



## LeRoy John Sieja

April 1, 1947 - March 7, 2024

LeRoy (Lee) Sieja , 76, of Estero, Florida, passed away on March 7th, 2024 at Gulf Coast Hospital with his wife Jane (Jablonski) Sieja at his side after a lengthy 18 months of complications from a knee replacement surgery. He was born on April 1st, 1947 in Menominee, Michigan, on a beautiful river to Joseph and Mary Sieja.

He is survived by his loving and devoted wife Jane (Jablonski) Sieja after 56 years together and 52 years of marriage. It was an ideal marriage and they would both do it again! He is preceded in death by his parents, in-laws, and all brothers and sisters. He has two sisters-in-law Dawn (SK) Matter and Pamela (Denny) Ruef. He is also survived by best friends of a lifetime; Dave (Penny) Zwalina. Although not having children of their own, he is survived by an abundance of nephews, nieces, and God children. His nephew Bart described him as "The man, the myth and the Legend" and also the greatest uncle ever.

Lee served in the Michigan National Guard for 8 years and later worked at Allen Bradley/ Rockwell for 37 years, where he first saw his wife, Jane. They later dated for 4 years and were married 52 years. They bought their first home in Cudahy, Wisconsin in 1980 and resided there for 30 years. After he retired, they moved to their Pelican Lake, Wisconsin cottage. They also wintered 10 years renting in Bonita Springs, Florida. They then decided to buy a home in Estero, Florida, when they became Florida residents and resided

there for the last 9 years.

He enjoyed the great outdoors, backpacking, fishing, hunting, golf, tennis, racquetball, and of course, poker, gin, and gambling. He loved the Green Bay Packers. They also enjoyed a lifetime of vacations in Europe, Alaska, USA, including 23 cruises. He will be fondly be missed.

A "Celebration of Life" will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, shortly.

To sign his guest register or to leave online condolences, please visit [www.shikanyfuneralhome.com](http://www.shikanyfuneralhome.com)

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home, family owned and operated since 1978.

# Tribute Wall

DC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



**Diane Cira-Wanat** - March 28, 2024 at 12:39 PM

DC

“ *The only memories I have of Leroy are what a fun, crazy guy he was. My late husband, Bob Cira, always had funny stories to tell about him. I am heartbroken that he and Jane had such a difficult, painful last months together. My he rest now in peace, without pain in God's Paradise.*

**Diane Cira-Wanat** - March 28, 2024 at 12:36 PM

BW

*It was my pleasure to work with Leroy (and the late Bob Cira & Diane Cira-Wanat) at Allen-Bradley in the 1990's. Leroy was a master story teller. We started off every morning at 6am in department 494/828 with a roundtable with Leroy at the center - along with the late Ron Rakowski. Bob, Ron & I laughed hysterically with Leroy as he made fun of the workplace, and our co-workers (including myself). Leroy was a highly skilled injection molding technician as well. (We worked on prototypes for the most innovative manufacturing projects that Rockwell Automation developed). He took his job seriously while also "injecting" a lot of fun into our work as a team. We were a great team. I wish Jane and his family peace. (Bryan Walsch, Waukesha, WI)*

**Bryan Walsch** - April 09, 2024 at 12:31 PM

JK

“ *Leroy was always the most fun person in any room. He worked hard and played harder. He was a great storyteller and his dance moves were epic! We will never forget him! Sending thoughts and prayers to Jane and the entire family.*

*Jim and Ann Kirchen*

---

**Jim and Ann Kirchen** - March 22, 2024 at 10:49 PM

GK

“ *4 files added to the album Brothers*



---

**Garry J. Kregelka** - March 19, 2024 at 06:04 PM

“LeRoy Sieja, Henry Porras III, and I were inseparable comrades throughout our schooling in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. Hailing from the modest confines of Wallace Elementary in Menominee County, we migrated as one to Stephenson High School. Our boyhood was a symphony of adrenaline and grit, a testament to adventure and camaraderie, filled with the pursuits of hunting, fishing, horseback riding, and the art of throwing knives. From logging to baling hay to building fences, our days were seasoned with toil amidst the farms and forests. And then came the allure of automobiles and the mysteries of the fairer sex.

Many an evening found me at the Sieja household in Wallace, where his mother wielded culinary magic, conjuring delectable meals such as my cherished Polish Pierogi. It was there that LeRoy imparted upon me the art of knife throwing, a skill learned from his elder brother Joe, a figure shrouded in myth and legend, a man of daring exploits and unfathomable coolness.

LeRoy, or "Little Joe" as we affectionately dubbed him, embodied the essence of the spirited cowboy portrayed by Michael Landon in "Bonanza." Compact yet robust, he possessed a swiftness that defied explanation. In the throes of conflict, his fists moved like lightning, leaving adversaries bewildered in their wake. Standing at a modest 5 feet 7 inches, he possessed an agility that mirrored his fictional namesake, effortlessly mounting steeds in a manner reminiscent of the famed television character. His repertoire extended to the lively Russian Cossack dance, a spectacle that never failed to captivate.

A devotee of chance, Lee found solace in the thrill of card games and billiards, his prowess seldom failing to garner victory. Our post-graduation ambitions of venturing westward to California shimmered with promise, but fate had other plans, weaving the tapestry of our lives in unexpected patterns. Lee and Hank, in an unexpected turn, embarked on a stint in cosmetology school in Green Bay, perhaps enticed by the prospect of romantic encounters. Our paths diverged,

*each charting a unique course through life's tumultuous terrain.*

*At our twentieth reunion from Stephenson High, we convened for a two-day celebration at my home in Rapid River, Michigan, where I lived with my then wife (another classmate), Diane Vincent. Lee's wife Jane was there, and Hank's wife Lois, another Stephenson alum, one year behind. That was the last best time we all had together, and the memories remain. In a gesture of enduring friendship, Lee presented Hank and I with throwing knives crafted by his own hands, tangible tokens of our lasting bond. Mine, a cherished keepsake, serves as a testament to the indelible imprint of our shared adventures.*

*LeRoy Joseph Sieja has left an indelible mark on my life, and his absence will be keenly felt. As we bid farewell, we hold onto the hope of a reunion in the realms beyond, where we may once again share in the joy of each other's company. May his soul find eternal peace, and may his memory live on in our hearts forever.*

---

**Garry J. Kregelka** - March 19, 2024 at 06:00 PM

GE

“ *It has been my pleasure to have served you as your physical therapist. You had fought so hard and I've seen you recovered. Forever in my heart I will remember the joy we shared with the progress you made. You and Jane showed me marriage made in heaven. I condole you Jane in this time of sorrow.*

---

**Genevieve** - March 19, 2024 at 03:55 PM

MW

“ Lee was a remarkable person. A little bit of an outlaw but with a big heart of gold.

Our family loved Lee.

We lived next to Lee and Jane for 25 years. We shared many good times with them, backyard bonfires( with beverages), New Year's Eves, and even a vacation to San Antonio!

My kids grew up calling them Uncle Lee and Aunt Jane.

Such lovely people!

We will always remember Lee, his humor, his loyalty, and the wonderful friendship that he showed us.

Rest well, good friend.

---

**Mary Kay Windler** - March 16, 2024 at 01:32 PM

JH

“ My deepest condolences on the loss of Leroy. I know that it was unexpected. You and your family will be in my thoughts and prayers.

---

**Jim Hotz** - March 16, 2024 at 12:06 PM

KC

“ Lee will be missed. So many fun memories we shared. Poker, cruises and so much more. Lee was one of a kind.

---

**karen catalano** - March 15, 2024 at 11:57 PM

AC

“ Lee was my patient for almost 10 years. We , doctors , sometimes, have a bad day, but when he was on my schedule , I knew that my stress was over and I could relax for the rest of the day. Rest in peace my friend , and don't worry , I will continue taking care of Jane .

---

**Alberto concepcion** - March 15, 2024 at 05:08 PM

EP

*As neighbors we enjoyed both Leroy and Jane. Good to see comment from our doctor Alberto. Sorry we moved to Ohio but we will keep Jane in our prayers*

---

**Ed and Lorrie Phelps** - March 16, 2024 at 01:15 PM

DS

*“ I’ll miss you Lee. Always came away from seeing you and Jane , smiling and laughing. Don’t think I ever saw you drink the same thing twice in succession. You enjoyed life and brought some of that sunshine to all the rest of us. Rest easy guy!*

---

**dick stewart** - March 15, 2024 at 03:31 PM