

George Herman Leonard

January 7, 1939 - February 16, 2016

George Herman Leonard, age 77, passed away on February 16, 2016, after a three year battle with cancer in the home he built in DeTour Village, Michigan. He was born on January, 7, 1939, in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan to Herman and Beatrice (King) Leonard. George's tribal name is Makadewaa Ma'iingan. He was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and a descendent of the Thessalon Band of Ottawa First Nation.

George grew up in DeTour and on Drummond Island, Michigan. He graduated from DeTour High School in DeTour Village, Michigan in 1959. George joined the United States Navy in 1960 where he served for four years with Fleet Tactical Support Squadron 24 based in Morocco, as an Aviation Machinist's Mate, Third Class. Upon completion of his service, he returned to Michigan and shortly after began work for Fisher Body in Flint, Michigan. In 1965 while George was living in Flint, he shoveled the driveway for his snowbound next door neighbor, Angela Burnett. He did such a great job that three months later they were married on her parent's farm in Charlotte, Michigan. They were happily married for 50 years. After leaving Flint, he worked for two years surveying for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, followed by employment at Drummond Dolomite for 19 years. George worked for NOAA as boat captain and surveyor of northern Lake Huron one year and shortly after, he opened two restaurants in DeTour Village, the Point DeTour Café for six years and the

Fogcutter for one season. Finally, George and Angela managed Metivier Inn on Mackinac Island for nine years, retiring in 2005.

George was a renaissance man. He was a naturally gifted self-taught wildlife artist who enjoyed a lifelong passion, working in pen and ink and in pencil and pastels as well as producing wood carvings and decorative gourds. He was also an accomplished carpenter who loved working with wood and over his lifetime built many pieces of furniture, including complete sets of kitchen cabinets for his home and for friends. A true “foodie,” George received great pleasure in cooking for others and volunteered his cooking skills from time to time for fundraisers.

George is survived by his spouse, Angela of DeTour Village; his son, Kevin Philo (Shannon Mulally) Leonard of Holt, Michigan; and his grandson, Finn Philo Leonard. He is also survived by his brother, Philbert (Pangeta) Leonard of St. Ignace, Michigan; sisters, Geraldine (Jim) Huyck of St. Ignace, Leona (James) DeKeyser of St. Ignace, Hermina (Randy) Tatrow of St. Ignace, Diane (Mick) Adams of DeTour, and Sharon (Richard) Socia of Drummond Island; mother-in-law, Ola Burnett of Charlotte; sisters-in-law, Juanita (Kevin) Thorton of Olivet, Michigan, and Carolyn (Edward) Moghtader of St. Joseph, Michigan; and brother-in-law, Dave (Marge) Burnett of Ottawa Township, Michigan; 28 nieces and nephews; nine great nieces and nephews; and many first cousins in Ontario, New York state, and the Chicago area.

George was preceded in death by his father, Herman Benedict Leonard; mother, Beatrice Constance (King) Leonard; father-in-law, Joel Burnett; sister-in-law, Terri Burnett; and two nephews, Daryl DeKeyser and David Huyck.

A memorial service will be held June 18, 2016 in DeTour Village.

Burial will be at Maple Grove Cemetery in DeTour Township, in the spring.

Memorial donations may be made to The George Leonard Memorial Fund at the DeTour Drummond Credit Union, P.O. Box 183, DeTour Village, MI 49725 to be used to build a protective roof for the Philo B. Leonard at the Botanical Gardens in DeTour.

Cemetery Details

Maple Grove Cemetery

E. South Caribou Lake Road
DeTour, MI

Tribute Wall



“ *George Herman Leonard*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *George Herman Leonard*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *George Herman Leonard*

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ *Please accept my family's heartfelt condolences on the loss of your dear loved one. May you find comfort in fond memories, and The Almighty God's promise in the Bible, to restore those asleep in death to perfect life on a paradise Earth.*

Greene Family - February 28, 2016 at 10:12 AM



“ *George Liked to call himself "My old Pa". He and Angie were there for me all through high school and college employing me every summer. Without their support and the hours they gave me at their restaurants I would have never been able to pay my way through college. He was a great man in every way, and will be sadly missed.*

Claire LaPlaunt - February 23, 2016 at 03:48 PM

RC

“ *What a wonderful family to have as neighbors and friends. I still remember when you moved in at the end of Sims street. Cherish the memories and know that we are thinking of you in your time of loss.*

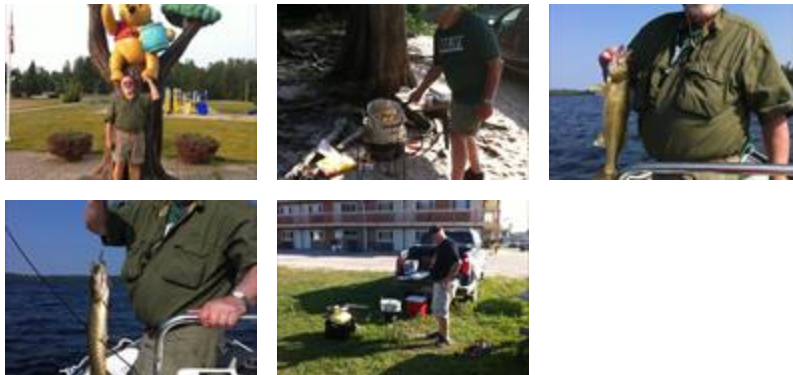
Our deepest condolences to all of you.

Ron and Michele Carlson

ron carlson - February 23, 2016 at 11:32 AM

KL

“ *93 files added to the album George Leonard*



Kevin Leonard - February 23, 2016 at 08:08 AM

BL

“ *All the thoughts and prayers which have been with you so very often during these past weeks will surely continue as you enter these days of transition and letting go. We're so blessed to have met George during his final year with us! -Bob & Gina Livingston*

Bob & Gina Livingston - February 19, 2016 at 11:25 AM