



Reinhold R. Sommerfeld

April 29, 1929 - December 11, 2014

Reinhold R. Sommerfeld, 85, of Benton Harbor died Thursday morning, Dec. 11, at Caretel Inns of Lakeland.

Cremation has taken place and there will be a private burial of ashes at Hickory Bluff Cemetery in Lincoln Township. Memorial donations may be made to Alzheimer's Disease Research (564 S. Main St., Suite 200, Ann Arbor, MI 48104). Please share memories, messages or photos at www.florin.net. Arrangements are being handled by the Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service, 1053 E. Napier, Benton Harbor MI 49022.

Reinhold was born on April 29, 1929 in Wolhynien, Poland to Ludwig and Ernestine (Rosin) Sommerfeld. He married Rita Langhans on Jan. 24, 1959. Reinhold was a self-employed master carpenter since 1962 and was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in St. Joseph. Reinhold was a great storyteller, a kind and helpful man, and an avid outdoorsman. He received wonderful and loving care at Caretel.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Rita; his children, Roy L. (Barb) Sommerfeld of Plainfield, IL and Lori (Rich) Gaiser of Berrien Springs; 1 grandchild, Karl Sommerfeld; and 2 sisters in Germany.

Reinhold was preceded in death by his parents; his son Richard; 1 brother

and 2 sisters.

Cemetery Details

Private Burial

Tribute Wall

MK

“ I think of Reinhold often when I go up or down the staircase he built for us with great skill and care. After more than a decade of use, it still is perfect--never a squeak or a wobble, even with grandchildren running up and down.

And when I think of Reinhold, I also happily recall his hearty laugh, delight in stories, and zest for life. I did not realize that he more recently suffered from Alzheimer's disease. And so, Rita, you have been experiencing loss of his companionship for some time now. I hope that the presence of Roy, Lori, and Karl has provided and will continue to provide comfort to you.

It was a privilege to learn to know you and to stand by you and Reinhold during a very difficult time in your lives. You did so with great grace and compassion. May those gifts be with you now, as well.

Marilyn Klawiter

Marilyn Klawiter - December 18, 2014 at 08:10 AM

LG

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Lori Gaiser - December 17, 2014 at 03:59 PM

LG

“ 2 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Lori Gaiser - December 17, 2014 at 03:53 PM

MH

“ *Lori, my thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family during your time of loss. Healing from the loss of a loved one is intense, difficult and feels like forever. Over time the deep pain is not as severe, but the memories will once again fill your hearts and bring smiles back to all of you. Keep your father's stories fresh in you nephew's memory so that he can tell them to his children. Love you!*
Marcie

Marcie Hatfield - December 17, 2014 at 03:39 PM



“ 3 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Barbara Sommerfeld - December 17, 2014 at 01:27 PM

KN

“ Mrs. Sommerfeld, my deepest sympathy to you. I know you faithfully came every evening to Caretel to feed your husband supper. I used to work part time at Front Desk and we would chat as you came and went. My Mother had Alzheimer's, too. My Dad would go feed her supper, also, every evening before she passed away. I am a retired nurse & have seen many diseases and the toll they take, but Alzheimer's is the worst, I think. Again, my deepest sympathy to you~your dear husband is now released from this devastating disease. Kathy Neuenschwander, St. Joe, MI

Kathy Neuenschwander - December 17, 2014 at 09:38 AM

MM

Uncle Reinhold has always been and will always shall be my favorite uncle. He was also my godfather. He taught me how to shoot a bow and let me sit on his lap when the uncles gathered to play cards. That made me feel special. His laugh and good humour was a delight!!! I will miss him terribly, but I must say, I have many pleasant memories of him, The times I spent with the Sommerfeld family on vacations and holidays were some of the best of my lift! I am sure that Uncle Rienhold is doing his favorite thing in the world, which is hunting and fising. He was a sportsman through and through! May God bless Tante Rita, my favorite aunt and godmother, Lori, Roy and Karl.

Love Always Monica Malakian

Monica Malakian - December 24, 2014 at 11:17 AM

RH

“ Although separated by time and miles Roy's stories and shared knowledge will continue to live on. I had the privilege of working, hunting, snowmobiling and just enjoying life with Roy while learning a great deal about many things along the way. May God comfort and continue to watch over Rita and the family during this difficult time. May Roy now be at peace. Rich Hodupp, Allons, TN.

Rich Hodupp - December 16, 2014 at 10:41 PM

DO

“ *I was privileged to know Reinhold through my friendship with his daughter Lori. He was such a funny and interesting person to talk to, with a sharp wit. My prayers are with Lori, Rita and the rest of the Sommerfeld family. May God comfort you at this time with the knowledge that your dad/husband is now with his Savior.*

Deb Oleneack

Deb Oleneack - December 16, 2014 at 02:15 PM