



Phillip A. Bridges

October 14, 1942 - March 28, 2019

KOONTZ LAKE-Phillip Arthur Bridges, 76, passed away Thursday, March 28, 2019 at his home.

Mr. Bridges was born October 14, 1942 in Charlevoix, MI to Guy and Nellie (Ackley) Bridges and lived at Koontz Lake for 49 years, coming from Texas. On June 21, 1969 at Odessa, TX, he was married to the former Leona F. Short. Survivors include his wife, Leona and three sisters, Faith (Harold) Knight of Goshen; Phyllis Robbins of Ft. Gratiot, MI and Joyce (Rob) Swartz of Hot Springs, AR. He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Norman Bridges.

Mr. Bridges was a retired teacher with the Oregon-Davis School Corporation. He taught 4th grade for 32 years at Oregon-Davis Elementary where he was a member of the Oregon-Davis Classroom Teachers Association. Mr. Bridges was also a member of the Koontz Lake Missionary Church, the Gideons International, the Monday Night Pickers Blue Grass Band and a U.S. Air Force Veteran of the Vietnam Era.

Funeral services will be Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. CDT at the Koontz Lake Missionary Church with Pastor Brian Baughman officiating. Burial will follow at the Grovertown Cemetery. Visitation will be Monday from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Rannells Funeral Home, Koontz Lake and Tuesday at the church one hour prior to the service. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be given to the Koontz Lake Missionary Church, Gideons International or the Hospice Foundation.

Cemetery Details

Grovertown Cemetery

State Road 23
Grovertown, IN 46531

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 1. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Rannells Funeral Home - Koontz Lake Chapel
7984 N. State Road 23
Walkerton, IN 46574
(574) 586-2120
rannellsfh@mchsi.com
<https://www.rannellsfuneralhome.com>

Visitation

APR 2. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Koontz Lake Missionary Church
8044 N State Road 23
Walkerton, IN 46574

Service

APR 2. 11:00 AM (CT)

Koontz Lake Missionary Church
8044 N State Road 23
Walkerton, IN 46574

Tribute Wall

CR

“ *What a privilege it has been to have such a special person in our lives. He was our children’s teacher, and we belonged to the same church. He was a caring part of our community. We will miss him, his sense of humor, his singing and Banjo playing, and his friendship.*

Cindy & Bob Rude - April 02, 2019 at 10:19 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Phillip A. Bridges.*



March 31, 2019 at 11:27 PM

TA

“ *I was so blessed to have met Mr. Bridges. He was my favorite teacher, coach, mentor and my friend. I was blessed by every minute I spent with him and always felt so supported and encouraged by him. He has been a part of my life for 30+ years. Our children only knew him as my friend and I’m so grateful they did. I will miss him so much but am so thankful for the restored health and singing voice he is enjoying in Heaven! Love you Mrs.B*

Tara - March 31, 2019 at 09:06 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Phillip A. Bridges.*



March 31, 2019 at 08:49 PM



“ *Dawn lit a candle in memory of Phillip A. Bridges*



Dawn - March 31, 2019 at 02:30 AM



“ *His love of his students showed in all he did for the school and church
Blessings and sympathy to all the church family and friends*

BARBARA ABEL - March 30, 2019 at 12:01 PM



“ *Phyllis and I extend our condolences. I liked Phil and had many enjoyable relationships with him while students at Bethel College.*

Ron Phipps - March 30, 2019 at 09:36 AM

NB

“ *Leona and family we were so sorry to hear of Mr. Bridges passing. He was a great teacher to all three of our children and they loved having him as a teacher. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

Neal and Carol Blair

Neal and Carol Blair - March 30, 2019 at 12:25 AM

 Jacky Musick

“ *I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. Bridges! Condolences to Mrs. Bridges and the family! I was just telling someone yesterday about him. A GREAT hands on teacher that made learning FUN, cared about every single one of his students and man oh man Kickball at recess with him was the BEST!! Rest in Peace Mr. Bridges!*



Jacky Musick - March 29, 2019 at 08:24 PM

CC

Oh my! I remember the kickball... Great times!

Charlotte Cales-Baldwin - March 30, 2019 at 10:43 AM

DD

“ *Prayers for his dear wife. They both are wonderful people who have touched many lives!*

denise dowd - March 29, 2019 at 07:49 PM

CC

“ As one of his former fourth grade students many many moons ago, I would like to say how great of a teacher he was. He loved reading books to us, and doing lots of hands-on activities with his students. He made learning fun! That's not easy with kids that age! I often think back to that time period in my life and thought of how lucky I was to have had him as my teacher. Mr. Bridges will be missed by a lot of students, and I'm sure a lot of hearts are broken hearing of this news! I hope his passing was a peaceful one. My thoughts are with his family right now, as well as Mrs. Bridges. RIP

Charlotte Cales-Baldwin - March 29, 2019 at 07:12 PM

TS

“ My deepest sympathy to Mrs. Bridges and his family.

Thomas Scanlon - March 29, 2019 at 06:33 PM

BI

“ the best teacher I had he cared about everybody he will be sadly missed

billie - March 29, 2019 at 06:29 PM

RT

“ My condolences. My life was richer having known Mr B for most of my life. Prayers to Leona and all.

Rob Taylor - March 29, 2019 at 05:39 PM



“ *Care and Compassion Spray was purchased for the family of Phillip A. Bridges.*



March 29, 2019 at 05:38 PM



“ *Penny Maloney lit a candle in memory of Phillip A. Bridges*



Penny Maloney - March 29, 2019 at 05:22 PM



“ *Everyone has a few special teachers growing up and Mr. Bridges was one of those teachers for me. Always had a smile and genuine friendliness even when he would see me years after I had graduated. What a sweet man. My prayers go out to Mrs. Bridges.*

*Becky (Brandt) Gibbons
OD Class of '88*

Becky Gibbons - March 29, 2019 at 03:15 PM



I'm so sad. What a wonderful man and an awesome teacher. Thoughts and prayers to Mrs. Bridges and family.

Veronica Berg Labonte - March 29, 2019 at 07:08 PM

BL

After reading such nice comments about Phil written here, I just want to say thank you for your kind memories. I can assure each one of you that Phil was truly a kind and compassionate person. Leona is my sister, and I was blessed to have Phil as a brother-in-law for all those years. He will truly be missed by the family, and I know Leona will take comfort in hearing your stories.

Burta Lancaster - March 30, 2019 at 11:26 PM

MC

Having had Phil in the family for 50 years, we got to see the many sides of him. Put a musical instrument in his hands and he was ready to sing. Give him a basketball, baseball, fishing pole, etc. and he was ready to go. A friend needed help, he was there. He and Leona cared about the young ones as well as the old, and all the in between. They walk with God and passed it on. We will miss him terribly.

Marie Campbell - April 01, 2019 at 01:52 PM

MK

My thoughts and prayers go out to Leona and your family. Much love to you and your whole family. Malinda (Louderback) King.

Malinda (Louderbck) King - April 02, 2019 at 11:29 AM