



Lawrence A. "Larry" Spatz Jr

July 14, 1933 - February 24, 2017

SPATZ, Lawrence "Larry" A. Spatz Jr. Age 83, of Kettering, passed February 24, 2017. Larry was born on July 14, 1933 in Dayton to the late Lawrence A. and Corine (Krebs) Spatz. He is preceded in death by his sisters Dorothy (George) Burkhardt, Pauline (Al) Ranz, and Anna Marie (Donald) Ruhl. He is survived by his wife of 61 years Dorothy "Dottie" (Zimmerman); children Doug (Joan) Spatz, MaryLynn (Paul) Scaglione, Sandy (Jim) Wadella and Anita Spatz; granddaughters Michelle (fiancé Bryan Lett) and Amy Scaglione, Jennifer (fiancé Eric Dorsey) and Jordan Wadella; grandson Corey Spatz. Larry was a 1952 graduate of Chaminade High School and was a charter member of St. Charles Borromeo Church. Larry was an active member of the Dorwood Optimist Club where he served as President, Secretary, and Treasurer as well as Lieutenant Governor for State of Ohio Optimist International. He was involved in the Kettering Holiday at Home festival. Larry enjoyed traveling, spending time outdoors and tending his garden. We would like to acknowledge Dr. Steven L. Chambers M.D. for the outstanding care he provided over the years. We would also like to thank the staff in the Heart and Vascular unit at Miami Valley hospital for their care and kindness.

Visitation will be held from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM on Saturday March 4th at St. Charles of Borromeo Catholic Church, 4500 Ackerman Blvd. followed by Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30 AM. He will be laid to rest in Calvary Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Dorwood Optimist Club or Special Olympics of Dayton. Arrangements by Westbrook Funeral Home, 5980 Bigger Road, Kettering, OH 45440. To send a special message to the family, please visit <http://www.westbrockfuneralhome.com>.

Cemetery

Events

Calvary Cemetery

1625 Calvary Drive
Dayton, OH, 45409

MAR **Visitation** 09:30AM - 10:30AM

4

St. Charles Borromeo Church
4500 Ackerman Blvd, Kettering, OH, US, 45429

MAR **Mass of Christian Burial** 10:30AM

4

St. Charles Borromeo Church
4500 Ackerman Blvd, Kettering, OH, US, 45429

Comments



“ Always will remember what a great ambassador he was for the City of Kettering. First met Larry through Holiday at Home. Larry always had a smile. Loved our City, Holiday at Home, his Dorwood Optimist buddies and his beautiful wife. Sorry I can't be with you Larry to say "Good bye" but you are in my thoughts and prayers. Heaven is now a little better place.....Don Patterson, Mayor, City of Kettering.

don patterson - March 02, 2017 at 10:36 AM



“ Dottie, Doug, MarryLynn, Sandy, and Anita,

The loss of a loved one is always a challenging time for any family. I am sure you know your family extended well beyond your home. Larry was a father to many organizations and countless individuals.

You can not tell a story about the Dor-Wood Optimist Club without Larry's name being connected as a main character. His character was impeccable and many, including myself, work hard to live up to the standard he set.

I will never forget how as a new member of the Dor-Wood Optimist Club he took me under his wings and taught me the things I needed to know. He was always envisioning greater things for everyone he and encouraging his friend to reach greater heights.

Larry was doer and boy did he do. He was also one to have great respect for tradition and heritage. He was very confident in his beliefs both religious and secular and he was not shy about sharing his beliefs. With Larry you did not have to guess what he was thinking. We all appreciated and sometimes feared his frankness.

I can not tell you how many times Larry worked miracles to get projects done on time, paper work submitted correctly by the deadline, and countless other strings he would pull to keep Dor-Wood running smoothly.

Larry was a full time volunteer that volunteered overtime as a regular schedule. Larry had so many contacts and so much knowledge in his head that he was the “Google” of Optimism. His contacts were an unmatched resource. Larry did not just know someone, that someone was in Larry's debt for the service Larry had provided in the past so every one of his contacts was willing to help at Larry's request. I never saw Larry call in a favor for himself but he spent his goodwill freely to help his friends.

In the Optimist world Larry was simply referred to as “Spatz” Like the super famous rock stars with only one name, the name “Spatz” throughout the Optimist International organization immediately identifies Larry.

I know that God is able to rest a little more now that his faithful and tireless servant has come home to assist him in heaven. Without the burden of illness I know Larry is busy learning the ways of heaven... for this I am glad and I know that if someday I am fortunate enough to be received into heaven, Spatz will be there to show me the way.

Doug Fritz



“ Our deepest sympathy to Dottie and family. Larry will be missed by many. He was a wonderful, a Optimist friend. Thoughts and prayers are with the family.
With Love and Sympathy,
Sue and Rick Armstong

Sue Armstrong - March 01, 2017 at 03:03 PM



“ They say a life well lived shows not only the good things you did but the lives you touched in a positive manner along the way. Larry Spatz was a role model and mentor to so many people. He was a great listener and a great leader. His legacy will live on for many, many years throughout our community. Thanks Larry, rest in peace – a job well done.
Bruce Duke

bruce duke - February 28, 2017 at 10:47 AM



“ Larry was always a very pleasant person to all. He did not tell anyone how great he was but everyone knew it to be true. It is an honor to have crossed paths with Larry.

Neal Charske - February 28, 2017 at 09:20 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Lawrence A. "Larry" Spatz Jr.



February 27, 2017 at 05:06 PM



“ Our community has lost one of the great ones.

Dorwood has lost one of the best to ever serve

Optimists across this state and country have lost a true pioneer, mentor, a tireless worker and supporter of our community and our youth. Larry loved Dorwood, and Dorwood has always loved Larry.

Many including myself owe so much to Larry for his guidance, support, wisdom and experience. I know of no other individual who has had as much influence as Larry in seeing Dorwood grow and evolve into one of the best service clubs anywhere. Every past president owes Larry a huge debt of gratitude.

I have lost a friend and mentor.

Dottie and family please know that although he is gone physically, his legacy, memories, and good works will live forever in our hearts and minds. He was a good man, and we all thank you for lending him to us for so long.

It has been said that the true mark of a man is that he leaves the places he has touched better for him having been there. Larry is amongst that elite group of folks who have met that challenge.

Farewell my friend,
Marc Jewell

Marc Jewell - February 27, 2017 at 11:20 AM