



Lester F. Schmutzler Jr.

March 8, 1930 - October 7, 2023

Lester F. Schmutzler, Jr., 93, passed away peacefully on October 7, 2023 at Iroquois Nursing Home, where he resided for a short time after living a healthy and independent life until his 93rd year.

Lester lived his entire life in Camillus, NY, where he and his wife Ann raised their four children: Tom, Susan, Patty and Bill. In addition to his home in Camillus, Lester loved spending time at his camp on Skaneateles Lake. After purchasing the lake property in 1964, Lester made the camp into a special place. Over the years, he built and expanded his lake home including an impressive stairway to the water and a permanent dock, largely by himself. He took pride in having his family enjoy the camp, and his extensive garden was the envy of his lake neighbors. He took pleasure in fishing and hunting around the Skaneateles property.

Lester was a masterful toolmaker who spent 34 years working for Carrier Corporation and then, immediately after leaving Carrier, went to work for Syracuse University, where he worked another 29 years until his retirement at the age of 86. Because of his skill, he was entrusted with the most difficult and intricate projects, and he was looked to as a mentor to younger colleagues. Lester was also known for his magnificent sand castings of objects made of bronze, silver and gold.

Lester was predeceased by his wife of 66 years Ann in 2017; his daughter Patricia Schmutzler Geiss in 2007; and his son, William Schmutzler in 2016.

He is survived by his son Thomas Schmutzler (Erminie Izzo); daughter Susan Smith (Thomas); grandchildren Helen Schmutzler, Stephen Schmutzler (Katelyn Lyzwa), Alexandra Smith, Timothy Smith, J.P. Geiss, Gianna Geiss Feder (Dave), and Gregory Geiss; great-grandchildren Evelyn Ann Schmutzler and Aria Schmutzler; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Calling hours will be held on November 17th from 4 to 6 pm at the B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home, 10 Genesee St., Camillus. A memorial celebration will take place at the funeral home on November 18th at 11:00 am followed by burial at Greenlawn Cemetery in Warners, NY. A reception for family and friends will follow.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Skaneateles Lake Association, PO Box 862, Skaneateles, NY 13152 or online <https://skaneateleslake.org/memory-honor-donation>

Please sign his guestbook at www.BLBUSH.com

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 17. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home
10 W. Genesee Street
Camillus, NY 13031
(315) 672-3400
info@bushfuneralhome.com
<https://www.bushfuneralhome.com/>

Service

NOV 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home
10 W. Genesee Street
Camillus, NY 13031
(315) 672-3400
info@bushfuneralhome.com
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Tribute Wall



“ *B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home / Monuments created a Webcast in memory of Lester F. Schmutzler Jr.*



B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home / Monuments - November 17, 2023 at 04:39 PM

CU

“ *Cindy A. Urtz lit a candle in memory of Lester F. Schmutzler Jr.*



Cindy A. Urtz - November 16, 2023 at 11:07 PM

CU

“ I met Les @ SU Physics Dept. He was very kind to me and a sweet man. He loved working and most likely would have never retired on his own. One significant memory was he invited all his co-workers and their spouses to his "camp" on Skaneateles Lake. On that special day, I had the privilege of meeting his lovely wife, Ann, his lovely daughter, son and son-in-law too. What a beautiful camp and the lovely staircase to the lake with his son-in-law, Tom's sailboat waiting for us to sail on. It was a very memorable experience for me and very enjoyable. Les and I had many talks over the 14 yrs. I worked at SU. Thank you Les for being a dear friend to me. May you be reunited with Ann, your daughter and son. I wish your friends, family and our former co-workers my sincere condolences and may peace be with you all. Until we meet again, Cindy A. Urtz

Cindy A. Urtz - November 16, 2023 at 11:02 PM

MK

“ Uncle Smup I remember our recent conversations fondly. Going to camp was always fun. I think back to all the times we had family reunions, you and Uncle Carey and Grandpa Schmutzler, Aunt Ann, Aunt Ruth, Aunt Barb and my parents. Hope you are having a nice reunion now

Marilyn Kulkarni - November 06, 2023 at 11:37 AM