber Moon - October 31, 2016 at 09:31 AM