



Leon L. Baker

January 13, 1934 - January 13, 2019

Leon L. Baker, 85, of Cape Girardeau died Sunday, January 13, 2019 at the Lutheran Home.

He was born January 13, 1934 in East Prairie, Missouri, the son of Silas Linex and Nellie Mae Gregory Baker.

Leon attended East Prairie High School and was a part of the undefeated football team of 1950. He also worked with his brothers at the infamous Johnnies Drive-In in Charleston, Missouri.

After graduating from East Prairie High School, he joined the army and was about to be deployed when the war ended. He served in the army from November 1954 to August 1956.

He attended Southeast Missouri State University and Rolla School of Engineering where he completed a mechanical engineering degree.

He married LaVerne Tinkle and together they had three children, Lisa, Lin and Lee. They settled in Lone Oak, Kentucky where he was plant manager of CTS. During his time in Lone Oak, he built two houses completely by himself and then restored a farmhouse on a 100-acre farm with black angus cattle, known as the 5L Angus Ranch. His family were members of Lone Oak First

Baptist Church.

After LaVerne's sudden death in 1975, he devoted his entire life to his three children and had been known to get "kidsick" if he was away from them for any length of time. Leon moved his three children to Cape Girardeau to open Cape Starter and Alternator Service, Inc. He built two more buildings to widen Cape Starter. He helped and taught each of his three children how to build a home and run a successful family business.

When moving to Cape, he and his children joined First Baptist Church of Cape Girardeau. There he met his second wife, Kay Evans Baker, and they enjoyed a few years together before her death of cancer in 1994.

After Kay's death, Leon traveled to many places. He restored Cushman scooters, became a talented crafter of wood and made each child a grandfather clock with the clocks being purchased from his travels to Germany.

While in his 60's, he married a third time to Margaret Baker. The two of them enjoyed laughter, love and travels with his brother and sister-in-law, Jake and Martha Jane Baker. They continued a full life of adventure until their illnesses kept them close to home. She preceded him in death November, 2018.

His last year of life, with all the struggles and problems, he attributes to missing their January 1st 2018 helping of black eyed peas. We made sure he had a teaspoon of those peas this year.

Surviving Leon are his three children, Lisa (Bill) Curtis, of Cape Girardeau, Leon L. "Lin" (Kelley) Baker of Jackson and Lee G. (Terri) Baker of Cape Girardeau; seven grandchildren, Emily (Mark) Schmitz, Erin (Charles P.) Ressler, Billy Curtis, Corey (Alyssa) Baker, Clayton (Emily) Baker, Aly Baker

and Robert Flannery; and six great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, four brothers, one sister, three spouses and two great-grandsons.

Leon's children would like to thank his personal caregivers, The Lutheran Home, Units 400 and 500 personnel and Southeast Hospice.

Friends may call 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm on Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel in Cape Girardeau.

There will be a private graveside service Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at Mt. Kenton Cemetery in Paducah with the Rev. Mark Anderson officiating. There will be graveside military rites.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to The Lutheran Home or Southeast Hospice.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Kenton Cemetery

2535 Lone Oak Road
Paducah, KY 42001

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **15**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Tribute Wall

JS

“ *Jill and Mark Senn purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Leon L. Baker.*



Jill and Mark Senn - January 16, 2019 at 09:20 AM

KJ

“ *Lisa, Lin, and Lee:*

I'm sorry to hear of your loss. I pray for peace, comfort, and understanding at this time. Just know that God is in control and your father will be able to oversee you in Heaven, without getting "kidsick", until God is ready to reunite each of you in His timing.

Ken Pemberton, Jr.

Ken Pemberton, Jr. - January 15, 2019 at 01:18 PM



“ *Simply Chic Mixed Plant Basket was purchased for the family of Leon L. Baker.*



January 15, 2019 at 09:58 AM

RK

“ *Robyn J Koerselman purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Leon L. Baker.*



Robyn J Koerselman - January 15, 2019 at 06:51 AM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Leon L. Baker.*



January 14, 2019 at 10:55 PM