



Bruce Edward Ayres

April 10, 1943 - November 28, 2019

Bruce Edward Ayres, age 76, of Gary, passed away November 28, 2019. Bruce was born April 10, 1943. He was the son of the late William R. and Donna Ayres. Bruce went to Emerson High School and was in the Army Reserves. He was an active member and officer of Miller Legion Post #279, a lifetime member of the Izaak Walton League of Portage, IN., where his favorite pastime was riding the waves of Lake Michigan, in his boat "The Get Down", as well as hosting with other Izaak Walton members many years of annual dinners. Bruce loved people and people loved Bruce. No one was a stranger to him. He was one of the most generous souls on the planet.

Bruce was preceded in death by his wife-Doris (nee Malizzo); daughter-Christine Larson. He is survived by his companion-Margaret "Peggy" Strnad; daughter-Deborah 'Debi" (Dennis) Beamon; brother-Byron (Linda) Ayres; sister-Cynthia Ayres; three nieces-Denise Ayres, Alice Tegimeir, Sandy Ayres; granddaughter-Candy (Steve) Papaevangelore; great-grandchildren-Chloe, Cayley and Cayden; son-in-law-Jeff Larson. Bruce, we love you!! You were a fighter until the end and you will be deeply missed.

A memorial visitation for Bruce will be held on Wednesday, December 4, 2019, from 3:00 p.m. until the time of service at 5:00 p.m., at Burns Funeral Home, 701 East 7th Street. Hobart. www.burnsfuneral.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

DEC 4. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Burns Funeral Home - Hobart
701 E. 7th Street
Hobart, IN 46342
(219) 942-1117
info@burnsfuneral.com
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

Memorial Service

DEC 4. 5:00 PM (CT)

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Tribute Wall

CA

“ I never knew this site was on here when Bruce passed away. it happened so fast and I was up visiting Byron as they had just diagnosed him with pancreatic cancer stage 4 . My brother Bruce was the most generous man on the face of the Earth. they both were. Bruce would feed anybody that came in his path give them food, cash, Furniture you name it he was always helping people. Bruce's latter days were filled with medical procedures and staying at home which was very hard for such a social man as he was .He was a great provider and he wanted to be here for Peggy his life partner. (Peggy you are Wonder Woman in my eyes). My love to all my family and all Bruce's friends that were in that wild, crazy, loving and difficult journey of his. I thank you for your love and support for him all these years. God bless you all. Love you Bruce we'll see you in our Eternal home. I'm glad I got to come and stay with you and Peg those few months. it was my honor..

Cyndi Ayres - May 05, 2020 at 08:51 AM

LW

“ My sincere condolences to the entire family.
Long time family friends.
I last saw Bruce about 9 years ago. He was so happy to see me.
We shared many memories that afternoon. So glad to have that as my last memory of him.
Linda Pence Witkos

Linda Pence Witkos - December 06, 2019 at 12:42 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Bruce Edward Ayres.*



December 04, 2019 at 09:59 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Bruce Edward Ayres.*



December 02, 2019 at 01:08 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Bruce Edward Ayres.*



December 02, 2019 at 11:03 AM



“ *My condolences to Debbie and family so sorry for your loss we loved your dad and he was such a great man i remember when i was young all the fun times we had on the boat your dad my dad and burns ditch George loved him so and always loved your dad he will be missed. Debbie and George Settle*

Debbie and George Settle - November 30, 2019 at 04:59 PM

SN

“ There are so many but he would always invite me over to watch movies and every time he would let me make the largest ice creme sundae and always had all the toppings, as long as I made him one too.

Sandy (Lee) niece - November 30, 2019 at 03:34 PM

SS

“ I will never forget Bruce as being a lifelong neighbor two doors down on and up Wyoming St before that. We sure had many many cars and remember just hanging out in his garage netting on which brand of would freeze first haha ... Welp ol friend now you may rest in the loving arms of our Lord. Scott Siler

Scott Siler - November 30, 2019 at 10:38 AM

CM

“ Bruce was such a great guy. I will always cherish our visits and the way he always made us feel loved and welcome in his home. We had many great times boating, vacations in Florida, cookouts, and Holidays. We weren't blood family but we were definitely heart felt family.



Connie Metz - November 29, 2019 at 11:14 PM

KM

He will be missed especially by the Miller community. He had a wonderful generous soul, loved the football squares and them Minnesota vikings.... rest easy bruce

Kimberly metz - November 30, 2019 at 12:48 AM

RS

On behalf of the Stedman family, I want to extend our condolences to the entire Ayres family.

Bruce (as well as Cyndi and Byron) were my late husband's first cousins. His mother, Donna, and Bill's mother, Mary Alyce, were sisters. Bill and Bruce were true family people...always wanting the families to remember their roots and to stay in touch. We had that get-together he recently had been wanting this fall in Sullivan, Indiana, but he was too ill to attend. Daughter Debi was there, and it was wonderful to see her. Such a strong family resemblance ran through the Slinkards and has passed to the children spread over the U.S. You could pick out everyone in a crowd.

I will always remember he and Peg's kindness and hospitality to both of us. And I will always hear his "region speak" when I think of him.

Rosalyn W Stedman - December 03, 2019 at 01:47 PM

KB

“ Hard to believe this has happened.... Brings me so much sadness, May you rest in the arms of the Lord.I thank him for being my Aunt's companion.

Kathy Barreiro - November 29, 2019 at 10:27 PM