



Dennis B Leonard

November 19, 1952 - February 13, 2026

Dennis B. Leonard, age 73, of Hobart, passed away at home surrounded by his family on February 13, 2026. Dennis was incredibly blessed and loved. Dennis was born in Gary on November 19, 1952. He met the love of his life, Camille (Kim Thomas) in high school, and they were married for 51 incredible years. Together, they had four boys: Joe (Christina Zeceovich), Tom (Valerie Heuring-Leonard), Dan (Jamie), and Jason (Tara). Dennis graduated from River Forest High School in 1971, where he was an outstanding basketball and football player. Dennis then went on to play football on a scholarship at Butler, where he won the Butler Varsity Tenacity Award in 1974 and was an all-conference tight end. Dennis graduated from Butler in 1975 with a degree in Education. He worked as a history teacher, gym teacher and athletic director at River Forest High School. As a coach there, Dennis won the 1980 “Coach of the Year” award as the “winningest coach”. Later on, Dennis was an assistant basketball coach and football coach for the Hobart Brickies, winning state championships in 1991 and 1993. Upon his retirement, “Mr. Dennis” loved his job driving a school bus for the School City of Hobart, transporting both students and athletes until 2024. In life, Dennis loved warm summer days by his pool with his family and friends, he had a personified sweet tooth, and was the “Christmas King,” listening to Christmas music right after Halloween. Dennis also loved to dance at weddings, golfing, with a hole-in-one in 2017, and was an avid Chicago sports fan. Dennis is survived by his wife, four sons and seven grandchildren, Danny, Melanie, Peyton, Aidan, Camille, Henry and

Maxwell. He was preceded in death by his parents, Harry and Doris Arlene Leonard, sister, Karen Chontos, great-niece, Ally Bullington, and favorite dog, Thelma Lou. Dennis is survived by his brother, Jim (Lorie) Leonard, sisters, Diane Leonard, Sandy (Dan) Waldrop and Pam (Marty) Huff, numerous nieces and nephews. Friends are invited to visit with Dennis' family at Burns Funeral Home, 701 E. 7th St., Hobart on Tuesday, February 17 from 2-8 p.m. and on Wednesday, February 18 from 10-11a.m. followed by a memorial service. Cremation will take place at Burns Funeral Home Crematory. Per the family's wishes, in lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to The Butler Fund for Student Scholarship, or "I Am ALS."

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 17. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

Visitation

FEB 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

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

Memorial Service

FEB 18. 11:00 AM (CT)

Burns Funeral Home - Hobart
701 E. 7th Street
Hobart, IN 46342
(219) 942-1117
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Tribute Wall

HD

“ Harry & Carol D'Aloisio planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dennis B Leonard.

Harry & Carol D'Aloisio - March 09 at 03:47 PM

JO

“ My Condolences to Kim and the whole family, Dennis was a great man. I'm so sorry to hear of his passing.....RIP Dennis John Easton

johneaston - February 20 at 08:20 PM

HJ

“ Condolences and prayers to the family and friends of Dennis. He was a class act, and was always good to me. He gave me my first job, detasseling corn in the summers. His legacy is the great influence he was on so many.

Howie Jones - February 18 at 11:38 AM

TM

“ The McGill's purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dennis B Leonard.



The McGill's - February 17 at 03:26 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Dennis B Leonard.*



February 17 at 12:30 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dennis B Leonard.

February 17 at 12:30 PM



“ *What a wonderful man he was to everyone. Prayers for healing to your hearts. Remember all the good times. My fondest memory of Dennis was when we all went to a co-ed tournament in Wisconsin. Well, we all shut the bar down but continued to have fun in the parking lot. The song Caribbean Queen came on the radio and Dennis proceeded to get on top his car and started dancing and singing to this song at the top of his lungs. We laughed so hard, we cried.*

Frederick & Gloria Nystrom - February 17 at 09:37 AM



“ *Ricky Vasquez and family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dennis B Leonard.*



Ricky Vasquez and family - February 17 at 08:51 AM

UW

“ *US Steel HRF & Warehouses purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dennis B Leonard.*



US Steel HRF & Warehouses - February 16 at 03:57 PM

TF

“ *The Buford Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dennis B Leonard.*



The Buford Family - February 16 at 02:31 PM

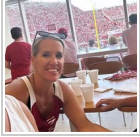
TE

“ *Sorry to hear of the passing of one of my earliest childhood friends. Our deepest sympathies to his family. With fond memories of summer days with Bob Beasley and Randy Kuechenberg and the joys and innocence of youth. The days at Columbus and the days we were inseparable. Happy Trails my friend.*

Terry Ellis



Terry - February 16 at 01:58 PM



“ Some of my earliest memories include Mr. Leonard — especially our family trips to Disney and staying at the Caribbean Beach Resort. I’ll always remember the fun we shared on those vacations. He’ll forever be part of some of my happiest childhood memories.

Katie Julian - February 16 at 09:39 AM



“ JAMES SUMMAR planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dennis B Leonard.

JAMES SUMMAR - February 15 at 07:55 PM



“ JAMES SUMMAR purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Dennis B Leonard.



JAMES SUMMAR - February 15 at 07:55 PM



“ Coach Leonard was a good man and a tremendous coach. I was lucky enough to be at River Forest when he had some of his best teams and they were fun to watch. I never knew him really well, but I knew him well enough to know that he was a good man who gave his heart and soul to our school and our community.

Clifton Brown - February 15 at 03:30 PM

GL

“ Very sorry to hear this news. I have fond memories of playing football for Coach Leonard and credit him for inspiring us to be our best. I will always respect and admire his leadership. May he rest in peace and sympathies to his loved ones.

George Logothetis - February 15 at 12:12 PM

BW

“ Prayers to the Families and Friends of Dennis. Always an Ingot & you are missed by so many. Fly High our Classmate. Ben & Sis Williams

Ben & Sis Williams - February 15 at 07:55 AM

TG

“ Mr. Lennard was my favorite teacher in High School , he truly cared about his students . Later in the years I worked with Kim at Coney Island Express and will always cherish our friendship . RIP Dennis - love Theresa

Theresa G - February 14 at 06:32 PM

KC

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Dennis' family. Another Ingot gone 💔

Kathy & Rene' Couture

Kathy & Rene' Couture - February 14 at 06:01 PM

JM

“ So sorry to hear of Dennis passing. Prayers to Kim and all his family. Have great memories of a good and kind school mate at RF. Always a warm welcome when we meet in the Hobart / Lake Station community area activities. Always a smile and handshake, always a "Moon" comment. He gave his best in all he did. One of the Best of '71. ❤️🙏❤️

Jim Mullins - February 14 at 04:03 PM

CN

“ I have fond memories of Mr. Leonard being a kind and caring individual when we did corn detasseling over the summer with Dr. Wright at RFHS. He teased the football players who quit early, and told those of us who were able to stick with it that we could call him "Grandpa". I will never forget this kindnesses.

Charlotte (Rodriquez) Noble - February 14 at 02:12 PM

PD

“ Dennis is and was a great guy, great human and great and great athlete 🏈🏀🏌️. His journey into the Spirit ✨🌍 world will be a blessed one. 💖

Paul Delahanty - February 14 at 01:37 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dennis B Leonard.

February 14 at 11:08 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Dennis B Leonard.*



February 14 at 11:08 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Dennis B Leonard.*



February 14 at 08:36 AM



“ *Condolences to Kim and family. So sorry to hear this. I got to know Dennis working at Pizza Hut for many years. He truly will be missed.*

Beth Poeta - February 14 at 06:23 AM

FB

“ Dennis was my right hand man on the basketball 🏀 court for six straight years (7th through 12th grade) He was a very good friend and a very good player. To me, he was a better basketball 🏀 player than football 🏈 player. Even in High School 🏫 i remember the love ❤️ that he had for my good friend Kim, it was like a light being turned on when they were together.

I JUST WANNA SAY THAT WITHOUT HIM BY MY SIDE IN BASKETBALL 🏀 I WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH WHAT I DID. DENNIS HAD A LOUD LAUGHTER AND A GREAT SMILE, I CAN TRULY SAY HE WAS MY FRIEND. KIM, I AM SORRY FOR THE LOST OF YOUR LOVE ❤️ AND BEST FRIEND, IT IS MY PRAYER 🙏 THAT GOD COMFORTS YOU, AND GIVE YOU AS THE BIBLE SAYS, HIS PEACE THAT SURPASSES ALL UNDERSTANDING.

WITH MUCH LOVE ❤️ YOUR FRIEND FROM MANY YEARS PASS, FRANK BERNACET

Frank Bernacet - February 14 at 01:17 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Dennis B Leonard.



February 13 at 11:31 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dennis B Leonard.

February 13 at 11:31 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dennis B Leonard.

February 13 at 09:48 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dennis B Leonard.



February 13 at 09:48 PM