



James "Jake" Litke

September 15, 1945 - August 19, 2019

James "Jake" Litke, 73 year old resident of Pierz, MN, passed away August 19th, 2019, at his home in Pierz. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:30 A.M., Tuesday, August 27th, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Pierz with Father David Maciej officiating. Burial will be at St. Joseph's Parish Cemetery in Pierz. Visitation will be Monday from 4 to 8 P.M. and from 9 to 10 A.M. on Tuesday all at The Shelley-Virnig Funeral Chapel in Pierz. Funeral arrangements are with the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Pierz, MN.

James "Jake" Litke was born in Pierz, MN, on September 15, 1945, the son of Lawrence and Evelyn (Gau) Litke. He graduated from Father Pierz Memorial High School, attended St. Cloud Area Vocational Technical Institute and was a certified journeyman carpenter. He lived an adventurous youth that he never completely outgrew, hunting, fishing, playing hockey, maybe or maybe not keeping his car out of the ditch, and never passing up a chance to race his snowmobile, his car, his four-wheeler, or anything else.

Jake married Sharon Smythe on February 8, 1969. They bought the farm in Pierz in 1973 and raised pigs for 15 years until buying Pierz Ready-Mix in 1988. With his generous heart and fun-loving spirit, Jake was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, son, and friend to many. People always sought him out, whether for his considered advice or his love of having a good time. He gave his children the support, confidence and freedom to be and do

whatever they chose. He set high expectations for each of them and had no doubt they would meet them and was proud when they did.

Anyone who worked with Jake would tell you he also set a high standard for himself. He was a skilled and hard-working carpenter, farmer, mason and businessman, and could fix anything. He sold the ready-mix business in 1998 and mostly retired, spending time with his grandkids and hunting, fishing, golfing and traveling in the U.S. and Canada with friends and family.

Jake is survived by his children, Lizz Peterson of Parkers Prairie, MN, Matt (Danika Adams) Litke of Seattle, WA and Sara Litke of Washington, DC; grandchildren, Brock Peterson, Kiley Peterson and Graham Litke; dear friend, Sue Sand; siblings, Arvin (Jean) Litke, Ray (Ruth) Litke, Elmer (Jan) Litke, Larry (Virg) Litke, Diane (Willie) Schirmers and Geralyn (Spencer) Sawyer.

Jake was preceded in death by wife, Sharon Litke; parents, Lawrence and Evelyn Litke and brothers, Roland and Melvin Litke.

Cemetery Details

St. Joseph's Cemetery

Pierz, MN

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **26**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

LeMieur Funeral Home of Pierz
202 Main St. South
Pierz, MN

Visitation

AUG **27**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

LeMieur Funeral Home of Pierz
202 Main St. South
Pierz, MN

Funeral Service

AUG **27**. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Joseph's Catholic Church
68 North Main Street
Pierz, MN

Tribute Wall



“ *Lemieur Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of James "Jake" Litke*



Lemieur Funeral Homes - August 23, 2019 at 12:00 PM

JL

It made me cry... it was done so well..it was truly Jake and family, including Sharon.

Jean Litke - August 26, 2019 at 04:44 PM



“ *James "Jake" Litke*

January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM

CW

“ *Will always have good memories of Jake when golfing at Eagles Landing - from the 100 yard marker on #8 to the unavoidable "Jake's Gulch" on #13.*
When he arrives at the golden gate St Peter will have to say, "That's a good one."
CW

Charlie Weber - August 26, 2019 at 01:33 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Lemieur Funeral Homes - August 25, 2019 at 11:23 AM



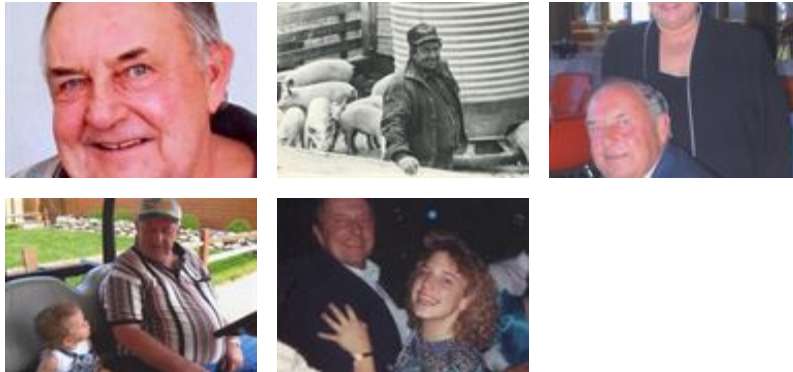
“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Lemieur Funeral Homes - August 23, 2019 at 11:59 AM



“ 42 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Lemieur Funeral Homes - August 22, 2019 at 03:01 PM

KT

“ I remember Jake and Sharon taking me and my brothers to the Dairy Queen to celebrate Randy's birthday on April 11th. I'm guessing we are all under 10 years old, and a trip to the Dairy Queen was a very big deal. We were having a snowstorm that day, and I think we were all secretly worried that we wouldn't get to go after all. But, Jake and Sharon came to pick us up in the storm...big smiles on their faces. We piled into their little car, and were so excited! Who gets to go to the Dairy Queen in a snowstorm!?! We couldn't believe it, and had so much fun together.

I have wonderful memories of both Jake and Sharon in those years when they lived near us in St. Cloud. They were both a gift of our family, and I'm thankful they were part of our lives.

Kateri (Litke) Topitzhofer

Kateri Topitzhofer - August 22, 2019 at 07:46 AM

AL

“ We will always remember Jake for his hearty laughter. When he laughed his whole body would just bubble. We will miss that ever so much. Thanks Jake for the jolly good laughs!!!
Arvin and Jean Litke and family

Arvin Litke - August 21, 2019 at 02:54 PM

DG

“ Donna Girtz lit a candle in memory of James "Jake" Litke



Donna Girtz - August 21, 2019 at 12:43 AM

CB

“ Correna Becker lit a candle in memory of James "Jake" Litke



Correna Becker - August 20, 2019 at 10:40 PM

ES

“ Sarah, Matt and Lizz you all have my deepest sympathies. He was a great neighbor and was always admired him and your mom. Sending prayers.



Eileen Schmitz-Espelian - August 20, 2019 at 10:21 PM

TC

“ Tabitha Captain lit a candle in memory of James "Jake" Litke



Tabitha Captain - August 20, 2019 at 07:04 PM

CS

“ Connie & Dan Sullivan lit a candle in memory of James "Jake" Litke



Connie & Dan Sullivan - August 20, 2019 at 12:53 PM

TS

“ The PPHS Faculty and Staff purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of James "Jake" Litke.



The PPHS Faculty and Staff - August 20, 2019 at 10:57 AM

KT

“ My deepest sympathy and sending prayers



Kelly Voltin Thomsen - August 19, 2019 at 09:51 PM

DR

“ Dean & Paula Rocheleau lit a candle in memory of James "Jake" Litke



Dean & Paula Rocheleau - August 19, 2019 at 07:16 PM

LH

“ LeRoy & Peggy Hoheisel sent a virtual gift in memory of James "Jake" Litke



LeRoy & Peggy Hoheisel - August 19, 2019 at 02:55 PM



“ *Kathy Watercott Funk lit a candle in memory of James "Jake" Litke*



Kathy Watercott Funk - August 19, 2019 at 01:34 PM



“ *Mike & Marie Schaefer lit a candle in memory of James "Jake" Litke*



Mike & Marie Schaefer - August 19, 2019 at 12:52 PM



“ *Paul & Karen Litke lit a candle in memory of James "Jake" Litke*



Paul & Karen Litke - August 19, 2019 at 12:03 PM



“ *Love and hugs to Sara, Matt, Lizz and grandkids:) Jake is such a special person. He was so good to the great group of '94 gals-there are many memories we have to cherish of Jake. Hard to see you go, but comforting to know you are at peace and reunited once again with the love of your life-Sharon.*

Kim Rocheleau - August 19, 2019 at 11:20 AM



“ *Dennis & Janice Hoffman lit a candle in memory of James "Jake" Litke*



Dennis & Janice Hoffman - August 19, 2019 at 09:59 AM