

Larry D. Sanford

November 20, 1939 - February 25, 2022

ADRIAN – Larry D. Sanford, 82, of Adrian, died Friday evening, February 25, 2022.

Born November 20, 1939 in Adrian, he was the son of Harvey and Marion (Myers) Sanford. Upon graduating from high school, Larry enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He proudly served our nation for four years, while stationed in Japan. Larry was employed as a Foreman for the Budd Company for over 21 years, until his retirement.

On July 30, 1994 Larry married Kathy Brockway. She survives to cherish over 27 years of love and memories.

Larry was a proud member of Alcoholics Anonymous for over 39 years and was co-founder and honorary member of the Serenity House in Adrian. He was an integral part of the negotiation team, bringing the Alcoholics Anonymous International Convention to Detroit. Larry was also a past delegate for Area 32 for A.A.

In his spare time, Larry enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, and playing cards. He had love of everything motorcycles, which has continued for over 50 years.

In addition to his beloved wife, Kathy, Larry is survived by their children, Dori Serrels, Leon (Carol) Sanford, Larry (Lisa) Sanford, Kimberly (Tommie) Carey, Shannon Barber, Shane (Misty) Sloan, Craig Sloan, and Nicole (Derek) Jenkins; 13 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren; and his siblings, Ann (Bill) Witt, Greg (Sharon) Sanford, and Pat (Tom) Perkins.

Larry was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Mike Sanford.

A funeral service for Larry will take place on Friday, March, 4, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at Wagley Funeral Home, Adrian with Pastor Russell Henagan, officiating. Burial will follow at Fairfield Cemetery. Military honors will be conducted by Annis Fint Post #1584 and American Legion Post #97. Visitation will be held on Thursday from 4:00-8:00 p.m. at the funeral home, and again on Friday beginning at 12:00 p.m. and continuing until the time of the service.

To honor Larry's memory, the family suggests that contributions be made to the Serenity House. Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com.

Cemetery Details

Fairfield Cemetery

7011 S. Adrian Hwy
Fairfield Township, MI 49221

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 3. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home (Adrian)
1501 W. Maumee St.
Adrian, MI 49221
(517) 263-1400
info@wagleyfuneralhome.com
<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

Visitation

MAR 4. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home (Adrian)
1501 W. Maumee St.
Adrian, MI 49221
(517) 263-1400
info@wagleyfuneralhome.com
<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

Funeral Service

MAR 4. 1:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home (Adrian)

1501 W. Maumee St.

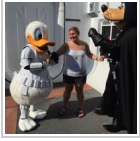
Adrian, MI 49221

(517) 263-1400

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Tribute Wall



“ I am so sorry I did not know about Larry's passing. I will never forget how Larry hoodwinked me into getting involved with a program dinner. I was shy, but, Larry? Well, he had a way of obligating you. He asked me to make scalloped potatoes for the AA dinner. I went and bought, I don't know 5 or 10 pound bag of potatoes, and made them from scratch. it took me all day! I mentioned all my hard work to Larry. His response? " I didn't tell ya to make them from scratch. I would have bought instant! lol I sat with Cathy and he at the dinner, and said, "just think of all the love that went into making those potatoes. He was my solid person I could trust in the program..I always looked for Larry, and enjoyed many conversations with him at the Serenity House. Love you Larry and so sorry I wasn't there to see you off. Condolences to you Cathy and all the children. Vickie Patterson- Brooklyn Michigan

Vickie Patterson - May 16 at 07:47 PM



“ *Larry D. Sanford*

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM

GB

“ I first met Larry at the Serenity House the morning after my failed overdose attempt. He welcomed me and I felt embraced. Always afraid to leave at closing, not trusting myself. Larry made me believe I could survive the night sober and he would see me in the morning for coffee. After 5 days, he gently pushed me to into attending my first AA meeting. I'm 30 years sober and know without a doubt, that in the beginning, Larry was my higher power. He will always be in my heart, playing cards, cracking jokes and looking to uplift the newcomer.

Diane Philbrook Bowers

George Bowers - March 03, 2022 at 09:00 PM

GB

“ Sanford and I worked together from the mid '70s to the early '80s. In the beginning, we became fast friends. Holding down the shipping dept. all day and bar stools all night. in '82 after another DUI and a psychotic break, I went to treatment. 2 weeks later, back at work, we were the same. He didn't ask and I didn't share. 2 months later I came to work one morning and a mutual friend said he had taken Larry to treatment. I went to see him that night and tried to talk him out of it. I said "Why" He said " Because I see you every morning clear eyed and smiling and it looks good". I said "I'm 2 months in and not even doing it right". He asked if I had been drinking and I said no. He said "That's all I want". 2 weeks later he came out of there looking to make 90/90. And, he wanted me to do it with him. I agreed. There's been no looking back for either of us. He credited me for getting sober first, but, if it hadn't been for him coming in great guns, I was planning on leaving around 6 months or so. He gave me the desire to "stay" sober. Yeah, Sanford changed my life, more than once. Even after moving around for work and eventually retiring in S. Texas, just knowing all through the years he was out there, playing cards at Serenity House, serving as Area Delegate or offering a hand up to a fellow traveler has been a source of comfort.

My Pal...in "our adventures before and after".

Comfort and condolences to his family,

George Bowers

George Bowers - March 03, 2022 at 08:32 PM

KG

“ You will be missed Larry. You were a huge part of my recovery. Nearly 33 years ago I would sit on the Bixby bus with you . I'd leave the meeting because I thought everyone was crazy up in there. You'd just say " what's happening.kid." You would listen then give me your experience, strength and hope. Thank you.
Rest in peace my friend.
Kathy Goldberg

Kathy Goldberg - March 03, 2022 at 09:34 AM

KC

“ Larry's down to earth wisdom and unending support for the AA community will be sorely missed. My thoughts & prayers go out to his family.

K Cagle

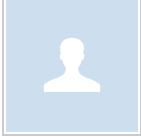
Kay Cagle - March 03, 2022 at 08:36 AM

PS

“ Partnerships Channel, & Sam Schey purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Larry D. Sanford.



Partnerships Channel, & Sam Schey - March 02, 2022 at 05:04 PM



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Larry D. Sanford.*



March 02, 2022 at 02:07 PM



“ *Leon, Carol, and family. Please accept our deepest condolences on the loss of your father, brother, and grandfather. I will hold you all in prayer during this sorrowful time. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.*

Lou and Sue Flores - March 01, 2022 at 11:09 PM



“ *Ron Flores lit a candle in memory of Larry D. Sanford*



Ron flores - February 28, 2022 at 11:25 PM



“ *Mary Ruskowsky sent a virtual gift in memory of Larry D. Sanford*



Mary Ruskowsky - February 28, 2022 at 06:46 PM



“ [Memorial Trees](https://www.wagleyfuneralhomes.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Larry D. Sanford.

February 28, 2022 at 11:47 AM



“ Condolences to the family of Larry Sanford, such a great friend!



Cindy Gutierrez - February 27, 2022 at 09:50 PM



“ Larry always had words of wisdom and comfort for me. He has left an amazing legacy at Serenity House. Love and peace, Larry.

Carol Ries - February 27, 2022 at 08:55 PM



Larry was a very loving caring person ❤️ he will be missed alot

Mary ruskowsky - February 28, 2022 at 06:30 PM



Sad

Mary Ruskowsky - February 28, 2022 at 06:32 PM



“ *Larry was a kind neighbor and a good family man. He will be missed.* ”



Cathy Burr - February 27, 2022 at 02:03 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Larry D. Sanford.* ”



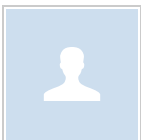
February 27, 2022 at 11:11 AM



“ *Michele Ritchie lit a candle in memory of Larry D. Sanford* ”



Michele Ritchie - February 26, 2022 at 11:41 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Larry D. Sanford.* ”



February 26, 2022 at 10:33 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Larry D. Sanford.*



February 26, 2022 at 09:48 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Larry D. Sanford.*



February 26, 2022 at 09:30 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Larry D. Sanford.*



February 26, 2022 at 05:53 PM