



Raymond B. "Ray Jay" Lechner

July 9, 1935 - November 17, 2023

Raymond B. "Ray Jay" Lechner, age 88 of Jasper, Indiana, passed away at 6:00 pm on Friday, November 17, 2023 at home surrounded by family.

Ray was born in Jasper, Indiana on July 9, 1935 to William and Josephine (Hopf) Lechner. He married Mary Lou Durcholz on May 14, 1957 in St. Mary Catholic Church in Ireland, IN. She preceded him in death on November 13, 2005.

Ray was a U.S. Army Veteran who served in Korea, and was a lifetime member of the VFW Post #673 and a member of the American Legion Post #147.

He retired as a construction superintendent from Krempp Construction after 45 years of service. He was also a farmer and master carpenter.

He was a charter member of Precious Blood Catholic Church in Jasper, and a member of their Men's club. He and his wife were recipients of the Simon Brute award.

He was also a member of the Ireland Knights of Columbus, the Jasper Moose Lodge # 1175, and the Jasper German Club.

Ray was an avid softball player who played into his 70's, was an avid golfer, and bowler for the Ireland K of C. He and his band, "Freddie, Ray Jay and the Boys," would play at nursing homes, the Shamrock, and other local events. He was a fan of IU sports, the St. Louis Cardinals, and the Indianapolis Colts. He enjoyed playing cards, especially Sheephead. Most of all, he cherished spending time with his family, especially attending his children's and grandchildren's activities.

Surviving are three sons, Kurt R. Lechner (Cindy), Jasper, Mark Lechner (Barbara), Louisville, and Gene Lechner, St. Louis, one daughter, Ann Shappard (Mike), Jasper, significant other, Fran Johnson, Jasper, seven grandchildren, four great grandchildren, and four sisters, Millie Erny, Jasper, Sister Lucille Lechner, St. Mary of the Woods, Terre Haute, Suzanne Schwenk, Jasper, and Connie Welp (Art), Jasper.

Preceding him in death besides his wife was one great granddaughter, Blair Tabler, several in-laws, and his lifelong childhood friend, Alfred "Freddie" Hopf.

A Mass of Christian Burial for Raymond Lechner will be held at 10 am on Wednesday, November 22, 2023 at Precious Blood Catholic Church in Jasper, Indiana, with burial to follow in Fairview Cemetery in Jasper. The VFW Post #673 will conduct military graveside rites.

A visitation will be held from 3 pm until 7 pm on Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at the Becher-Kluesner Downtown Chapel in Jasper, IN, and again from 9 am until the 10 am Mass time at Precious Blood Catholic Church on Wednesday. The Ireland Knights of Columbus will conduct a memorial service at 6 pm on Tuesday at the funeral Home.

Memorial contributions may be made to Precious Blood Catholic Church, or a favorite charity.

Online condolences may be made at www.becherkluesner.com

Cemetery Details

Fairview Cemetery

1020 Kundek Street
Jasper, IN 47546

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 21. 3:00 AM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Becher & Kluesner Funeral Home - Downtown
214 East 7th Street
Jasper, IN 47546
(812) 482-4141
email@becherkluesner.com

Visitation

NOV 22. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Precious Blood Catholic Church
1385 W 6th St
Jasper, IN

Mass of Christian Burial

NOV 22. 10:00 AM (ET)

Precious Blood Catholic Church
1385 W 6th St
Jasper, IN

Tribute Wall

SS

“ *Ann you have my deepest condolences with the loss of your father.*
Shaun Skerbitz & family



Shaun skerbitz - November 22, 2023 at 12:24 AM



“ *Our prayers & condolences to the Lechner family. May God's love comfort you and heal your hearts.*

Richard Coyle Jr. - November 21, 2023 at 09:14 AM

DH

“ *Frances So sorry to hear of Ray passing. Prayers for all*

Dave and Ann Hostetter - November 21, 2023 at 05:20 AM

JK

“ *He will be remembered with smiles by so many. Our condolences. Godspeed.*



Joan and Brian Knies - November 20, 2023 at 05:35 PM

DS

“ *Our Sympathy and Condolences are with the Lechner Family.
Debbie and Brad Seger*



Debra Seger - November 20, 2023 at 02:44 PM

BB

“ *Going to miss you Old friend*



Brian Bachman - November 20, 2023 at 08:17 AM

KM

Sending my condolences to Mark and the Lechner Family ! May he rest in peace ! 🙏💔

Keren Mizrahi - November 20, 2023 at 10:13 PM

TW

It is hard to put into words regarding the loss of a loved one. My thoughts and prayer are with you and your family. My condolences to you.

Terry Wheeler - November 21, 2023 at 06:06 AM

BR

“ *Barbara Rasche lit a candle in memory of Raymond B. "Ray Jay" Lechner*



Barbara Rasche - November 20, 2023 at 07:40 AM

BR

I've listened to Ray Jay with Freddy Hopf for many years at the Nursing homes, they always brought so much joy into everyones lives...I've been a private caregiver and always took my clients to see them....smiles everywhere, you will be missed Ray, and you still make the best Horse winny of anyone...RIP, see you again one day.....Barb & Ron....

Barbara Rasche - November 20, 2023 at 07:44 AM

CH

“*My deepest sympathy and prayers to the entire Lechner family. Ray was such a faithful servant. May you find comfort in the memories shared. Eternal rest for your dad as he joins your sweet mother in heaven!* 🙏



Chris Bohnert Hinkle - November 20, 2023 at 07:35 AM