



## Jay Edward Lea Jr.

November 28, 1932 - March 27, 2019

Jay Edward Lea Jr. of Charlotte, a man with a strong work ethic who knew how to work hard, died March 27, 2019 at the age of 86. Born November 28, 1932 to J.T. and Helen (Kellogg) Lea, Jay grew up knowing what you could accomplish when you worked hard. Jay was married to Patricia (Seamark) Lea, for 33 years and they had five children. After 33 years of marriage, Pat died in 1984 and Jay married Donna Lea in 1987, gaining three wonderful step-children. Jay worked at Oldsmobile for 13 years, and then opened his own business, Jay Lea Builders, from which he retired in 2007. A devoted friend and family man, Jay loved spending time with his many grandchildren, and as a friend to many he made daily phone calls to check on those he cared about. Some of his favorite activities included building (he truly enjoyed his work), woodworking, fishing, camping, time spent at the Thornapple River, and he loved western movies.

Jay is survived by his wife of 32 years, Donna; children, Rick (Becky), Rod (Trudy) Lea, and Tim (Rosanne) Lea, Karen (Kenny) Lea-Freeman; step-children, Chris Florian, Marlene (Jody) Promer, Amy (Jeremy) Nierenberger; daughter-in-law, Jeryl Powers; 28 grandchildren, Ryan, Chris, Lynette, Jenny, BJ, Andrea, Brennaman, Claire, Nick, Thomas, Bryianna, Corey, Heather, Darren, Amari, Brasia, Chavon, Logan, Tyler, Braylee, Timothy, Lawrence, Larenz, Lawrencia, LaRiyah, Harmonee, Imoni, and Marquan; 16 great-grandchildren, Logan, Ariya, Maryjo, Catherine, Ashley, McKayla, Shelby,

Parker, Esa, Oakley, Audrina, Miles, Decklan, Jackson, Mavric, and Charlotte; brothers, Ronald "Sonny," Albert "Aggie" Lea (Carolyn Toll); brother-in-law, Larry Towe; sisters-in-law, Jean Broskey and Ellie Vaughan; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Patricia; son, Randy Lea; infant grandson, Brent Allen Lea; sisters, Charlotte and Joyce Towe; sister-in-law, Alvetta Lea; and his parents.

Friends are encouraged to support Jay's family at visitation and funeral services. Funeral services are Saturday, March 30, 2019, 10:00 AM at Pray Funeral Home in Charlotte with Pastor Charles Krueger officiating. Visitation is Friday, March 29, 7-9:00 PM at the funeral home. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to Pray Funeral Home. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Jay on his Tribute Page at [www.PrayFuneral.com](http://www.PrayFuneral.com). The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR **29**. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home  
401 W. Seminary St.  
Charlotte, MI 48813

## Funeral Ceremony

MAR **30**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home  
401 W. Seminary St.  
Charlotte, MI 48813

# Tribute Wall

DZ

“ *Condolences and prayers for Jay and all who loved and cared for him. He always had a smile and kind words. May the peace of the Lord comfort all who are sadden by his loss.*

Deann Lea Zimmerman - March 30, 2019 at 11:12 AM

TF

“ *Prayers for the Lea family. So sorry for your loss.*

Tebo Family - March 30, 2019 at 10:45 AM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Jay Edward Lea Jr..*



March 29, 2019 at 10:40 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jay Edward Lea Jr..*



March 29, 2019 at 09:10 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Jay Edward Lea Jr..*



March 29, 2019 at 05:10 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jay Edward Lea Jr..*



March 28, 2019 at 05:04 PM



“ *I will certainly miss Jay's fun loving spirit.*

**John Geddie** - March 28, 2019 at 04:40 PM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Jay Edward Lea Jr..*



March 28, 2019 at 04:20 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of Jay's passing. My prayers for peace during this time of grief.*

**Lorraine Chouinard-Lea** - March 28, 2019 at 03:57 PM

DS

*I am so sad for the loss of Jay. You two were one of my favorite married couples.*

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**Diane Shannon** - March 28, 2019 at 04:36 PM

SC

*Sorry to hear of Jay's passing. Our prayers go out to you.*

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**Sharon & Tom Cain** - March 28, 2019 at 07:03 PM