



Lester F Kruse

August 6, 1931 - March 7, 2018

Lester F. Kruse

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Rushing into the arms of his personal Savior, Lester F. Kruse passed from this life after a brief illness at the CHP Inpatient Hospice Care unit in Defiance, Ohio. Though his ties to his beloved family were strong, he now safely reclines in the arms of Jesus and His grace and love.

Lester was born to George Kruse, Sr. and Rufina (Buchhop) Kruse in his family's home. He was a baptized and confirmed member of Emanuel Lutheran Church in Napoleon. He married Marilyn (Dickman) Kruse, his wife of 66 years, on November 24th, 1951 at Emanuel as well.

He served as a proud member of the United States Army at Camp Polk, Louisiana, during the Korean Conflict and is a member of American Legion Post 300. He served in various capacities in the car industry after, but spent most of his working career as Parts Manager at Wood's Auto Supply, now Napa Auto Parts, Napoleon. He proudly worked as a greeter at Rodenberger Funeral Home for the past six years.

Lester's first love was his family and he enjoyed attending sporting and other extracurricular activities of his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. An avid fan of various sports, he followed the Napoleon Wildcats, Detroit Tigers and Detroit Lions from an early age. Anyone who knew Lester also was well aware of his love for the Ohio State Buckeyes. Saturdays and Sundays in his home were always filled with the sounds of sportscasters from radio or television covering his favorite teams. He also enjoyed coaching Little League baseball and spent many seasons inspiring young boys, including all of his grandsons, as they played for the Orioles Little League Team. Until recently, he occasionally helped keep stats for his great grandson's baseball team.

Lester was a lover of all kinds of music. Whether it be an old familiar Lutheran hymn, or the lyrics of a popular German waltz or polka...to the musical lyrics of 'Fiddler on the Roof' or to the popular songs of the times, you could hear his beautiful singing voice in unison with the radio or a popular YouTube video. Up until quite recently, you might hear his voice as he sang on a Sunday morning church service at Emanuel Lutheran.

His love for music was also reflected on the dance floor. He had a keen sense of rhythm.

When he danced with his wife, Marilyn, they would glide across the floor as others watched uniquely timed dance moves.

Surviving are his wife, Marilyn, and his children: Rick of Maumee, Ohio; Randy (Lisa) and Lisa (Terry) Funchion, both of Napoleon. In addition, he leaves behind seven grandchildren: Benjamin and Trevor Kruse, Courtney, Sara, and Jordan Kruse and Ryan (Hannah) and Jenna Funchion; and great-grandchildren Caden, Camiren Kruse, Trey Allen, Kayne Kuhlman; and Jack and Evie Funchion.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, George, Jr., and his two sisters, Elaine Johnson and Joan Cobb.

Funeral Services for Lester will be held Saturday, March 10 at 11:00 AM at Emanuel Lutheran Church. Visitation will be held at Rodenberger Funeral Home, Napoleon on Friday March 9 from 2:00-8:00 PM and Saturday from 10:00-11:00 at Emanuel Lutheran Church.

Lester's final resting place will be at the Riverview Memorial Gardens, Defiance, Ohio. The family suggests memorial donations be made to Emanuel Lutheran Church or CHP Hospice.

Online condolence may be made at www.rodenbergerfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **9**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Napoleon Funeral Home
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545
(419) 592-2333
help@rodenbergergray.com

Visitation

MAR **10**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Emanuel Lutheran Church
Napoleon, OH 43545

Service

MAR **10**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Emanuel Lutheran Church
Napoleon, OH 43545

Tribute Wall

DF

“ Sorry for your loss. He will always be in our hearts and he will be forever loved.

Dora Tucker and family - March 18, 2018 at 10:22 PM

BF

“ So sorry to hear of Lester's passing! He was such a good man! My thoughts and prayers are with the entire Kruse family.

Betty Fahy - March 12, 2018 at 07:21 PM

GS

“ So sorry to hear of Lester's passing. My thought's and prayers to all of the family. I grew up across the street from Lester and his family and I always remember Lester as a gentleman.

Gail Sloan - March 09, 2018 at 09:36 PM

PM

“ Trevor and Family - I am sorry for your loss. You will be in my prayers.

Pam McVaney - March 09, 2018 at 03:36 PM

KK

“ Very sorry for your loss.

Kevin Kowel - March 09, 2018 at 03:31 PM

AK

“ Randy and Lisa, So sorry for your loss.



Alice and Mel Kleman - March 09, 2018 at 01:44 AM

BK

“ Dear Rick and Kruse family,
We are saddened to hear about Lester's passing. He will certainly be missed. You are all in our thoughts and prayers at this time.
Peter and Becky (Huber) Kellum

Becky Kellum - March 08, 2018 at 09:28 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Lester F Kruse.*



March 08, 2018 at 09:15 PM

LC

“ *Love Curtis and Robert Cobb. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Lester F Kruse.*



Love Curtis and Robert Cobb. - March 08, 2018 at 07:52 PM

NL

“ *Napoleon Senior Little League purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Lester F Kruse.*



Napoleon Senior Little League - March 08, 2018 at 04:52 PM

LS

“ *Love, The Whiteheads, Schaefers, and Steeles purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Lester F Kruse.*



Love, The Whiteheads, Schaefers, and Steeles - March 08, 2018 at 11:36 AM

SK

“ *Sue Kruse purchased the Amazing Arboricola for the family of Lester F Kruse.*



Sue Kruse - March 08, 2018 at 09:17 AM

LF

“ Lana Faber lit a candle in memory of Lester F Kruse



Lana Faber - March 07, 2018 at 10:39 PM