



Leonard John Heikkinen

June 21, 1936 - May 29, 2022

Leonard John Heikkinen passed peacefully at home with his family present on May 29, 2022. He was born in Dearborn, MI on June 21, 1936 and grew up in Boston Location, Hancock, MI. Leonard enjoyed leather jackets, fast cars, motorcycles and of course, girls. Especially a pretty girl named Juanita who lived on a nearby dairy farm in Calumet, MI.

A year was spent on the big ore ships on the Great Lakes after graduating. Then he saw all of the oceans of the world when he proudly joined the Navy. In 1957 Leonard married Juanita (Juany) Maatta and started a family. Debbie, Donna, Larry and Carol were welcomed into the world. 1964 sent Leonard west (with Sisu) where he set down new roots in Butte, MT. He worked for the Anaconda Co. and then MRI until forced to retire with disabling rheumatoid arthritis.

From nails and lumber salvaged from buildings torn down and logs he cut in the mountains Leonard built the cabin he envisioned. This was quite the family endeavor! OH, of course, before the cabin he had to build a good ol' Finnish Sauna!

Leonard sure taught his children how to work but also how to play cribbage which was enjoyed especially during holidays. In retirement he enjoyed Sunday sermons, telling hunting stories, work stories and of all of his bear encounters. He sure could BS and was known to visit Finntown a time or two!

Dad, in his jeans jacket and cowboy hat that he always wore, joined Debbie

(who passed in 2005) at the gates of heaven. He is also preceded in death by his parents, John and Ida Heikkinen; sister Racheal Harju; brother Ray (Lillian); and sister Florence who passed away at a young age of diphtheria.

He is survived by Juany, his wife for 64 years; son Larry, and daughters Donna and Carol. Also grandchildren John Foran (Rebekah), Pam Foran, Eryn Heikkinen (Jesse Sonntag), Alex Braid, Cassy Heikkinen (fiance Joey Decker), and Joriann Heikkinen. Great grandchild Elizabeth Foran; brother-in-law Don Harju and many other friends and family (deceased and living) who all enjoyed the cabin in Lost Creek, Anaconda.

Memorials can be made to the Butte Rescue Mission. The family would like to acknowledge and thank friends Dennis and Nina Rintala, the veterans staff, Anaconda Community Hospital, Anaconda Pintler Hospice, and Wayrynen-Richards Funeral Home. All of your kindness will not be forgotten.

Tribute Wall

KW

“ Aunt Juany, Donna, Larry, Carol and Grandkids, walks on the mountain with Uncle Leonard leading the way, rides in Uncle Len's old Ford pickup truck, his stories were the greatest, my favorite one was when he was trying to capture the pack rat that was in his truck. We have wonderful memories of spending time at Juany and Len's beautiful home that Leonard made, sauna's, conversations and adventures. We will cherish our memories of him, and always remember the times we had with Uncle Leonard. Our love to all of you. Kelly, Steve, Jordan & Dylan White

Kelly Rintala White - June 09, 2022 at 07:28 PM

BH

“ Because we care, please know you are being kept in our heart felt prayers at this difficult time. I do remember that my Whizzer motorbike could not keep up with Leonard's Cushman scooter. God bless you and your family. Bruce and Ann Haataja

Bruce and Ann Haataja - June 04, 2022 at 06:06 PM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Leonard John Heikkinen.



June 04, 2022 at 12:09 PM

TC

“ *Juany and family,
Sorry to hear of Len's passing, thank you for putting the obituary in
the Gazette up on the Keweenaw.
I'm older now, haha, but I'll never forget when we came out west and
stayed with you when I was a kid. That was 30 years ago!
Sending love and hugs to all of you from the Copper Country
Carlson crew.
Tina Carlson-Vettori*

Tina Carlson-Vettori - June 04, 2022 at 08:55 AM