



Lawrence "Larry" E. Bickerman Jr.

June 4, 1947 - May 26, 2020

Lawrence E. Bickerman, Jr., 72, of Chillicothe, IL, passed away May 26, 2020. Born June 4, 1947 to Lawrence and Carrie (Dunn) Bickerman, he met the love of his life, Mary Jo Rowell, in typing class at Henry-Senachwine High School. They married July 25, 1970. What started off as a date at Pizza Cellar in Princeton, IL turned into a weekly tradition, every single Saturday for almost fifty years, often followed by trips to visit family.

Following a fascination with vehicles from a young age, Larry learned auto body repair at Greer Institute in Chicago. He worked for Peoria Motors, Peter's Automotive, Stoeker's Service, and A-Plus Auto Body, retiring after more than four decades. In his spare time, he coached little league softball and baseball in Rome, IL.

Larry was a devoted family man who will be deeply missed by his loving wife; three children, Courtney (Burliss) Pierce of Peoria, Renee Bickerman of Chillicothe, and Lawrence III, aka Loren, (Erika) Bickerman of Pekin, as well as five grandchildren, Calista Cuevas, Jaxon Cuevas Garceau, Easton Bickerman, Landon Bickerman, and Brooklynne Pierce. When asked, "Who is your favorite child?" He quickly replied, "None of them! My grandchildren are my favorite!"

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother James.

Tribute Wall

CB

“ *Mary Jo & family,
My sincere condolences to your family.
I was so surprised to hear of Larry's passing. We shared many
holidays growing up.
Cherish all of your fond memories--I know that you have many.*

*Sincerely,
Cheryl Baldwin*

Cheryl Baldwin - May 29, 2020 at 10:44 AM

KG

“ *Met Larry and Mary Jo at the gym/pool. Aqua classes. Will miss
hearing his laugh.
Karen Gingerich*

Karen Gingerich - May 28, 2020 at 09:03 PM

CB

“ *Larry And Mary Jo We are longtime family friends. Joined them for
pizza In Princeton Many times and shared many happy memories
together over the years. Larry Was always so fun to be around and
so very caring. He was committed to his family. I knew both of his
parents Who were very well respected in Henry. Larry was certainly
our go to guy with his autobody skills wit our deer encounters .*

Charlotte Balensiefen - May 28, 2020 at 04:01 PM

EO

“Larry and Mary Jo became a huge part of my life when I met their daughter, Courtney, at the bus stop for kindergarten. I cherish them both as if they were my own parents! After all, the saying is true, “Friends are the family you choose with your heart”.

My favorite memory of Larry was when I came back home to visit and I left my car keys on the kitchen table. When Courtney and I got back from dinner, I discovered that Larry had fixed a huge dent in my bumper, which I could not afford to get fixed, as a surprise! It's the kind of thing a dad would do for his daughter. It was so thoughtful, and appreciated, and it made me love him even more than I already did.

I am going to miss his laughter, his wisdom, and his love. I always knew I had a place in his heart and in his home.

Erin Tyler Olson - May 27, 2020 at 07:39 PM



Courtney
Pierce

He loved you very much ❤️

Courtney Pierce - May 28, 2020 at 09:30 AM

KC

I am so happy I had the chance to meet (Uncle) Larry when our families finally came together. We didn't get the chance to spend lot of time together but the couple of times we did, I knew he was a good guy!!! So happy for that!!! RIP Larry.....you will be missed!! Love you!!!

Krystal Volk Call - May 28, 2020 at 10:03 PM