



## William E. Leiser

October 28, 1935 - November 22, 2018

William E. Leiser, age 83, of Bourbonnais, passed away Thursday, November 22, 2018 at his home.

Bill was born October 28, 1935 in Kankakee, the son of Mandel & Helen Doran Leiser.

He married Sharon Lanoue on October 27, 1962 in Peoria.

Bill attended Onarga Military School. He was a graduate of Herscher High School and Bradley University in Peoria.

Bill was the private investor and longtime owner of Leiser Furniture Company in Herscher. The legacy of his business continues to operate by his daughter and his daughter-in-law.

He was a member of the Army National Guard.

Bill, in his own unique way, loved watching the stock market, enjoyed photography, eating – especially ice cream, golfing in his younger years, socializing, traveling, and sharing stories with his grandchildren. He really enjoyed just being out and about, meeting his friends at Starbucks, being in the action and sharing stock tips.

Surviving are his wife, Sharon Leiser of Bourbonnais; one son, Benjamin E. Leiser & his partner, Jen Rowland of Los Angeles, CA; one daughter and son-in-law, Michelle & John Brugioni of Chicago; one daughter-in-law, Brenda Leiser of Herscher; and five grandchildren, Claire Brugioni, Lillie Brugioni, Wolfe Leiser-Rowland, Alex Leiser, and Max Leiser.

Bill is preceded in death by his parents and one son, Eric Leiser.

Visitation will be held 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Monday, November 26, 2018 at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais, where private funeral services will be held on Tuesday, November 27, 2018. Rabbi Barry Axler will officiate the service.

Entombment will follow at All Saints Mausoleum in Bourbonnais.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Riverside Foundation, Hospice of Kankakee Valley, Mercy Home for Boys, or the donor's choice.

# Cemetery Details

## All Saints Cemetery

1839 W. Route 102  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914  
(815) 933-2342

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **26**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.  
295 Main St., NW  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914  
(815) 932-1214  
cgfuneral@gmail.com

# Tribute Wall

AK

“ just read in the Bradley University Alumni Magazine Bill passed away. Some of my fondest memories of Bill are the time we spent drinking coffee and discussing the market at Jaffe Drug Store. I will always cherish these moments. Joann and I express our condolences to Sharon and all the Leiser family. Art Keller & Joann Keller, Frisco Texas.

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**Art Keller** - September 23, 2019 at 06:59 PM

SP

“ My Deepest Sympathies to the family. Bill was such a unique individual. I moved to this area about 19 years ago.... At first, I was taken Aback by Bills humor but over the years I grown to appreciate his sense of humor. I was always shocked how ACTIVE he continued to be as he aged ..and amazed about his strength and agility TOO. So many funny memories. Blessings to such a beautiful family.

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**Suzanne Pinto/Wingert** - November 28, 2018 at 09:33 AM



“ We had the pleasure of sharing family vacations in the same spot, The Verandah on Longboat Key, a number years running during the 80s. That's it really one week a year, and yet, I view all the Leisers as dear friends. they were special times!

*I had mentioned on Michelle's Facebook quite recently that I remember him always trying to pay for our shopping trips with a gas card. He did not give up easily. the poor sales person had no idea how to handle him!*

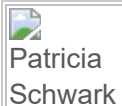
*I also remember his stock market watching. Michelle and I also 'wrote letters" (remember those?) And I remember receiving a much anticipated letter from Michelle and scrawled on the envelope was 'Buy CiCi's"*

*I have so much love for you all and wish you peace and love in this difficult time.*

XXXx,  
Lauren Fallieras

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**Lauren Fallieras** - November 27, 2018 at 09:26 PM



“ My very first grown-up purchase was an exquisite bedroom set from Leiser's many decades ago. Bill gave me a great price and assured me that I was purchasing quality furniture. I am still so in love with that set and still using it today! My heartfelt sympathy to the Leiser family as well as the Herscher community. Blessings. - Patty Schwark

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**Patricia Schwark** - November 27, 2018 at 10:17 AM

MG

“ On behalf of Fr. Scott Donahue and Mercy Home for Boys & Girls, we would like to extend our heartfelt condolences and prayers to the family and friends of William Leiser.

*May the angels lead him into paradise; may the martyrs come to welcome him and take him to the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem.*

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**Mercy Home for Boys & Girls** - November 26, 2018 at 04:05 PM

MS

“ With deepest sympathies to the Leiser family. Bill always remembered us if we ran into him on the streets of Herscher or browsing the store - which for me, Bill remembered that I went to school with Eric & Ben & was friend of Benny's. Wishing you peace.

*Kind Regards, Monica (Fulton) & Tim Stark Family*

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**Monica (Fulton) Stark** - November 26, 2018 at 01:25 PM

GB

“ Gloria (Plante) Bydalek lit a candle in memory of William E. Leiser



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**Gloria (Plante) Bydalek** - November 26, 2018 at 01:21 PM

GB

“ It took awhile to get over the shock of losing such a Great man. His wit and love of all he met was extraordinary. I knew Bill most of my life and had the privilege to babysit Michelle alot and there when Eric was born and the short trips taking me home after sitting were going by the store to make sure secure and good conversation. He loved his family dearly and know you feel a heavy heart right now but always remember the good times and your conversations it will help get you through. So sorry for your loss

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**Gloria (Plante) Bydalek** - November 26, 2018 at 12:18 PM



“ 98 files added to the album Life Tributes



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**Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes** - November 26, 2018 at 10:08 AM



“ Truly one of a kind. He will be sorely missed. Rest in peace sir.

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**Matthew Wilkins** - November 25, 2018 at 09:08 PM

TR

“ When you grow up and move away from a town like Herscher, certain people you run into when you come home to visit just solidifies your roots and you KNOW you are home. Bill was one of those people. I even ran into him in Las Vegas a few years ago, and I can tell you, sitting in a neighborhood grocery store parking lot and out of the blue seeing Bill walk across the front of your car is unique experience! Spoke to him for a long time, was just like running into him on Main St! My condolences to the entire family, good, good man.

*Travis Richards*

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**Travis Richards** - November 25, 2018 at 05:57 PM

PG

“ Paul And Julie Gossage lit a candle in memory of William E. Leiser



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**Paul and Julie Gossage** - November 25, 2018 at 02:45 PM

BN

“ Bill will certainly be missed on Main Street. He was always a talkative fellow and quite a character too! I just won't be the same without seeing him, most times without a coat on, in cold weather ,helping customers between his two buildings ,load their new furniture to head home! He never seemed to notice the cold , just his way of being there for the customer!

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**Barb Noffke** - November 25, 2018 at 01:10 AM

DC

“ My heart breaks for Bill's wonderful family. My they find comfort in knowing that his generosity and humble heart touched everyone in our hometown. His caring soul will forever be missed! May God wrap you in his loving arms and shelter you in the beautiful memories you shared.

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**Dawn (Hargrave) Christenberry** - November 23, 2018 at 10:31 PM

MB

“ Our condolences and many prayers of comfort to Sharon and the whole family. Mary Laird Barnett

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**Mary Barnett** - November 23, 2018 at 09:25 PM

EZ

“ Very saddened by your loss. Loved Bill's sense of humor and his outlook on life. I bumped into him years ago when I was back for a reunion....it had been 30 years and he recognized me immediately. He didn't miss a beat and shared a story or two about my dad. Bill was q one of a kind and will be missed. RIP Bill.

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**Ed Zolot** - November 23, 2018 at 05:55 PM

SJ

“ *My heart breaks for Sharon, Michelle, Ben, Brenda and families.*

*All those years ago when I babysat Michelle, Eric and Ben, never could I walk home even though we lived next door. We'd take a ride past the furniture store and back home to where he'd park and watch me cross the yard to the front door. Then he'd turn at the alley and be home. Thanks Bill for your kindness then and always.*

*My sympathies to each of you.*



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**Sue Sorensen Jensen** - November 23, 2018 at 04:30 PM

DF

“ *I Remember buying a mattress about 20 years ago and Bill said this is the best one out there. He said it will be \$550 I said wow Bill the same one in town is \$1600 He said I know and the sad thing about it is i'm still making money. Going to miss You Bill you left me with a lot of Great deals and fun memories coming to your store.*

*Dave Felber*

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**David P Felber** - November 23, 2018 at 04:17 PM



*Bill was one of the most unique and lovable men I've known. I cannot imagine the empty spot left in the lives in those affected by his death. I pray that God will minister to each one.*

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**Hank Roso** - November 25, 2018 at 03:49 PM