



Russell E Bruesch

March 16, 1947 - July 10, 2022

It is with a heavy heart that we share this news. Russell (Rusty) Erwin Bruesch died of a sudden heart attack Sunday July 10, 2022 in New Buffalo, Michigan at the age of 75.

Although he was born and raised in Blue Island, Illinois, most of his weekends, school breaks and summers were spent at Koontz Lake, Indiana where he became an avid boat and water skiing enthusiast. So, it was no surprise that shortly after graduating from High School he moved there permanently. He was one of the founding members of the Koontz Lake Ski Club whose water and boat antics were well known (and appreciated) by most locals.

As time went by he also became involved in other sports such as hang gliding, parasailing, kite surfing and snow boarding. If it had to do with wind or water you could count him in. Every new vehicle he would buy he affixed the same bumper sticker "If it can't kill ya, it ain't a sport".

To support these hobbies, he rose to the ranks of Vice President of

Engineering at Janco

Products in Mishawaka, Indiana.

In 1982 he married Beverly Langedyk and moved to New Buffalo, Michigan where he currently

resided. He and Bev were married for 36 beautiful years prior to her death in 2018. Rusty was

well known and respected in the Village of Michiana where he lived and was very active in the

local area as Beach Commissioner as well as Police Commissioner. After he retired, he spent a

great deal of time and energy helping out wherever he could and being active in the

community.

He was preceded in death by his parents Merle (Steinhart) and Russell M.

Bruesch, his son

Jared and his wife Beverly. He is survived by a sister, Karen (Michael)

Plantenga, a niece,

Kristen (Justin) Basham, a nephew, Jayme Personette and Kristen's children, Joshua, Jordan

and Jared and his beloved Labrador, Jodie who now resides at Koontz Lake.

Viewing will be at Rannell's Funeral Home located at 7984 N. State Road 23, Walkerton/Koontz

Lake 46574 on Monday, July 18th from 5 to 8 pm EDT.

Tuesday July 19th we will gather at Rannell's at 10:00 am EDT followed by a brief service at

11:00, after which we will follow him to Woodlawn Cemetery in the town of Walkerton where

he will be reunited with our beloved Beverly and Jared.

Please join us afterwards for a luncheon in celebration of Rusty's life at the Koontz Lake

Missionary Church located just across the road from Rannell's. This will be the

perfect time to

share stories about our wonderful brother, uncle and friend.

Donations can be made in Rusty's name to Michiana Humane Society &

SPCA at 722 IN-212,

Michigan City IN 46360 or Koontz Lake Missionary Church, 8044 North State

Road 23,

Walkerton IN 46574

Cemetery Details

Woodlawn Cemetery

Industrial Park Drive and US 6
Walkerton, IN 46574

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 18. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Funeral Service

JUL 19. 11:00 AM (ET)

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

Burial

JUL 19 (ET)

Woodlawn Cemetery
Industrial Park Drive and US 6
Walkerton, IN 46574

Tribute Wall

PS

“ Our family is grateful to have had so many wonderful years next door to Rusty and Beverly. Their tree with the carved "R + B" heart will always be a reminder of the love that they shared. Rusty awed us with his athleticism and knowledge of and appreciation for nature and the ecosystem. We will miss him greatly. We send our love and prayers to his sister Karen and the rest of Rusty's cherished family.

Patti and TJ Sheahan and family

Patricia Sheahan - July 18, 2022 at 03:44 PM

MG

“ I was fortunate to be friends with Rusty in our teenage years when we spent hours and hours on the water. Those ideal days were enhanced by Rusty's curiosity about possibilities and new adventures. I cherish those memories, mike gilly

Michael Gillies - July 18, 2022 at 09:26 AM

GB

“ Gretchen & Jack Barko purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Russell E Bruesch.



Gretchen & Jack Barko - July 17, 2022 at 08:10 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Russell E Bruesch.*



July 16, 2022 at 06:26 PM



“ *From The Village Council & Employees purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Russell E Bruesch.*



From The Village Council & Employees - July 15, 2022 at 12:16 PM



“ *Rusty was my kiteboarding buddy and great friend. As I was thinking how I could express what a wonderful person Rusty was while looking at his picture, and realized it says it all. I'll miss him terribly but glad he's reunited with Bev and Jared. I'm also certain that in heaven, the water is warm, the winds constant and the waves are perfect.*

Henry Wienholts - July 14, 2022 at 07:35 PM



“ *We have many happy memories of spending time up north with Rusty and Bev and their dogs. Christmas holidays were bright and fun-filled with their presence. We will miss him.*

Ruth Langedyk and Family - July 14, 2022 at 02:50 PM

TF

“ *The Langedyk Family purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Russell E Bruesch.*



The Langedyk Family - July 14, 2022 at 02:38 PM

BO

“ *My husband John and I were next door neighbors to Russ and Bev for many years, became good friends. We had moved out of state in 2009 The last time I saw Russ was in the fall of 2018 when I went to spread some of John's ashes in some dune grass near Stop 41. My husband John and dear friend Bev had died recently and Russ and I hugged and cried over the loss of our beloved spouses. Russ said, "it wasn't meant to be this way. I was supposed to go first because I had the heart problems." My heart goes out to sister Karen and her family. I wish I could be there for the funeral service. Russ will be sorely missed in Michiana. Barbara Opie*

Barbara Opie - July 14, 2022 at 11:01 AM

HW

“ *Henry W. purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Russell E Bruesch.*



Henry W. - July 14, 2022 at 10:27 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Russell E Bruesch.



July 14, 2022 at 10:10 AM



“ A friendly and familiar neighbor, loved his involvement and support of the Michiana community. Enjoyed his comments of our boys playing wiffle ball across the street, and praying for peace and comfort to friends, family and community. GOD bless!

Tyler - July 13, 2022 at 11:21 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Russell E Bruesch.



July 13, 2022 at 06:55 PM