



Leon "Elmer" LaJoie

December 3, 1936 - December 15, 2018

Elmer LaJoie, 82, passed away at his home in Barbeau surrounded by family on Saturday, December 15, 2018. He was born on December 3, 1936, to George and Laura (Bergeron) La Joie.

Elmer learned what it meant to put in a full days work on the family farm in Barbeau. Never sitting still for long, he was always willing to lend a hand to anyone in need whether he knew them or not. He would usually have more done by 9:00 a.m. than most people did all day. He graduated from Pickford High School in 1955 then joined the Army. Upon his honorable discharge, he returned home to assist his mother and siblings on the farm. He met and married his first wife, Juanita in 1961 raising four children together.

Upon Juanita's early passing, he met and married Judy Robertson in 1998 and they spent 20 wonderful years together. Elmer was a lifelong member of Holy Family Catholic Church in Barbeau and a member of Knights of Columbus. He retired from Canadian National Railroad in 2002 where he was a bridge operator in Sault Ste. Marie. Upon retirement, he drove for Road to Recovery for years.

Elmer was happiest when he was surrounded by family and friends. Whether playing cards, telling jokes or sharing a meal, he loved to tease and would get a special twinkle in his eyes and put a smile on everyone's face with his sense of humor. He also enjoyed cutting wood, hunting, and fishing but gardening and canning were his passion. Elmer was able to enjoy his last hunting season this year, getting a nice 8 point after a day of "watching the deer put

on a show for him."

Survived by wife, Judy; children, Greg (Cathy), Brent (Libby), Nicole, and Todd; grandchildren, Jordan, Colton, Lauren and Ayva; great-grandson, Ryker; step-children, Steve Robertson, Kim (Bob) Andrews, Todd (Lisa) Robertson, and Troy Robertson; numerous step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren; brothers, Willard, Raymond (Mary Lou), and Bernie (Ruth); brothers-in-law, Chris Borgen and Emery (Sally) Borgen; mother-in-law, Alice Huhtala; numerous nieces and nephews and cousins.

In addition to his parents, Elmer was preceded in death by his first wife, Juanita (Vann) (1997); siblings, Nelson (1996), Eva (1992), George (1984), Oliver (1958), and Madeline (2017); mother-in-law, Rose Borgen (2006); and step-son, Daniel Robertson (1996).

Visitation will be held Thursday, December 20 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home with Mass of Christian Burial at Holy Family Church in Barbeau on Friday, December 21 at 1:00 p.m. with visitation beginning at 11:00 a.m. preceding service. Entombment will be at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens.

Memorial contributions may be made to War Memorial Hospital's Road to Recovery program or Hospice of the E.U.P.

Tribute Wall

BM

“ My dad Basil Rader & I visited Elmer and later had dinner with him and Judy back on 8/8/06. It was the first time I met Elmer & Judy, but my dad talked about Elmer all my life. I had a really nice visit then and wished I had known them well before then. My sincerest condolences to Judy and Elmer's family. I am so sorry I had not known he had passed. I will keep you all in my thoughts and prayers. Beth May

Beth May - February 06, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MN

“ Elmer certainly was a special man! We looked forward to visiting during our annual fall hunting trips. He was a pleasure to be around and he was always willing to help in any way. I can picture in my head that mentioned twinkle and smile as he spoke something clever and funny. My favorites times with Elmer included playing cards, watching him get fired up about something in politics, and listening to entertaining stories of the past. Hunting camp will not be the same without his visits. He will truly be missed.

Michael Nelson - December 19, 2018 at 12:00 AM

GH

“ A kind a generous man who I am proud to have had him as an uncle. Always smiling and a keen sense of humor with an infectious smile. Always welcomed me and my family during our visits. Had a way with little kids that drew them to him. Will never forget "Jekala". Prayers to Greg, Brent, Nicole, Todd and Aunt Judy and all the rest of the family.

Gary Heinzen - December 18, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ A lot of special memories of summer visits spent in the Soo. To many to mention. He was a special man who dearly loved his family. He was kind, gentle, and worked hard to make you smile. I am glad I got to see him this past spring. My deepest sympathy to all the family. I wish we could be there to see him off. Love to all.

Colleen (Knight) and Jim Hall - December 18, 2018 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ So sorry for your loss. Our thoughts are with you and best to all of you.

Thom Sumbler - December 18, 2018 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ I will never forget the twinkle in your eyes, Uncle Elmer

Laura LaJoie Booth - December 18, 2018 at 12:00 AM

WD

“ I'm sorry for your loss. I pray you feel surrounded by loving memories during this challenging time.

Wendy Hartwig Dean - December 18, 2018 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ I'm going to miss Elmer's smile and conversation! Prayers to the family

Linda Johnson - December 17, 2018 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ *I sure am going to miss that big beautiful smile and the sparkle in his eyes. He has been a wonderful uncle, always quick with a joke and even quicker with a hug. He will always hold a special place in my heart. Prayers to my cousins and their families, my Aunt Judy and his three brothers. May God comfort you in the knowledge, heaven is a better place with him in it.*

Suzette LaJoie - December 17, 2018 at 12:00 AM