



Richard Byron Larson

May 6, 1922 - January 22, 2019

RICHARD BYRON LARSON, age “96½” as he recently referred to his age, passed away January 22, 2019 at Hubbard House West in South Charleston. His soul peacefully departed this world to be with GOD and to join his beloved wife Frances.

Richard was a kind and loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He was the son of Ernest and Esther Larson; the husband of Frances “Fran” Larson; and brother of Valerie Burns, all of whom preceded him in death.

He is survived by his sons: Keith and Mark (Mita) of St. Albans; and Laurence (Eva) of Midland, Michigan; grandson Robert and his children Skyler and Ty; grandson David (Debora) and their son Nathaniel; grandson John Andrew (Tressa) and his children Esmeralda and Phoenix; and grandchildren Daniel and Natalie Larson.

He is also survived by his loving niece Carol Verre (Mario) and her family and his nephew Larry Burns (Cindy) and other relatives in Chicago.

Richard was a chemical engineer who retired from Union Carbide. While earning his degree from Illinois Institute of Technology, he was editor of the student newspaper; president of Pi Delta Epsilon, the national honor student journalism fraternity; and captain of the tennis team. He also held positions in several engineering societies.

Upon graduating during World War II, Richard applied for a commission as a naval officer, but was turned down due to his employment in the atomic energy program (working on the atomic bomb).

After coming to West Virginia to work for Union Carbide, Richard became a founding member of Grace Lutheran Church in St. Albans. He was a member of Cross of Grace Lutheran Church in Hurricane at the time of his death.

Richard had a great sense of humor and loved to tell jokes and stories. He was an avid

reader and a fan of WVU football and basketball, particularly the Chicago Cubs and Bears. He was a perfect example of someone who never met a stranger. We will always carry his memory in our hearts.

The family is grateful for the compassionate care provided by the staff at Hubbard House. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Hospice Care (1606 Kanawha Blvd West, Charleston, WV 25387); or Cross of Grace Lutheran Church (515 Hurricane Creek Rd, Hurricane, WV 25526).

The family is also especially grateful to D. R. Layton (neighbor) and his family.

* A service to honor Richard will be held at 2:00 pm Saturday, January 26, 2019 at Bartlett-Chapman Funeral Home, St. Albans with Rev. James Wicker and Rev. Clifford Smith. Entombment will follow in Cunningham Memorial Park, Lower Mausoleum Chapel St. Albans.

* Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

You may visit Richard's Tribute page at chapmanfuneralhomes.com to share memories or condolences with the family.

Bartlett-Chapman Funeral Home, family owned and located at 409 Sixth Ave., St. Albans is honored to serve the Larson family.

Cemetery

Cunningham Memorial Park

815 Cunningham Lane
Saint Albans, WV, 25177

Events

JAN **Visitation** 01:00PM - 02:00PM

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Bartlett-Chapman Funeral Home
409 Sixth Avenue, St. Albans, WV, US, 25177

JAN **Funeral Service** 02:00PM

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Bartlett-Chapman Funeral Home
409 Sixth Avenue, St. Albans, WV, US, 25177

Comments



“ Laurence R. Larson is following this tribute.

Laurence Larson - February 08 at 10:28 AM



“ We are Ernie & Joan Smith, neighbors of Dick and Fran on Sweet Acres. We've lived on Sweet Acres since July 1982. Such a graceful neighborhood for so many years. Dick was so much fun to talk to about Carbide (Ernie was a “Carbider”, too), “home remedies”, and fun antics and jokes. Fran was the epidemy of class. Such a wonderful, educated, and energetic couple. In the last couple of years Dick would watch our great niece riding her bicycle in the circle. She loved to walk up the sidewalk to his porch chair where he would chat with her and offer a little hug as we returned to her bike. It was a privilege to know them and share the neighborhood with them. In the last few months we've lost the last of our original neighborhood folks, Louis, Claude, and lastly, Dick. The end of an era. Rest in peace sir. Home at last.

Our condolences to the entire Larson family, Ernie and Joan Smith.

Ernest & Joan Smith - January 26 at 10:31 AM



“ Thanks so much for your kind words!

Mark - February 10 at 03:21 PM



“ Dick was my next door neighbor for a few years and I feel very privileged to have gotten to know him and have him as a friend. I really enjoyed talking with him and spending time with him. I could always count on him to have a good joke or two to tell me, and he was great at telling them. Dick was a great man that loved his family very much. I was fortunate to hear many stories about his family and the interesting things he had done and his accomplishments during his long life. He was a true gentleman and a great neighbor. He was a true friend to me and my family. I will genuinely miss having him around.

My condolences to all of his family. My family's thoughts and prayers are with you. My family and I greatly appreciate your kindness.

D.R. Layton II and family

D.R. Layton II - January 25 at 01:58 PM



“ Thanks so much for your nice & kind words! You were the best neighbor Dick could have had. God bless you & your family

Mark - February 10 at 03:23 PM



“ Dick was one of the first engineers I worked with when I joined So. Charleston R&D In 1962. He was a gentleman and an outstanding engineer. My condolences to all of Dick's family; I know you must miss him terribly. But, you should have comfort in the life. He lived for 96-1/2 years. My Hod comfort you in your grief. Lee Platt

Rev Lee Platt - January 23 at 10:45 PM



“ Thanks so much for your kind words!

Mark - February 10 at 03:24 PM



“ Dick was my first boss at Union Carbide-- a great guy to work with and for. He taught me a lot and always supported me in the conduct of my projects. I worked with him for 4 years back in the 1960s, and we stayed friends ever since. I will certainly miss him. My condolences to all his family.

Cyron Lawson, South Charleston

Cyron Lawson - January 23 at 02:30 PM



“ Thank you so much for your nice words! We really appreciate it!

Mark - February 10 at 03:26 PM



“ Keith, I'm so sorry to hear of the passing of your father. I know he was a great man whom you admired. My prayers for comfort are with you and your family during this extremely difficult time. Lora Rutledge

Lora Rutledge - January 23 at 08:32 AM



“ So sorry for your loss. He was a wonderful, kind, and gentle man.

Jackie Jones - January 23 at 07:18 AM



“ Thanks so much Jackie for your nice words!

Mark - February 10 at 03:27 PM