



## Larry Max Wattenbarger

May 17, 1947 - October 5, 2023

Larry Max Wattenbarger, age 76, of Brookfield, MO; passed at home on Thursday, October 5, 2023 surrounded by his loved ones after a brave battle with Congestive Heart Failure.

Larry Max Wattenbarger was born May 17, 1947 in Cora, MO; to Raymond Jay and Dorothy Evelyn (McClaren) Wattenbarger. He attended Brookfield High School where he excelled at football, earning many local, district, and state awards. Larry enjoyed riding motorcycles with his friends and being a dare devil, scaring years off his mother.

Larry graduated in 1965 and went on to attend Northeast MO State for 2 years before deciding to pursue a career as a boilermaker. Larry was a member of the Boilermaker International Local #83 in Kansas City, MO where he was known to his brothers and co-workers as "Greasy".

While working in Sioux City, IA he met the love of his life, Donna Marie Lulf. Donna knew from the moment she saw him he would make a good dad, as a group of kids were using him as a jungle gym. They were wed on September 11, 1971 in Jefferson, SD. They had three children, Paul, Jeri, and Daniel and settled in Laclede, MO. While living in Laclede, Larry served on the city council for many years.

Larry had a passion for the outdoors, hunting, building things, 3D Archery, trout fishing, shooting firearms, and spending time with his family, including being a Boy Scout leader. After retiring from the Boilermakers, Larry became the Transportation and Maintenance Director at Brookfield R-III School District for many years.

When he retired from the school, "Papa Larry" enjoyed watching the grand kids and would entertain them with SpongeBob, golf cart rides, and four-wheeler rides. He passed on his knowledge and passion of archery, firearms, fishing and hunting to all of them. As they grew, he reveled in watching all of the sporting events, dance performances, scout activities and school performances. He was one proud Papa. He would talk your ear off about all his kids, grandkids and great grand kids. The favorite tradition that started in 2006 was taking a yearly trip to our "happy place" Bennett Springs with all the grandkids. In 1999 Larry converted to the Catholic faith which he attributed to his mother-in-law's faith that inspired him. He quickly joined the Knights of Columbus where he obtained his 4th Degree. During his time as a Knight, Larry held the offices of Grand Knight, Treasurer for

4th Degree, and Sergeant of Arms.

Larry is survived by his wife Donna of Brookfield. Son, Raymond Paul Wattenbarger and Fiancé Mindy Bibles of Springfield, MO. Daughter, Jeri Cain of Perryville, MO. Son, Daniel and wife, Christian Wattenbarger of Brookfield, MO. One sister, Janice (Bill) Duvall of Brookfield, MO. Eight Grandchildren: Maison(Julie) Cain of Downing, MO; Tyler(Shelby) Wattenbarger of Laclede, MO; Sydney(Tanner) Cain-Apel of Perryville, MO; Jacob Wattenbarger of Springfield, MO; Samuel Cain of Olive Branch, IL; Karli Wattenbarger of Brookfield, MO; Jackson Wattenbarger of Moberly, MO; and Danik Baker of Brookfield, MO. Two great grandchildren: Aubrey and Willow Wattenbarger of Laclede, MO.

Larry was preceded in death by his parents; Father In-law, Don Lulf, Mother In-law, June Lulf; brother, Darrell Wattenbarger; brother In-law, Donnie Lulf; sister In-law, Sue Lulf; and sister In-law, Deb Lulf.

Visitation for Larry will be from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at the Immaculate Conception Church in Brookfield, MO. Rosary will begin at 10:00 am on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at Immaculate Conception Church with the Funeral Service to follow at 10:30 am. with Father Kenny Lulf officiating. Graveside will be at St. Michael's Cemetery, Brookfield, MO.

Memorial donations are suggested to the Immaculate Conception Cemetery Fund and can be left at or mailed to Rhodes Funeral Home, 216 Linn Street, Brookfield, MO. 64628.

Online condolences can be made at [www.rhodesfh.com](http://www.rhodesfh.com)

Arrangements are under the Direction of Rhodes Funeral Home, Brookfield, MO.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Michael's Cemetery

Park Circle Drive  
Brookfield, MO 64628

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 10. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church  
313 N. Livingston  
Brookfield, MO 64628

## Rosary

OCT 11. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church  
313 N. Livingston  
Brookfield, MO 64628

## Funeral Service

OCT 11. 10:30 AM (CT)

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church  
313 N. Livingston  
Brookfield, MO 64628

# Tribute Wall

BH

“ Donna, Paul, Jeri, Daniel and family,

*I am so sorry to hear the news. I have fond memories of all the times I shared with you guys starting back in 1968 when Darrell first introduced me to Larry. He was a hard working all-around great family guy who would do anything to help you when it was needed. I know you will miss him a lot but glad you all got to spend time with him in the last few weeks even though they were rough. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this sad time.*

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**Barb Harris** - October 07, 2023 at 09:48 AM

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“ Donna and Family,

*I have fond memories of Larry and am so sorry for your loss. You are in my prayers. Bert*

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**Alberta Kunkel** - October 07, 2023 at 09:19 AM