



Lawrence Louis Vallem

November 13, 1949 - October 18, 2015

Lawrence (“Lars” “Larry”) Vallem, age 65, of Lake Station, passed away on October 18, 2015. Larry was born on November 13, 1949 in Ashland, WI to Raymond and Edith (nee Louis) Vallem of Hayward. Larry was a graduate of Spooner Community Schools and continued his education at UW Superior; acquiring his Masters Degree in Fine Arts and a journalism endorsement from Ball State.

Larry then accepted a teaching position in Gary, IN and was subsequently appointed Department Head for Gary Community School System’s Art Department. He became actively involved in school programs, student functions and special events, including acting as yearbook and prom advisor for many years. While attending college and for many years afterwards, Larry spent his summers at North Star Boys Camp outside Hayward, WI and as a counselor and art teacher. Larry always continued his own art interests, becoming accomplished in many mediums including painting, sculpting, printmaking, weaving and others. His works are featured in exhibitions and galleries and he achieved recognition and awards for his art, most notably his bronze castings.

Upon retirement from his 32 years dedication to teaching, Larry remained an active part of the community. Having many diverse interests, Larry’s contributions and involvements included but were not limited to: Sons of Norway- President multiple terms, Newsletter Editor many years; Duneland Weavers Guild-Editor of the newspaper; Indiana University NW-lab assistant

teaching lost wax bronze casting with Professor Neil Goodman and fellow assistant Linde Hansen-Lukas; Northwest Indiana Mac Users Group-President; Lake Station, IN-Historical Society, Board Member; Accomplished Master Gardener and Bonsai Master, donating time to landscaping local parks, including the Norwegian Garden at Friendship Gardens in Michigan City; Founding leader and teacher in Gary Arts Works summer intern gifted and talented program; actively involved in the National Art Education Association; taught and gave tours at County Line Apple Orchard.

He was preceded in death by his father-Raymond Vallem and brother-Craig Vallem; Larry is survived by his mother, Edith Vallem; three sisters- Elaine (Charles) Grainger, Irene (Charles) Graves, Judy Hooker; one brother-Paul Vallem; six nieces and two nephews.

The family will gather next summer for a time of sharing, reminiscing, admiring and celebrating the life of a beloved brother and oldest son. Burns Funeral Home Cremation Services, 701 East 7th Street, Hobart, entrusted with arrangements. www.burnsfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

EK

“ *Elizabeth Kretchmer lit a candle in memory of
Lawrence Louis Vallem* ”



Elizabeth Kretchmer - May 01, 2016 at 12:13 AM