



Larry J. Wake

June 11, 1954 - September 20, 2014

Larry Wake, a life long resident of Willow Springs, passed away from Leukemia on Saturday, September 20, 2014 while at the Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, he was 60 years old. Larry was born on June 11, 1954 in Willow Springs, to Pleas and Tressie Wake.

Larry lived in Willow Springs his entire life where he was raised by his parents along with 8 brothers and 5 sisters. He graduated from Willow Springs High School in 1972 where he was class President. He received several academic achievements and athletic honors. Larry liked to talk about how many points he scored in his basketball games and all the new school records he broke in track. Every now and then the family would gather around to watch old football films. In fact, in 72, he was all conference first team offensive running back. On June 7, 1975 Larry and Debbie were united in marriage at the First Baptist Church in Willow Springs, and to this union three children were born. Larry worked for Burlington Northern Railroad for forty years as a Welding Supervisor. Larry was baptized at Dry Creek Baptist Church. He was a member and Deacon of the First Baptist Church in Willow Springs. Larry's joys in life were his wife, children, family and close friends. In addition to his love for his family his favorite memories were coaching Logan's youth teams, hunting, gardening, fishing, spending time at the cabin and hunting trips to the Rocky Mountains with his best friend, Mike Coatney. Larry and Mike hunted together, played softball together, raised families together and shared many laughs. Words cannot explain the bond and friendship they will always share.

Larry was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Vera; and three brothers, Delbert, Junior and Dallas; sister-in-law, Donna.

Larry is survived by his wife of thirty-nine years, Debbie Wake; his children, Logan Wake of Willow Springs; Alicia Wake of Kansas City; and Melissa Guster and her husband Robert Guster of San Antonio, Texas. He is further survived by his three grandchildren, Alivia, Shiloh and Braylon. Also surviving are his wife's parents Bob and Jeraline Crudgington. of Willow Springs.

Finally, the entire family to include Larry's 4 sisters (Janie, Sharon, Debbie Betty), 5 brothers (Dennis, Leon, Mike, Paul, and Keith), and many nieces and nephews, want to extend a very special thanks to his baby brother Keith Wake (stem cell donor). In Larry's own words, "We gave it our best shot."

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **23.** 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Willow Funeral Home, LLC
106 E 3rd St
Willow Springs, MO 65793
(417) 469-3141

Service

SEP **24.** 10:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church
402 N Harris Street
Willow Springs, MO 65793
(417) 469-3295
<http://firstbaptistws.org>

Tribute Wall

JB

“ Just found out today about Larry's death. We were classmates from first grade to 12th grade at WSHS. I love the picture you used because it shows his wonderful smile and outgoing personality. He had a great sense of humor and was always fun to be around. Don't know why the good ones have to die so early. My husband of 38 years, Lowell Cross, died August 15, 2018, so I understand the terrible sorrow you are going through. I kept my maiden name so I am still Jeanette Barnett.

Jeanette Barnett - September 22, 2020 at 06:27 PM

AG

“ A wonderful person. James worked under him for several years and Larry was nothing but good to him, James respected him so much and thoroughly enjoyed having him as his boss. May God wrap His arms around the family at this most difficult time.
James and Amy Gayer

Amy Gayer - September 25, 2014 at 10:12 PM

JC

“ Jim Contizano lit a candle in memory of Larry
J. Wake



Jim Contizano - September 25, 2014 at 08:37 AM

JC

“ Larry's smiles, kindness and love for mankind will be greatly missed. Keep smiling in heaven my friend! Jim

Jim Contizano - September 25, 2014 at 08:35 AM

PH

“ *Debbie, we are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers will be with you and your family.*

Leon & Peggy Harris

Peggy Harris - September 24, 2014 at 01:11 PM

MI

“ *"Through the hardest of days,, during his toughest battle,, Larry never strayed from his Strength or Faith and above all,, the Love of his Family".. He was my Friend !! Mike*

Mike - September 23, 2014 at 11:26 PM

TP

“ *My most heartfelt condolences to Debbie and the family.*

I was fortunate enough to have coached Little League baseball with Larry during the summer of 2007.

That year, we won our bracket championship and played in the overall championship game vs Mountain View's all-star team.

Because of Larry, the parents and the boys of 2007, it was one of the best years of my life in the past 20 - something that every man should have the opportunity to experience.

Too often, I have found myself sitting at the services of an acquaintance, a friend, or a dearly departed loved one wondering if they knew of my respect, admiration, or love of them. Sadly, too often, I knew they did not.

Each time one of those individuals passed from this earth, a part of my heart was taken with them, yet, my resolve to become a better man and human being was enhanced - in their honor.

Larry couldn't have known of the depths of admiration and respect that I had for him, for I held him in the highest regard.

They say that we enter this world kicking and screaming while others rejoice and that we leave this world rejoicing while others are left kicking and screaming.

Let us not be so selfish and nearsighted, for this is the Lord's divine plan, which someday we will might come to understand.

We mourn our losses but we should also rejoice in the fact that Heaven is now a bit more fun and colorful place to be.

'PLAY BALL!'

Rest in peace, Larry.

Tom Pringle - September 23, 2014 at 03:13 PM

CP

“ *My deepest condolences to Debbie, Logan and the rest of the family. I always had a great respect for Larry. It is impossible to think back on Dylan's childhood and his sports activities without thoughts of Larry. Will never forget the little basketball team he and Tom coached together along with all the other teams we were involved with that Larry and Logan were part of. You all have a lot to be proud of in the wonderful man that he was while on this earth. His memory will always be honored by more people than you can probably imagine. God bless you all.*

Cheryl Pringle

Cheryl Pringle - September 23, 2014 at 03:12 PM

SB

“ *Debbie and the Wake family, my thoughts and prayers are with each one of you.*



Shari Rogers Brame - September 23, 2014 at 10:26 AM

MF

“ *the ball players used to holler I wub boo to each other all the time, during the movie on our senior prom night they would holler that across the theater at each other, loved his smile*

mary jo franklin - September 22, 2014 at 07:46 PM

CC

“ Always a great guy and classmate. It was an honor to know him and he will be missed by many. Sympathy to Debbie and the family.

Cindy Beavers Crabtree - September 22, 2014 at 06:37 PM

MK

“ Larry was a good man and a good friend to me and the rest of my family. He could always make me laugh harder than just about anyone I knew. I will miss him. My heart and prayers are with all of his family and loved ones. I am praying for the grace and mercy of our heavenly Father to comfort you at this time.

Mary Kellum - September 22, 2014 at 10:54 AM

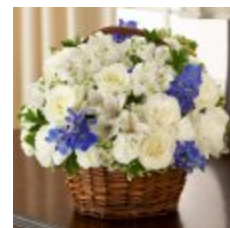
MW

“ I'm sorry for the loss of this great man. He gained much respect from me in march 2005 when he made some phone calls and got me home in order to be with my father as he was battling cancer. Mr Larry always made a point to teach what he knew and never got excited or hurried thru his lessons. He cared for all that worked on the track and he will be missed!

Michael Moe Wilson - September 22, 2014 at 09:36 AM

CS

“ Chemetron Railway Products/Progress Rail Services purchased the Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White for the family of Larry J. Wake.



Chemetron Railway Products/Progress Rail Services -
September 22, 2014 at 09:06 AM