



Ernest Battee

November 14, 1933 - October 8, 2016

Ernest R. Battee 82 of the Villages passed away peacefully on October 8th 2016 of complications associated with an auto accident four years ago which left him a Quadriplegic. He spent his last years in the facility of Lake Harris Health Center, Leesburg, FL where he was an inspiration to the Staff and Residents for his positive outlook on life. He was born in White Plains, NY to the late Ernest Leon and Mary (Symulevich) Battee. Ernie was married to his lovely wife Elaine (Jamieson) Battee for 53 years. His wife Elaine (Jamieson) Battee and daughter Linda Marie Battee and brother Ralph "Butchie" Battee preceded him in death. After the death of Elaine, Ernie reconnected with a High School friend, Liz Oliver and they enjoyed a year long relationship together which ended with her death from the same accident that caused Ernie's injury. He retired as a Chief Warrant Officer of the US Army Reserves and worked for ATT and Southern New England Telephone Co. where he took early retirement at age 55. Ernie and Elaine enjoyed traveling throughout the World with friends and family during his retirement. Ernie was well known as a man who never met a stranger; he was very social and had an infectious laugh that would light up a room. Ernie had a great passion for NASCAR racing because of his relationship with his son-in-law, Randy LaJoie who was a NASCAR Racing Champion. Retirement enabled him to follow Randy in the NASCAR racing circuit throughout the years and more recently his grandsons, Corey LaJoie in the NASCAR Xfinity Series and Casey LaJoie who is a broadcast announcer at multiple racing venues. Ernie's love for golf would

have him travel annually with his best friends to Myrtle Beach, SC. for over twenty years and he accomplished many Hole In One awards in his lifetime. Ernie was a member of several clubs in The Villages, his most active clubs were the Nova Scotia Club, The Villages Motor Racing Club and Bridge Club. During his stay at Lake Harris he was visited by the Bridge Club on a weekly basis to enable him to continue to play for the last three plus years. Ernie is survived by his two daughters Lisa (Battee) LaJoie and husband Randy, Concord, NC, Leslie (Battee) Andre, Tampa, FL, his sisters Judy Vartuli (husband Frank), and Alexandria "Lola" Thompson both from Stamford, CT, and grandsons Corey and Casey LaJoie both from Concord, NC. Services will be held at St. Vincent de Paul, Catholic Church, Wildwood, FL. Visitation at 12:00 PM and Mass at 1:00 PM on Saturday, October 15, 2016. There will be a Celebration of Life on Saturday, October 15 at the Bacall Recreational Center after the Services from 2:00 - 5:00 PM. Roberts Funeral Home, Ocala, FL will be handling the funeral arrangements.

Tribute Wall

CS

“ *Frances always was amazed on what a great attitude you conveyed to all the people at Lake Harris. I enjoyed our chats about ATT and the Stamford office. Rest in peace my friend. Carl*

Carl Schatz - October 15, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ *Fran was always amazed how you conveyed such a positive attitude to all who were around. I enjoyed our chats about ATT and the Stamford office. Rest in peace. Carl*

Carl Schatz - October 15, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ *I met Ernie at Promise Hospital where I work as a volunteer. During his stay I often helped him with his breakfast and had a chance to hear his story. My heart broke for him but he never complained nor sought sympathy. He talked often of his daughters and of the place he lived in Leesburg. My sympathy to all of Ernie's family and friends.*

Dot Dreher - October 15, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ *You were such a fighter through all of this. Your family is to be praised for their support and I am sure they were there for you because you and Elaine were there for them in the past. Rest in peace!*

Joan & Emery Todd - October 14, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ Ernie was one of the nicest people we had gotten to know. He fought the hard fight, and whenever we visited him, he was always telling us about both of his Grandsons whom he was so proud of. Lisa, you were a Daughter every parent would want in life. You can't imagine how much pride your Dad for you. God Bless Ernie, we will miss you.

DAVE & JUDY MONAHAN - October 13, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ Dear friend, I am thinking about you a lot and praying that God would be your strength. Thank you for the way you have been such an encouragement to me as I watch from a far the love for your daddy. You have spent the last couple of years loving your dad in so many beautiful ways. I love you and wish I could celebrate your dad's life in Florida but I won't be able to. So, I look forward to the day soon that we can sit and remember and you can remind me again how much you loved him and your mama. I love you, Rebecca

Rebecca Parker - October 11, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Good Bye my sweet Ernie RIP . You will be missed by so many .

Mary Anne MacPhee - October 11, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MM

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