



# Laurens Peter Ruiter

AUG 18, 1954 - JUN 23, 2013



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## Laurens Peter Ruiter

AUG 18, 1954 - JUN 23, 2013

**L** aurens “Larry” Peter Ruiter , the second most interesting person in the world, died Sunday, June 23 at 2:28PM at Beebe Medical Center from complications that occurred during a surgery. He was 58.

Larry was a pipe fitter for over 25 years at Fluor, rising to the ranks of superintendent until he discontinued due to health issues. The remaining years of his life, he was known for riding his bicycle and motorcycle all over Sussex County and making grand schemes for retirement. One of those schemes was a 36-foot sailboat, which he was working on in Wilmington, N.C. where his girlfriend Suzanne lived.

His latest scheme was to sell the sailboat and buy a trawler, since there was “more moving space in the trawler.”

He lived with his stepson, Brian, a permanent supply of cat food on his porch for about a dozen stray cats, two dogs and an open door to his step-son’s friends, providing them with counsel and shelter.

He liked to visit the beach without a towel or chair, saying that one of the best gifts he ever received were the bifocal sunglasses from his brother. Not much for fashion, he always carried around his cigarettes and a big gulp drink, wearing out-of-place European-style shoes and a necklace and wristband that were gifts from his mother and sister, respectively.

Laurens “Larry” Peter Ruiter was born August 18, 1954 in Holland. The oldest of his brother and sister, he was 2-years-old when his father and mother immigrated to Newport, Del.

He loved to take walks with his friends at Banning Park and White Clay Creek growing up, playing a made-up game they called “bridge rush.” A Grateful Dead fan, he and his brother fought over which albums were theirs.

Riding around in his truck, cooler in hand, Larry drove painstakingly slow to his younger peers and listened to music that matched the tempo of his driving as well as



## Obituary

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blues and classic rock, ranging from Marvin Gaye to Buckwheat Zydeco. He disliked going to the movies, as it was “so loud I can hear it in my chest” and would sometimes take a moment to tell a young man to “pull their damn pants up.” He wasn’t much for taking the path most taken; he was rich without having money, loved to watch “Alice in Wonderland” (the original), couldn’t understand the premise of watching a movie to get scared, was a connoisseur of cheese and food in general, knew how to tease someone and was-is-many things to many people. He is a cousin’s father, a dad and mom’s brother, a grandfather’s son, a man’s best friend and a woman’s man.

For some people, their lives are spent sweating the small things; for him, it was spent enjoying them.

He is survived by a brother, stepson and father, among other family members.

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, June 29, 2013 at 11:00AM at Selbyville Volunteer Fire Company, Inc., 30 N. Main Street, Selbyville, DE 19975.

Check your tie at the door. Formal attire will not be allowed.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions may be made in Larry’s name to Gift of Life, 401 North 3rd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123.

Arrangements are being handled by Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium, Clarksville Chapel, Ocean View, DE.

Please sign Larry’s online guestbook at this site.

PDF Printable Version




## Events

**Laurens Peter Rüter**

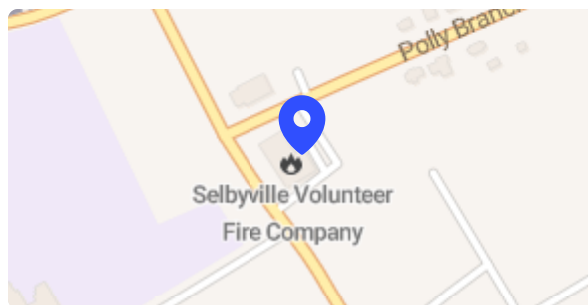
AUG 18, 1954 - JUN 23, 2013

### Funeral Service

 **Saturday**, June 29, 2013

 11:00 AM ET

 **Selbyville Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.**  
30 N. Main Street, Selbyville DE





## Tribute Wall

**Laurens Peter Ruiter**

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BW

**Bethany White** posted:

Uncle Larry, 9 years have gone by since you left us, but you still weigh heavy on my mind. Reading your obituary, I smile and cry at the same time. Jason was spot on in memorializing you. I long for the days when we would sit on the front porch drinking moonshine, reminiscing about the "good ole days." You always had the BEST stories! My favorite was the "devil dog" story during yours and Lenny's Grateful Dead days. You were certainly a character. On one of our trips to Ocracoke, Brian and I were complaining because you refused to turn on the radio. You wanted to "enjoy the ride." Getting tired of hearing us whine, you put Jimmy Buffet's "Cheeseburger In Paradise" on repeat for 4 hours just to get your point across, lol. God, I miss you! As a busy teenager trying to navigate my way through life, I tried to avoid our conversations about my "lifelong goals" as I had absolutely no idea what path I was going to take and I didn't want to disappoint you. Now, I would give anything in the world to hear you say, "Sit down girl, tell me what you're gonna do with your life." Losing you left a huge void in my heart that I'm not sure will ever be filled. I will forever miss your laughter, your advice and your hugs. I miss our trading of books, our Buffalo Chicken Pizza nights, our sand dollar excursions and our Anthony Bourdain marathons. You truly were one of a kind. I hope you know how much you were loved. My heart misses you everyday.

December 2 at 6:08 PM

RB

**R.J.Baker** posted:

Hey Larry!!!!!! Miss ya my friend.

August 1 at 1:26 PM

DJ

**Dave Johnson** posted:

Known Larry since we were kids in kindergarten and throughout school together. Always a nice guy. Very sad to hear of his passing.

July 2 at 8:00 PM

CP

**Casey Pijl** posted:

Harry,I am so sorry for your your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you.Casey

June 29 at 8:00 PM



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WH

**Wilhelmina A Hedrich** posted:

Skip and I send you our heartfelt condolences. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. As always your cousin and Skip.

June 29 at 8:00 PM

JG

**John G** posted:

Worked at Fluor (Daniel) with Larry for a decade . Laid back, a great guy. RIP "Ruiter"

June 27 at 8:00 PM

JS

**Jack Spence** posted:

Gonna miss my crabbing Buddy. Who is gonna drive Gary's boat now.

June 27 at 8:00 PM

MH

**Marnette O'neill Hurt** posted:

I never knew you were born in Holland. RIP, Larry.

June 27 at 8:00 PM

MC

**Michael Connolly** posted:

May you RIP.

June 27 at 8:00 PM

DD

**Dave Deputy** posted:

I've known Larry for 40+ years and he has been a part of most every major event in my life. Larry was his own person, a great guy, and his sense of humor will be missed. Anyone that knew Larry was better for it.

June 26 at 8:00 PM



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MO

**Michael Oei** posted:

A friend to us all, we will miss him deeply.

June 26 at 8:00 PM

MH

**Mary Jo And Bill Hoffman** posted:

With deepest sympathy for the family. Larry was one of the most unique people we have ever known and are happy to call him Friend.

June 26 at 8:00 PM

FD

**Felix Van Driem** posted:

Words fail me. I already miss him.

June 26 at 8:00 PM

WA

**Wayne L Alphin** posted:

Lawrence and I grew up together many many years ago. He Scott and myself made an interesting trio of young boys trying to learn the ways of life. Lawrence and I started our journey in first grade and went our own way by the time we were 30. Lawrence and I had planned to tour Europe when we graduated but I fell in love with a young woman and the trip fell through. Lawrence was my best man and even though we didn't continue seeing each other, is still considered my best friend. I will miss his unique smile and humor and perspective of life.

June 26 at 8:00 PM

PV

**Patricia In 'T Veld** posted:

My dearest cousin Larry had such a big heart and just this heart failed him. I will carry you in MY heart for ever.p.s. Please keep on teasing me from heaven.

June 26 at 8:00 PM

CM

**Charlie Marvil** posted:

The Best!

June 26 at 8:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

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DN

**Daphne Van Noordt** posted:

Potverdorie Laurens, dat was niet de afspraak. Als jullie met pensioen zouden zijn, zouden we de alternatieve route 66 gaan rijden. Jij, Bart, Abel en ik. En nu piep je er tussen uit. Voor je vader, je broer, je stiefzoon, je vriendin, je neven en nichten is het onverteerbaar maar ik hoop dat je een warm welkom hebt gekregen van Sue en tante Maja. Dikke zoen, Daphne

June 26 at 8:00 PM

SO

**Steve Owens** posted:

What a great person to have known. Larry never met a stranger that I know of. Always the first to help out and never expected a favor for his friendship. I will miss him.

June 26 at 8:00 PM

BN

**Barry Neal** posted:

Larry could find humor in everything. He gave some much to many and asked so little from any.

June 26 at 8:00 PM

HM

**Howard Mitchell** posted:

I worked with Larry at Duponts chambers work site. He was one of the most laid back person I had the pleasure to know. He always had a kind word. He always had a smile no matter what adversity faced him. I just wish I had more opportunity to spend time with him. REST IN PEACE LARRY.A

June 26 at 8:00 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Laurens by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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