



## Leo W. Maurer

March 26, 1922 - April 30, 2008

Leo was born March 26, 1922 in Pierz, MN to the late Wenzel and Francis (Kobilka) Maurer. He attended country school near Buckman, MN growing up on the farm of his Aunt Annie and Uncle Bill Girtz. He entered the US Army in 1942 and served under Gen. Patton with the 12th Armored Division. Leo saw combat in the Ardennes, Central Europe and D-Day Invasion, earning the European African Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon and Purple Heart Recipient at the Battle of The Bulge. He helped liberate the concentration camp at Lansburg, Germany and several others before acting as interpreter for German POW's. Leo was honorably discharged in 1946 and returned home. Leo was united in marriage to his sweetheart, Marie Gau on June 1, 1946 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Pierz, MN. The couple have resided in Little Falls for the last 41 years. Leo mastered the art of Auto Body/Custom Repair. He restored antique autos, including a 1926 Model A, 1950 Nash and a 1936 Packard to name a few. He also oversaw the restoration of Charles Lindbergh's personal vehicle. Leo worked as a body shop repairman for Thielen Chevrolet and 122 Motors in Little Falls, MN for many years. He co-owned Pierz Standard with brother, Richard for several years and was owner/operator of Uptown Mobil in Fairmont, MN. Together they raised 10 children. Leo is survived by his wife Marie of 62 years; sons, Bob Maurer of Bovey, MN; Chuck (Lisa) Maurer of St. Cloud, MN; Ken Maurer of St. Cloud, MN; and Michael (Marj) Maurer of Atwater, MN; daughters Mary (Ken) Frank of Cold Spring, MN; Susan (Tom) Frank of St. Nicholas, MN; Pat (John)

Messer of Oak Grove, MN and Barb (Emery) Strack of Randall, MN; Daughters-in-law, Bobbi Maurer of Rockville, MN and Mary Maurer of Foley, MN; brother, Bernie (Helen) Maurer of Little Falls, MN; sisters, Isabel Bush of Burbank, CA and JoAnn Valley of Mounds View, MN; sisters-in-law, Helen Maurer of Gig Harbor, WA; Margaret Maurer of Pierz, MN; Shirley Maurer of Hobe Sound, FL and Caroline Maurer of Little Falls, MN; 32 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren. Leo was preceded in death by his parents; sons, Jim and John Maurer; grandchildren, Heidi Maurer-Zenner and Kelly Frank; brothers, Ervin, Richard, Earl, and Edward Maurer; sister, Irene Scholl; brothers-in-law, Bud Bush; Richard Scholl, and LeRoy Valley. Pallbearers will be Michael Strack, Brooks Maurer, Thomas Maurer, Nickolas Messer, Raissa Maurer, Corey Frank, Lisa Frank, Shane Maurer-Zenner, Nick Maurer, and Jamey Maurer.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 2. 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

LeMieur Funeral Home of Little Falls  
214 2nd Street SE  
Little Falls, MN

## Visitation

MAY 3. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

LeMieur Funeral Home of Little Falls  
214 2nd Street SE  
Little Falls, MN

## Service

MAY 3. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church - Little Falls  
305 4th Street SE  
Little Falls, MN

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lemieur Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Leo W. Maurer*



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**Lemieur Funeral Homes** - April 30, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ *Leo W. Maurer*

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January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ *Hi!*  
*My name is Jessika!##imported-begin##Anterienrolla##imported-end##*

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October 12, 2008 at 06:01 AM



“ *Leo Maurer was the best grandfather anyone could ask for! Even though he had numerous grandchildren, he cherished each one and loved us imensly! I love you grandpa and will never let your grip go.##imported-begin##Raissa Maurer##imported-end##*

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June 10, 2008 at 04:44 PM



“ *What I will miss about Uncle Leo...*

- 1) the traveling Leo/Leonard birthday card*
- 2) My personal knife sharpening coming to Omaha (Joe will have to cook less steaks and more food that does not require cutting:)*
- 3) Feeling so special...Uncle Leo always MADE me FEEL like I was his favorite niece!!!!*

*Marie, We love you! Margaret, Joe and boys.*

*PS I trust LaVern is giving Leo an update on all that he has missed in Heaven since she has been there 5 years ago!##imported-begin##Margaret Hebenstreit##imported-end##*

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May 06, 2008 at 11:05 PM



“ My father had numerous life experiences that many of us learned of only in recent years.

*As a 14 yr old boy, he hopped freight trains from Pierz to Little Falls as means of transportation. On one such occasion he fell asleep and woke up in Staples where upon he had to walk back to Pierz. I think to myself “How I would feel if one of my sons would have done that...how did Grandma Maurer feel?” Dad spent so much time on his Aunt Annie's farm that when he met my mother she didn't know he was a brother to the Pierz “Maurer Boys”. What a different world I grew up in than my father?*

*As a very young man, dad was a corporal in the US Army. On one occasion he was able to meet up with his brother Richard. I try to imagine being in a foreign land in time of war. What a great gift from God; to be able to spend time with your brother and get a small taste of home in amongst the horrors of war. Dad was in some of the deadliest battles of WWII. He was also present at the liberation of numerous concentration camps, many of them the worst of the worst! Later he was an interpreter at the investigation of German POW's. The atrocities he witnessed were more than he could bear to share. These events in particular changed his life more than anyone could ever imagine. Many of his comrades in the Army became lifetime friends.*

*After retirement dad worked in many part time jobs to supplement his income. He managed a produce farm, pumped gas, was an adviser to the high school auto body classes to name a few. At one such job, dad used free time at work as well as his personal time to teach a fellow employee to read. My father was a humble man doing great deeds.*

*I recent years, Dad became adamant that he be able to continue to live in the comfort of his own home. And, when the time came, to die there surrounded by his family. My siblings & I, along with our mom were able to fulfill his desire.*

*Dad's final weekend was quite a remarkable family gathering. We his children & many of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren were able to visit with dad, proclaim our love for him and say farewell. On Saturday about 40 family members descended upon mom & dad's home. In the early evening hours, we held a communion service in which we were able to witness dad's deep faith and love of Jesus. On Sunday w/over 30 family members present we gathered around dad to pray the rosary. With mom leading, he prayed along with her. Even though he had barely the strength to open his eyes, his voice carried for all to hear. When we sang hymns, he hummed along with us. Later that evening I asked him if the weekend was too much for him. His smile was huge as as he shook his head no, no, no.*

*Dad & Mom held hands while their family gathered near them. When mom would gently kiss him he would tell her...One more... just one more. When Pat asked him if he knew who she was, he shook his head yes and say her name. When she proceeded to ask him if she was his favorite daughter, he looked over to me, smiled and said "One of them". A couple times that weekend his sisters spoke to him on the phone. We held the phone to his ear as Isabel reminisced about pushing baby JoAnn in a baby buggy through plowed fields and down hills. JoAnn also reminisced about childhood fun and told him over and over how much she admired and loved him. She sang to him an old German, afterwards blowing kisses through the phone. All the while dad was smiling and blowing kisses in return.*

*Being able to be with my father in the final days of his life was a blessing I will always cherish. Dad became "like Christ among us"...giving us the opportunity to minister to his physical and spiritual needs. The intimacy of death is unlike no other human experience. I truly felt the souls of my mother & siblings connect on a higher plane. I will always carry my father's love in my heart. What greater gift can a father give his children?##imported-begin##Susan Maurer Frank##imported-end##*

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May 04, 2008 at 03:32 PM



“ *I always admired Leo. He had a quiet strength and honesty about him that always had a way of making one feel at home. I will miss him.##imported-begin##Jeff, Lynn, Irene and Anna Scholl##imported-end##*

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May 01, 2008 at 11:48 PM



“ *Leo was a wonderful father inlaw and grandpa! Cherished memories will keep him near us always.##imported-begin##Marj Maurer##imported-end##*

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May 01, 2008 at 03:16 PM