



Leo Walfred Koivisto

March 4, 1920 - April 15, 2015

Leo Walfred Koivisto, age 95, of Rudyard, Michigan, died on April 15, 2015 in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. He was born on March 4, 1920 in Rudyard to Leander and Lempi (Torma) Koivisto.

Leo was born and raised in Rudyard. He married Helmi Perttunen Peterson on December 24, 1941 in Sault Ste. Marie. He served on a glider in the U.S. Army 101st Airborne during World War II, serving in France, Holland, and Belgium. After the war, he lived in the Sault Ste. Marie where he began his family and worked at the tannery for 18 years. Later he worked for Somes Electric dealing with sheet metal and was a construction laborer for many years. In 1971, Leo and Helmi visited Finland for a month and were able to meet 133 family members.

Leo was a member of the St. James Lutheran Church in Rudyard and the English-Wallis VFW Post #79 in Rudyard.

Leo was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, gardening, and cutting wood. He also enjoyed listening to Detroit Tiger baseball games.

He is survived by his wife of 73 years, Helmi Koivisto; three sons, Ronald Dean (Veronica) Koivisto of New Boston, Michigan, Eddy (Janet) Koivisto of

Rudyard, Leo Randall Koivisto of Rudyard; grandchildren, Lisa Pittman, Tina Nilbrzyolowski, Tammy (Keith) Jesue, Christopher Koivisto, Jamie Koivisto, Kelli Koivisto; and great grandchildren, Jeremy Pittman, Keith Jesue Jr., Ava Lynn Jesue, and Shae Scott Piechocinski.

Leo was preceded in death by sisters, Sigrid Hill and Ina Storey; and brothers, Eino, William, Edward, and David Koivisto.

Visitation will be held on Friday, April 17 from 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. and Saturday, April 18 from 11:00 A.M. until 12:00 Noon at R. Galer Funeral Home, 24549 S. M-129 in Pickford, Michigan.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, April 18 at 12:00 Noon at R. Galer Funeral Home with burial to follow at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens.

Cemetery Details

Oaklawn Chapel Gardens

15264 S. M-129
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 17. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Family Life Funeral Homes - Pickford
24549 S. M-129
Pickford, MI 49774
(906) 647-3400
fifh@familylifefh.com
<https://www.familylifefuneralhomes.com/>

Visitation

APR 18. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

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24549 S. M-129
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Funeral Service

APR 18. 12:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Leo Walfred Koivisto*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *Leo Walfred Koivisto*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *Leo Walfred Koivisto*

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ *So sad to hear about the passing of our dear Uncle Leo. We will all cherish the happy memories we have of him. Our deepest sympathies go out to our Aunt Helmi and our cousins and their families. R.I.P. Uncle Leo*

Janice Peterson Sieler - April 19, 2015 at 01:56 PM



“ *Dear Koivisto Family and Friends,
I wasn't privileged with the remarkable acquaintance of Mr.Koivisto as you were,but it saddens me to read of your loss. Please accept my family's sincerest condolences. It brings great comfort to many to know that the Almighty God and Creator promises us in his word the Bible, that soon death, mourning, outcry, and pain will be no more. May you have peace.*

Greene Family - April 19, 2015 at 11:30 AM

JJ

So sad to hear of his leaving our earthly temporary home but he is now in his Heavenly home with other loved ones. Uncle Leo was one of my favorite Uncles. He was a real WW2 war Hero that had been in the worse of the fighting including the Battle of the Bulge. He flew in on a glider and landed behind enemy lines with the 101st Airborne. Uncle Leo was a expert marksmen and a Sergeant .He never talked about all what he went through as many GI's also didn't do so. That is another reason he was one of the many from the Greatness Generation our Country has known. Uncle Leo and Aunt Helmi were married 73 years ,and he is the last of my many Uncles, only Helmi his wife and my Aunt are all that are left from my Dad's family. Thoughts and prayers to Aunt Helmi and there three sons, Randy, Eddy and Ronnie.

John R. Peterson Jr. - April 22, 2015 at 01:51 AM

C(

On June 6th I thought of Mr. Koivisto and the continued sacrifice he made for our country as a glider infantryman in the 101st ABN Division during WWII. As a survivor, not many of his original unit did, he was a true hero of that war. May his soul rest in peace. Grip hands with now though we see not, grip hands with and strengthen our hearts. With deepest sympathy and respect, I send my condolences.

C. Cheeseman, US Army (Ret) - June 15, 2015 at 12:21 PM