



Leo E. O'Parka

August 8, 1937 - January 12, 2025

Leo Eugene O'Parka, 87, of Harbor Beach, passed away January 12, 2025 at home under hospice care.

Leo was born near Tyre, Mich. on August 8, 1937 to the late Henry and Blanche (Skrypinski) O'Parka. Leo attended Sparling School and was a graduate of Ubly High School, Class of 1955.

Leo was a loving husband to Marian Nitz of Harbor Beach since November 29, 1958. They started their life together in Garden City, and after having their first four girls, they moved back home to Ubly and eventually the home they lived in for over fifty-five years. He did many jobs over the years: farming, working at Carmet Company in Bad Axe, Huron Laundry in Harbor Beach, as well as offering his help to whoever needed to put a new roof on their house, etc. He made it a priority to spend lots of quality time with his daughters: he took his girls swimming, fishing, fox hunting, picking blueberries in the marsh, and helped them to raise strawberries, raspberries, and cucumbers. He was a member of the Ubly Fox Hunters Club since its start in 1964 and served as its vice president for many years and spent

many decades with his “girls” cleaning and making sure the building looked its best for all of its events.

He was a great bowler, softball player, and skeet shooter. He enjoyed hunting all of his life; even in his later years squirrels weren’t safe on his property. He loved playing euchre with friends and family; you were almost always guaranteed to win if you were his partner; otherwise, be prepared to get your ace trumped. In retirement, they enjoyed taking car trips to see the Fall colors and to visit family members.

He was a member of Our Lady of Lake Huron Parish, serving as usher for many years and was a member of the Knights of Columbus. The family would like to thank Dr. Gassan Alaouie as well as the nurses of Residential Hospice for their compassionate care.

Leo is survived by his wife, Marian O’Parka, and five daughters: Lisa (Marcus) Niessen, Janice Hertzog, Lynn Rae (Ken) Sample, Allison (Ron) Rice, and Carrie (Kurt) Dekoski. Seven grandchildren: Briana (Mike) Tyler, Deborah Niessen, Katherine (George) Lindberg, Erica (Gary) Carter-Cupp, Louis (Amber) Hertzog, Nicole (Daniel) Hanson, Sr. Kelly Rice, PJC, as well as five great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandson. He is also survived by his two sisters: Rose LaBuhn and Delphine (Henry) Wolschlager, as well as sisters-in-law Marie Nitz, Marilyn Stacer, and brother-in-law, Marvin Nitz of Harbor Beach, and numerous nephews and nieces. Leo was preceded in death by his granddaughter, Cheri Barfield, great-grandson, Jacob, son-in-law Scott Hertzog, brothers Ervin and his wife Delores, Julius O’Parka, sister

Marguerite O'Parka, and in-laws: William LaBuhn, Margaret and Clarence Hessling, and Linus Stacer.

Funeral Mass for Leo will be January 18th, 2025 at 11am, at Our Lady of Lake Huron Catholic Church, of the Holy Name of Mary Parish, Harbor Beach, MI, with Bishop Jeffrey Monforton and Rev. Kevin Wojciechowski, pastor, officiating. Burial will follow in the OLLH Church Cemetery. Visitation for Leo will be on Friday, January 17th from 2-8pm at the Ramsey Funeral Home of Harbor Beach. The rosary will be prayed at 6:30pm. On Saturday, visitation will be at the funeral home from 9:30am-10:30am.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Our Lady of Lake Huron Catholic School.

Memories can be shared at www.RamseyFH.com

Cemetery Details

OLLH Church Cemetery

Harbor Beach, MI 48441

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 17. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Ramsey Funeral Home, Inc
425 State St
Harbor Beach, MI 48441
(989) 479-3407
<https://www.ramseyfh.com>

Visitation

JAN 18. 9:30 AM (ET)

Ramsey Funeral Home, Inc
425 State St
Harbor Beach, MI 48441
(989) 479-3407
<https://www.ramseyfh.com>

Funeral Mass

JAN 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Lake Huron Catholic Church
413 S 1st St
Harbor Beach, MI 48441
(989) 479-3393

Tribute Wall



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Leo E. O'Parka.*



January 18, 2025 at 06:35 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Leo E. O'Parka.

January 18, 2025 at 06:35 PM



“ *I really enjoyed looking at pictures of Mr. O'Parka and the family growing up along with hearing about memories of the family. I am thankful that Louis & I's son Sebastian along with myself was able to meet him. Rest in peace, you will be missed.*

Amber Hertzog - January 17, 2025 at 10:31 PM



“ *The Repasy Family purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Leo E. O'Parka.*



The Repasy Family - January 17, 2025 at 12:06 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Leo E. O'Parka.



January 17, 2025 at 11:55 AM



“ Mike and Annette Gorney purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Leo E. O'Parka.



Mike and Annette Gorney - January 16, 2025 at 08:15 PM



“ Sharon &Chuck Abbott lit a candle in memory of Leo E. O'Parka



Sharon &Chuck Abbott - January 16, 2025 at 07:10 PM



“ Are family purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Leo E. O'Parka.



Are family - January 16, 2025 at 03:14 PM

AF

“ Are family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Leo E. O'Parka.

Are family - January 16, 2025 at 03:14 PM

LK

“ Lora K. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Leo E. O'Parka.



Lora K. - January 16, 2025 at 09:53 AM

GJ

“ Grace Jock lit a candle in memory of Leo E. O'Parka



Grace Jock - January 15, 2025 at 05:51 PM

GJ

Mrs. O'Parka Lisa and your sister and extended family. I am so sorry for your loss keeping you all in my prayers 🙏🙏

Grace Jock - January 15, 2025 at 05:53 PM

LC

“ Marion and family sorry to hear of Leo passing. We always enjoyed his visit at the Ugly Fox Hunters Xmas parties, he will be missed. I have known him from grade school and beyond. He was a wonderful person. Our prayers and thoughts are with your family during this time.

Len and Sue Czewski

Leonard Czewski - January 15, 2025 at 04:11 PM

MN

“ Marian and family. So sorry for your loss. All your memories will keep him in your heart.
RIP. Mary Beth Nimitz



Mary Beth Nimitz - January 15, 2025 at 02:56 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Leo E. O'Parka.



January 15, 2025 at 11:45 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Leo E. O'Parka.

January 15, 2025 at 11:45 AM

MR

“ *Marian, I am so sorry for your loss. May your family surround you and provide loving support.* ”

Margo Roth - January 15, 2025 at 06:37 AM

TF

“ *The DeMolen Family purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Leo E. O'Parka.* ”



The DeMolen Family - January 14, 2025 at 09:32 PM

ST

“ *Sisters in Christ (C, K, S, S & T) purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Leo E. O'Parka.* ”



Sisters in Christ (C, K, S, S & T) - January 14, 2025 at 09:17 PM

NB

“ *Nancy Bouck lit a candle in memory of Leo E. O'Parka* ”



Nancy Bouck - January 14, 2025 at 05:53 PM

SD

“ *Sekisui Diagnostics purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Leo E. O'Parka.*



Sekisui Diagnostics - January 14, 2025 at 12:46 PM

AS

“ *My condolences to the family! He was such a nice man! Thoughts and Prayers during this difficult time!*



Amy Jo Sageman - January 14, 2025 at 11:50 AM

RB

“ *Rosalie Bucholtz lit a candle in memory of Leo E. O'Parka*



Rosalie Bucholtz - January 14, 2025 at 10:51 AM

BG

“ *Barb Gorney lit a candle in memory of Leo E. O'Parka*



Barb Gorney - January 14, 2025 at 08:14 AM

DC

Our sincere sympathy to Marion and family for your loss. May God grant you many blessings during this difficult time. He was such a nice man.

Delphine M Czewski - January 14, 2025 at 02:55 PM