



Lauren Bunke

May 8, 1936 - February 24, 2023

Lauren Elmer Bunke, 86, of rural Holgate, Ohio died peacefully on Friday, February 24th, 2023 at Genacross Lutheran Services- Napoleon Campus with his loving wife by his side. He was born May 8th, 1936 in Florida, Ohio to the late Elmer and Ruby (Guilford) Bunke. On August 30, 1964, he married Mary Ann Meyer at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Hamler, Ohio.

Lauren was a 1954 graduate of Florida High School. He served in the United States Army during the Korean War. When he returned, he worked at Zeller Corporation in Defiance, Ohio until they closed in 2000.

Lauren was the former Zoning Inspector for Flatrock Township, Volunteer Fireman for Flatrock Twp. Fire Department, and served as a Deputy for the Henry County Auxiliary Sheriff Department. He was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Hamler, where he was a member of the choir.

Lauren loved the outdoors and you could normally find him mowing the yard, working in the garden or out in his barn.

He is survived by his loving wife of 58 years, Mary Ann; son, Brad Bunke; and siblings, Roger (Carolyn) Bunke, Sharlene Bunke, and Beverly Bertwell. He was also preceded in death by a brother, Robert Bunke.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, March 1st, 2023 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Hamler, Ohio with Pastor James Fundum officiating. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday from 2-8 p.m. at Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home, Napoleon, where a Fireman's Last Call service will be held at 7 p.m.

Visitation will also be held from 10-11 a.m. on Wednesday at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to Immanuel Lutheran Church or Flatrock Twp. Fire Department.

Online condolences may be left for the family at www.rodembergergray.com.

Cemetery Details

Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery

G983 St Rt 109
Hamler, OH 43524

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 28. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545

Fireman's Last Call Service

FEB 28. 7:00 PM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545

Tribute Wall

DU

“ From the frozen tundra of Korea to fields and forests of war-torn Europe to the jungles of Southeast Asia, from the deserts of Kuwait and Iraq to the mountains of Afghanistan, brave patriots have protected our nation’s ideals, rescued millions from tyranny, and helped spread freedom around the globe. America’s veterans answered the call when asked to protect our nation from some of the most brutal oppression the world has ever known. Military service demands a special kind of sacrifice. The places where you are sent to live and serve bring risk every day. From the time you put on that uniform for the first time, the interests of the nation move to the forefront and define your life. Those duties are shared by family members who make many sacrifices of their own, sometimes bearing the burden of losing a loved one. Service brings rewards as well. There is the pride in developing one’s own character, serving a cause far greater than self-interest. Every person who wears America’s uniform is part of a long, unbroken line of achievement and honor. No single military power in history has done greater good, shown greater courage, liberated more people or upheld higher standards of decency and valor than the Armed Forces of the United States of America. That is a legacy to be proud of and those who contributed to it must never be taken for granted. To honor our veterans, we must keep the promises we have made to them. We must care for those who have been injured in the service of our country. We must honor and remember those who have died. And we must remember those whose fate is still undetermined. We fly the Prisoner of War flag on Veterans Day for a reason, to show that this nation will not relent until we have accounted for every one of our missing Americans. Thank you for your service. Thank you for all that you have sacrificed for this great nation. Thank you for being the backbone of America.

BG (Retired) Mark W. Lee, USA

Dr. Mark Lee, BG (Retired) USA - March 01, 2023 at 08:43 AM

JY

“ Brad and Mary Ann, sending deepest sympathy, hugs and prayers.
Jodi Young / zti

Jodi Young - February 28, 2023 at 09:18 PM

LK

“ Sympathy to the Bunke family, especially Sharlene, who I got to know in our late teens. Both Sharlene and Beverly are friends through LWML. God's love, comfort, and peace as you mourn your loss.

Lillian Keller - February 28, 2023 at 03:06 PM

SG

“ Our sympathy to you and Brad, Mary Ann! We are in Florida now but will keep you in our prayers!

scott and Rickie Guilford - February 27, 2023 at 07:52 PM

DC

“ In loving memory of my 2nd. cousin, 1x removed. (Guilford)

Dan Coleman - February 26, 2023 at 08:35 AM