



Jerry W Erskine

April 30, 1931 - December 16, 2023

Jerry W Erskine, 92, passed away Saturday, December 16, 2023, at his home in Lebanon.

Jerry W Erskine was born April 30th, 1931, at home in Hemlock, Michigan to Clyde and Phyllis (Speath) Erskine (both deceased). Jerry attended a one room grade school and graduated with 4 girls in his class. He attended Hemlock High School and graduated with 31 classmates in 1949. During his high school years, he showed his Grand Champion Golden Gurnsey cow, Ruby, at the Saginaw County Fair and the Michigan State Fair in Lansing, Michigan.

After graduation, Jerry worked at the Buick car factory in Flint, Michigan for one year and then on the family dairy farm with his father until March 18th, 1951, when he enlisted in the US Navy doing his boot camp training at Great Lakes Naval Training Center. He was then stationed at Patuxent River Naval Air Station in Maryland where he was part of the Navy Boxing Team and was the Light Heavyweight Champion of the Patuxent River Naval Command.

On October 31st, 1953, Jerry married Marjorie Jane Stoner of Butler, PA. The next two years Jerry spent sailing to exotic places while Marge worked at home stashing away funds to buy their first home. After being Honorably discharged on March 18th, 1955, Jerry and Marge settled in Meridian, PA – a

little town just outside of Butler, PA. Jerry worked for John Tack Concrete Company and then for Pullman Standard Car Company painting railroad cars.

In 1956, with a little encouragement from family members and using the GI Bill, Jerry registered for college at Penn State University at State College, PA in the School of Vocation Agriculture. With the help of Marge, who taught him that "I ain't got no" was not proper English, and between setting up trailer homes in the trailer park where they lived, and studying into the dark of night, Jerry graduated with a BS in Science and a teaching degree in Vocational Agriculture after only 34 months of steady classes.

Upon graduation Jerry accepted a job with Wickes Lumber in Elkhorn, Wisconsin. In 1961 Jerry was promoted to Assistant Manager of the Wickes store in Galesburg, Illinois where he became Manager in 1963. Records would show that he ran a very neat profitable operation and in 1967 was promoted to District Sales Manager traveling the states of Illinois and Indiana. In 1968 Jerry became Regional Credit Manager for Wickes covering the states of Indiana, Kentucky, Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

In 1978 Jerry retired from the Wickes organization to start a construction company with long-time friend, Don Brown. During that time, his company constructed homes in Lebanon, Zionsville, Bloomington, Indianapolis, and surrounding towns. Project of note in Lebanon include Markel Meadows subdivision, the Parkwood Nursing Home, and Tom Temple Hall at the Methodist Children's Home. Other projects were the first solar home in Boone County and centerpiece Homes at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in 1980 and 1981.

Hard times hit the housing industry in 1980 causing problems for home builders, but Jerry took hold of a minor entity of their firm, Laminique – a plastic laminate cabinet shop – and turned it into a thriving enterprise. Starting

with one man and a saw, the company grew to one of the area's best equipped laminate cabinet shops which he and Marge sold in 2002.

In his remaining years he spent hours and hours working for his favorite organization, Rotary. He was a 43-year member of The Rotary Club of Lebanon – being very proud of the fact that he had perfect attendance for the bulk of the time. Jerry was President of the Lebanon Rotary Club in 1989 – 1990, a Group Study Exchange Team Leader to India in 1996, and District Governor in 1999 – 2000. His motto was “Just Say Yes.” During his year as Governor, he increased annual funds giving 136.35% by encouraging his fellow Rotarians to save quarters in film canisters – a system that was copied by several District Governors around the Midwest the following years. Jerry and Marge travelled to 18 Rotary International Conferences which took them to 33 countries.

Jerry's siblings: James (Dorothy) both deceased, Kenneth (Barbara) both deceased, Carol Wheatley (Ron, deceased), Daniel (Jan, deceased), Alice (Bill) Frolo, Larry (Kathy), Lois (Henry) Aumaugher, and Shirley Fink (deceased).

He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Marjorie, and Children: Valerie, Victoria Edwards, Mark (Debi, deceased), Kim, Kathy (Dennis) Pike; Grandchildren: Tyler (Katie) Edwards, Austin Edwards, Rebekah (Thomas) Martin, Alyssa (Colton) Cross, and Cameron (Katelyn) Pike; Great grandchildren: Taylor, Nicoli, Peyton, Chloe, Gabriel, Rayce, Lochlan, Wyatt, Avery, and Lady Jane.

The past few years when he is not working on his latest Rotary project of making Lebanon – The Cleanest City in Indiana, you could find him working in what his grandsons called Grandpa's Monster Garage or sitting on his deck watching the golfers as they putted on the number 3 and 7 of Ulen Golf

Course. Now he is working in another shop, but expect he has his eye on #3 and #7 greens.

Memorial Services are planned for 12:00 noon on Saturday, December 23, 2023, at Myers Mortuary, 1502 North Lebanon Street in Lebanon, Indiana. Visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. until the time of services.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be directed to the Rotary Club of Lebanon, P.O. Box 42, Lebanon, Indiana 46052 or to the Boone County Senior Services, 515 CrownPointe Drive, Lebanon, Indiana 46052

Cemetery Details

St. Joseph Cemetery

935 East Washington Street
Lebanon, IN 46052

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **23**. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Myers Mortuary
1502 North Lebanon Street
Lebanon, IN 46052
(765) 482-0620
office@myersmortuary.com
<https://myersmortuary.com/>

Memorial Service

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Tribute Wall

CP

“*Marjorie, my family and I so appreciate the multiple kindnesses you showed to our parents, James and Rosemary Evans. My brother, Carl, has described one such kindness below, but there were so many others. You were both the "angels across the street." Your smiles and warmth were, and are, uplifting to all who know you.*

Christine Page - August 25, 2024 at 12:49 PM

JT

“*My sister Patti used the word ‘Legend’ when describing Jerry. It is a fitting word, and deserves the capital L. He always had a smile and an encouraging word for me in my younger days. He asked me questions that made me think and de facto grow up to prepare me to take on the responsibilities of life. He twisted my brain with riddles that made my grey matter matter. Rest in Peace, my cousin. You made a difference.*

Jeffrey Tiberi - January 01, 2024 at 05:21 PM

CE

“*Jerry was a wonderful man. He helped my father and neighbor, James Evans, whenever Dad could not do something himself. This included assistance in moving all of Dad and Mom's clothes from the car to the house when Dad decided after 4 days at Sunrise Retirement home that he didn't like it! I am sorry for your loss Marge. You two were the best!*

Carleton J Evans - December 28, 2023 at 02:18 PM



Michele Threlkeld

“ Dear Marge, Vicki, Valerie and all your family,
I was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Jerry. My most poignant memory of him was when I was about 35 and in the midst of my career teaching French. He offered me a most enticing opportunity to spend a year abroad studying and enriching my experience and skills in French which would have benefited me personally and my students by extension. I would have loved to accept his invitation, but the timing was not right for me as my y children were still too young. I have always admired your family and felt close to you in faith and spirit. You have my most sincere condolences and I wish you all the blessings of peace and consolation in the Lord Jesus.
Yours in faith and love,
Michele Threlkeld

Michele Threlkeld - December 23, 2023 at 10:34 PM

JS

“ Jill S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jerry W Erskine.

Jill S. - December 23, 2023 at 08:25 AM

GH

“ Jerry and I had good discussions about his Indy Honor Flight. We enjoyed an Indy Honor Flight Veterans' Reunion together. Thank you for your service, Jerry.

Gordon J Husk - December 21, 2023 at 10:28 AM

TG

“ The Branum Grandchildren planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jerry W Erskine.

The Branum Grandchildren - December 20, 2023 at 05:20 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Jerry W Erskine.



December 20, 2023 at 05:20 PM



“ I find it difficult to use the word Jerry 'was'. The man was like an Everready bunny that 'keeps going and going'. He was District Governor when I was club President of Indy East Rotary. Always a positive energy he operated a chain saw clearing fallen trees in the aftermath of the Henryville tornados about 10 years ago. Central Indiana and especially Lebanon lost an outstanding servant. Well done Jerry. Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted. With his contributions to Rotary, Lebanon and many communities throughout the world will reap benefits for decades to come.

Don Henley - December 20, 2023 at 03:25 PM



“ John D. purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Jerry W Erskine.



John D. - December 20, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jerry W Erskine.



December 19, 2023 at 08:11 PM



“ Christian Celebration Center planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jerry W. Erskine.

Christian Celebration Center - December 19, 2023 at 11:44 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Jerry W Erskine.



December 19, 2023 at 11:44 AM



“ I am so very sorry to read of Jerry's passing. My parents enjoyed so many good times with Marge and Jerry. Extending prayers for strength and acceptance to all the family. Holding you all close.
Sally

sally Lenox Quick - December 19, 2023 at 09:46 AM

PT

“ I am so sorry to hear that Jerry has passed. I know the past few years have been difficult for him. A legend has left us. Love and prayers to you all. 🙏💕 . Patti Tiberi

Patti Tiberi - December 19, 2023 at 08:42 AM



“ so sorry to hear of the passing of Jerry.....
GOD be withe family now and in the hard days to come... Bill and Linda Stuteville



Linda Stuteville - December 19, 2023 at 08:19 AM

JT

“ Jerry was a stallworth in our extended family. His crisp and clear keen eyes missed little in the twists and turns of this large group of first and second generation Italian Americans who grasped the American dream with gusto. Jerry gave much guidance to me over the years with good questions and penetrating observations that helped me in my personal and professional life. He was most kind and very gracious, and will be missed terribly. Rest in Peace, Cousin. Your life made a difference in many ways. Peace be with you. Jeffrey Tiberi and Family

Jeffrey Tiberi - December 18, 2023 at 10:39 PM

KL

“ Marg and family, I am so sorry for the loss of Jerry. He was a very community oriented man and gave a lot to our community. He will be missed. Prayers to the family.

Karen Lasley - December 18, 2023 at 08:01 PM

LK

“ Love, Mary, Mark and Annie Kenline planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jerry W. Erskine.

Love, Mary, Mark and Annie Kenline - December 18, 2023 at 05:13 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Jerry W Erskine.



December 18, 2023 at 05:13 PM