



Lester Frank Rittle

DEC 24, 1928 - JUL 8, 2020



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Lester Frank Rittle, age 91 of Lewes, DE, passed away on Wednesday, July 8, 2020 at Delaware Hospice Center in Milford, DE. He was born on December 24, 1928 in Lebanon, PA, son of the late Howard and Edna (Ziegler) Rittle.

Mr. Rittle worked as a milk distributor for 50 years. After retirement he was a member of the Ebenezer Fire Company and Captain of the Lebanon Auxiliary Police. Mr. Rittle was also employed with Hershey Park in security after his second retirement. He was a self-taught musician and played accordion with the Back Bay Strummers. He enjoyed fishing, reading, and listening to polka music. Most of all, Mr. Rittle had a passion for living life at the shore. He was an active member of Conley's United Methodist Church in Lewes, DE.

In addition to his parents, Mr. Rittle was preceded in death by his daughter, Darlene Marks; his grandson, Kyle Marks; his granddaughter, Rebecca Dullebawn; his brother, Walter Rittle; and his sister, Grace Butler. He is survived by his beloved wife of 18 years, Marilyn (Stoltzfus) Valentine-Rittle of Lewes, DE; his daughter, Leslee Showers of Milford, DE; his stepsons: Robert Thomas and his wife Monica of Lebanon, PA and James Cameron Thomas (Cam) and his wife Francis (Fran) of Lebanon, PA; his stepdaughter, Gaye Salem and her husband Ronald of Myerstown, PA; his 13 grandchildren; his 24 great-grandchildren; his 2 great-great-grandchildren; his 2 great-great-great-grandchildren; his brother, Lloyd Rittle of Fredericksburg, PA; his sisters: Sylvia Yeagley of Myerstown, PA, and Cora Shutter of Lebanon, PA; and his numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Due to the restrictions associated with COVID-19, the family will hold a celebration of life at a later date.

Please sign the online guestbook located on the tribute page.



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous sent a Garden Accent Stone - "Wherever a Beautiful Soul..." to the Rittle family.



July 30 at 8:45 AM



John H Hostetter posted:

I had the pleasure of knowing Lester, working at a dairy in Lebanon Pa. He always had a smile and kind words for everyone. REST IN PEACE MY FRIEND!!

July 29 at 3:50 PM



Anonymous sent an America the Beautiful to the Rittle family.



July 26 at 10:07 AM



Carol Ridgeley posted:

Les is a wonderful example of a faithful loving servant to his family, neighbors and the Lord. He will be greatly missed.. love in our Lord.. Carol and Owen Ridgeley

July 16 at 2:09 PM



Jim Garee posted:

Some of my fondest memories at West Bay are of my conversations with Les. I'm honored to have known him. Jim Garee B-31

July 16 at 8:04 AM



Harry Echternach posted:

So Sorry for your Loss. Les was a Great Guy! Our Thoughts and Prayers are with you at this Difficult Time!Harry Echternach Finda Bashore

July 16 at 7:34 AM



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SW

Skip Wolhar posted:

So sorry for the loss of Les! He will be missed in West Bay, especially with his comments on lot inspections sheets. He was a great guy!

July 16 at 6:54 AM

RF

Richard L. Fierstein lit a candle in honor of Lester.

So Sad. RIP My Friend... Always A Smile.. You Are VERY Missed Sir. Be With Our Lord In Peace Les.

July 16 at 5:13 AM



LG

Linda And Rob Garrison posted:

Les was one of the first people we met at West Bay! His smile and kind heart will be missed greatly. We know from conversations at different times that he loved the Lord and served Him every day. He is now in the presence of the Lord He served and we'll see him again in Glory! We pray for the peace of God's love for the family as you walk through this season of grief. May you sense God's arms of love and comfort each day.

July 16 at 5:03 AM

CW

Carole Wolek lit a candle in honor of Lester.

Les was a good friend and band mate. We enjoyed our trips with him and Marilyn to the Delaware Accordion Club where we always had a good time. He will be greatly missed especially in the accordion section of the Back Bay Strummers. We will always remember him whenever we play the "Tick Tock Polka". Fondly, Len & Carole Wolek

July 15 at 10:46 AM



TK

The Klines posted:

No words can express the love we have in our hearts for Les. A gentle soul. Never an mean word, always encouraging. We have been blessed to know Les. We will miss the smile, the wave from the front window. We have been touched by a child of God. Love and miss you forever Les. Connie, Stan and Lily

July 14 at 9:00 PM



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Royce Stoltzfus posted:

Less was a fine brother-in-law, with a natural humor and caring heart. Anyone who met him met a kind man, a friendly demeanor. He was always a gracious host when I visited. Made sure we were comfortable and made sure we were entertained with music he played. When he worked at Hershey Park he even got in either for free or greatly reduced rates, a surprise to be sure. We will enjoy heaven one day for he was a Christian who loved the Lord 📖 Rest In Peace 📖

July 14 at 4:14 PM



Patricia Spidle posted:

Les was a pleasure to know - in my 24 years at Westbay he was the sunshine on a cloudy day. A remarkable, sweet gentleman. RIP dear Les 🙏❤️🙏

July 14 at 2:58 PM



Connie Boles lit a candle in honor of Lester.

Marilyn -Les' passing deeply saddened both of us. We shared many good times with him and you during our years at the beach, which we will never forget. Les was a great guy with a kind heart. He will be truly missed. We offer you comfort through our friendship and our thoughts and prayers. Bill and Connie Boles



July 14 at 12:49 PM



Bill And Suzi Prescott sent a virtual gift in honor of Lester.

Suzi and I were so sorry to learn of Les's passing. We enjoyed the times we spent together with Les and Marilyn when we visited the shore. We've known Les for many years working at the Hershey Fall Meet car show. Les was larger than life, always going the extra mile for his family and friends. He will be greatly missed and remembered with many fond memories. Marilyn, you are such a sweet lady and we are SO glad that you and Les were able to spend his last years together. With deepest sympathy Suzi and Bill Prescott



July 14 at 4:42 AM



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GS

Gaye Salem lit a candle in honor of Lester.

Pap, (Les) The only Father I ever knew and more than I could have ever asked for. You always called me "kiddo". I remember you playing your accordion and your love for the shore where you happily lived with your wonderful wife Marilyn. Ronnie and I have so many good memories of time spent with you, I could write a book! R.I.P. Pap. All our love, Gaye and Ronnie Salem



July 13 at 6:34 PM

GS

Gaye Salem March 13 at 11:18 AM

I also miss times spent at the Shore with Les AND MY Mother, Lois E. Rittle.

RP

Rita Pancake posted:

I was so sorry to hear of Les's passing. He and Marilyn had a wonderful marriage and it was a privilege to have him in my family. He always called me on my birthday. I thought how thoughtful that gesture was. He will be missed. Marilyn-sweet sister-May the Lord hold you in His hands and comfort you.

July 13 at 5:57 PM

JG

John Gladwell posted:

Adela and I are so sorry to hear of Lester's passing. We will miss his smile and his enthusiasm for Conley's Church and the Back Bay Strummers. John and Adela Gladwell

July 13 at 2:18 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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