



Lowell Duerk

February 6, 1930 - February 20, 2017

Lowell M. “Butch” Duerk, passed away unexpectedly at the age of 87 on February 20, 2017. He was born in Defiance, OH on February 6, 1930. A recognized athlete in both basketball and professional fast pitch softball in his youth, his athletic passion in his adult years moved almost exclusively to golf. He and his wife Phyllis (Jenkins) of 50+ years were married on August 4, 1951 during a leave from his duties with the US Army in Germany. He worked his entire professional career with the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company, primarily from its headquarters in Akron Ohio. He has lived in Wadsworth Ohio since 1966 where he and Phyllis raised their two sons, Barry (of Vancouver, WA) and Jeffrey (of Avon Lake, OH). For the past 25 years, he also migrated south for the winter to Englewood Florida. Those who knew Butch were blessed with his “larger-than-life” personality, endless jokes and his amazing friendship. His greatest role as dad and grandpa will be treasured and deeply missed.

Butch was preceded in death by his wife Phyllis, his long-time companion Persis (Newhard) Snoke of Wadsworth, and leaves his companion Mary (Gebhard) Dalton of Midland MI. He also leaves behind Lisa (Gronbach) Duerk, wife of Barry, and their children Megan and Nina. He also leaves Cindy (Macura) Duerk, wife of Jeffrey, and their children Emma and Christian.

A memorial service will be held at 2PM, Thursday February 23, at the Faith Lutheran Church in Rotonda West with a reception for all friends and family at the Hills Club at Rotonda at 3PM, or immediately after the service. A memorial service will be held in Wadsworth Ohio at a later date. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Faith Lutheran Church, 551 Rotonda Blvd. W., Rotonda West, Florida 33947 or Grace Lutheran Church 146 High Street, Wadsworth Ohio 44281.

Comments



“ We were so saddened to hear of Butch's death. We first met Butch and Phyllis when we lived at Golden Tee many years ago. They welcomed us with open arms and both of them were so kind to us.

After Phyllis died, Butch and another couple invited me (Jerrie) to go with them to watch a launch at Cape Canaveral while my husband was out of town. We laughed because it was so important to Butch to let everyone know that we were not staying overnight and would return right after the launch.

I always addressed him as "my second favorite tall person" with my husband being the first.

We take comfort in knowing that Butch and Phyllis are together now as I am sure you boys do. They both always talked so proudly about their sons.

Jerrie & Stu Walesh - March 07, 2017 at 07:19 AM



“ My deepest Sympathy in the loss of your Father, Jeff and Cindy and your family You and the family are in my thoughts.

Michael Yuras

Michael Yuras - February 24, 2017 at 03:14 PM



“ Even though we have not maintained contact in recent years, Uncle Butch was my hero. I remember, as a little girl, playing in the sand on the beach with him because I was afraid of the water. He always had a warm hug and a huge smile and to me seemed like a gentle giant. My condolences to you, Barry and Jeff and your families. I know he will be sadly missed but will await the reunion we will all have some day in heaven.

Cathy Wirick Fuller

Cathy Fuller - February 23, 2017 at 10:27 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Lowell Duerk.



February 22, 2017 at 04:04 PM



“ Our deepest condolences to the family of Jeff Duerk on the loss of his beloved father. I only met him once, but he was "larger than life".
Roger H. Cerne, (Case School of Engineering) and his wife, Judy.

Roger H. Cerne - February 22, 2017 at 11:07 AM