



Lawrence Clark Ostrowski

April 26, 1954 - October 7, 2019

Lawrence C. Ostrowski

Larry Ostrowski, an energetic and passionate librarian and library director, died peacefully at his home following a long, painful fight with Multiple System Atrophy. He had just turned 65. A native of Erie, PA, Larry earned a BA in History from Penn State University and a Masters in Library Science at the University of Pittsburgh. He began his professional career at Toledo Lucas County Public Library, where he met and married his co-worker, Margaret Daly. Larry served in the Business Department at Main Library and as assistant manager at Kent Branch.

Larry's career in libraries took him to Oshkosh, WI, South Bend, IN, Lancaster, Xenia in Ohio, and finally to White Lake, MI where he served as director for 10 years. Illness forced him into early retirement, shortly after tirelessly leading a campaign to successfully pass a tax levy that enabled the community to build a badly needed new library building. As he left each post to take a promotion somewhere else, his staff would express their regret at losing such a vibrant leader, who inspired them with enthusiasm and kindness. He was especially beloved for his staff training sessions, where the teaching was often conducted by one of his "characters", from Conan the Librarian and Sargent Serial to Laptop Larry and Forest Gump-at-the-Library.

Community Service was always a part of Larry's ethic; he involved himself with Rotary Club, the local Historical Society, Optimist Clubs and Athletic Boosters for the High School in whatever town he found himself, participating in many children's civic and library activities, delighting all with his balloon animals. He and Margaret were active in young adult Youth Ministry in every parish to which they belonged over the years, and in White Lake, Larry volunteered to chair the annual Christmas tree lighting event. With the Historical Society of White Lake he became well known for the authentic Civil War battlefield displays he created. And he was especially proud of the several years he devoted to training to become an Auxiliary officer for the White Lake Fire Department. Always a strong and athletic man, Larry was accepted as a fire trainee over many younger men.

In addition to his wife Margaret, Larry is survived by his sister Laura Pomykalski (James) and her children Elizabeth, Stephen and Andrew Pomykalski. He was predeceased by his

parents, Raymond and Vera Ostrowski and paternal grandmother, Sophie Ostrowski. His loss will also be felt by his many Daly Family nieces and nephews, as well as all his brothers and sisters-in-law.

Visitation will be held at the Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 S. Reynolds Rd. on Wednesday, October 9, 2019 from 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm, where the Rosary will be recited at 7:00 p.m. Funeral Services will be held on Thursday, October 10 beginning at 10:15 a.m. in the mortuary followed by the funeral mass at Our Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral at 11:00. Burial will be private. Memorial donations may be given to the Friends of the White Lake Public Library or to the White Lake Fire Department, or Ohio Health Hospice, 1020 Cricket Lane, Mansfield, OH 44906. Please view Larry's memorial video tribute and leave a condolence message at CoyleFuneralHome.com.

Events

OCT **Visitation** 02:00PM - 08:00PM

9

Coyle Funeral Home

1770 S. Reynolds Road, Toledo, OH, US, 43614

OCT **Funeral** 11:00AM - 12:00PM

10

Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral

2535 Collingwood Blvd., Toledo, OH, US, 43610

Comments



“ 6 files added to the album Larry when he was in his 20s



Margaret Helen - May 09, 2020 at 06:54 AM



“ Larry was a kind & caring soul. He always made a point of attending my constituent coffees when I was a state rep. He would mostly just listen to the issues & to other people talking. It is a truly smart person who listens rather than talks. Larry was that kind of person. I wish we had more like him!

Eileen Kowall - October 14, 2019 at 02:00 PM



“ Eileen, Thank you so much for the kind words and the card. He saw that you were genuine and had integrity - that's what drew him to the politicians in the area. He worked with all of you with passion for libraries.

Margaret Ostrowski - October 23, 2019 at 11:08 AM



“ I remember working with Larry at the SJCP Library and noting that he was a super nice guy. A very talented librarian and was a hoot playing the part of Forest Gump at staff meetings. I know that he and his many talents will be missed by the many who've known him.

Luanne - October 10, 2019 at 09:35 PM



“ Luanne - Thank you so much for the kind words about Larry, I knew how much he fought for the underdog like Forrest Gump - that's why I put the theme song on his video.

Margaret Ostrowski - October 23, 2019 at 11:09 AM



“ Margaret M Ghostley lit a candle in memory of Lawrence Clark Ostrowski



Margaret M Ghostley - October 09, 2019 at 10:31 PM



“ Thank you Marge!

Margaret Ostrowski - October 23, 2019 at 11:11 AM



“ A request for a Roman Mass offered in Latin for the repose of the soul of Larry.

I will offer his soul to God when I am at the 9am Mass today at St. Anne's in Livonia, 38100 W. Five Mile, 48154. My reception of Holy Communion will be offered for the repose of his soul. May he Rest In Peace. Amen.

Robert J. Stefanick - January 25, 2020 at 08:27 AM



“ Dear Margaret,
So very sorry ... His life is now in heaven, but will be so missed here.
After everything settles a little I hope you can make it up to White Lake and Holy Spirit for a visit. And see the Library Larry so tirelessly worked for. It is a beautiful place, one I read in and do my paperwork in and each time I enter think of him and pray for you both.
In Christ
Marge Ghostley

Margaret M Ghostley - October 09, 2019 at 10:30 PM



“ Thank you so much!

margaret ostrowski - October 13, 2019 at 11:30 PM



“ 18 files added to the album White Lake Township Library & More



Denise Stefanick - October 09, 2019 at 07:29 PM



“ Barb and I were shocked to see Larry's Obituary in this morning's paper. I remember all the times Larry was so helpful and encouraging to me in dealing with building projects and District library meetings. His energy, good spirits, and ideas always made my job easier. Even though we have not been in close contact for a while, I still feel like I have lost a great friend. The library world has lost a wonderful ambassador. Our condolences to you, Margaret.
Dave and Barb Eisen

David Eisen - October 09, 2019 at 03:00 PM



“ Dave, yes it went very fast and accelerated to the end. He was in so much pain for the last two weeks. In complete trust his passing was very peaceful. Good to hear from you and Barb
margaret ostrowski - October 13, 2019 at 11:33 PM



“ Pain. In contrast
margaret ostrowski - October 13, 2019 at 11:34 PM



“ I worked with Larry in 1976 at the Erie Public Library in Pennsylvania. Larry was a Reference clerk and I was a clerk in the Children's Room. We went to Canada one time to buy a pair of Puma running shoes and Larry took me for my driving test. My department co-workers had a small going-away party for him. We were work friends and I always thought of Larry fondly since he left Erie.
With sympathy,
Christine Prez Farnum
Christine - October 14, 2019 at 03:32 PM



“ Christine,
Thank you so much for sharing your memories of Larry prior to meeting me in 1977 in Toledo. It's great to know he had good friends in his home town. His mother also died this year just to let you know. Thanks again for sharing your memories.
Margaret
Margaret Ostrowski - November 04, 2019 at 07:57 AM



“ 1 file added to the album VIDEO TRIBUTE



COYLE FUNERAL HOME VIDEOS - October 09, 2019 at 08:41 AM



“ 1 file added to the album VIDEO TRIBUTE



COYLE FUNERAL HOME VIDEOS - October 08, 2019 at 09:39 PM



“ 1 file added to the album White Lake Township Library & More



Denise Stefanick - October 08, 2019 at 06:07 PM



“ Larry and Margaret lived behind me in White Lake. They put a lot of energy into fixing up the house after they bought it. It was a great upgrade for the neighborhood. They were wonderful neighbors. Larry did so much for the White Lake Township Library. My thoughts and prayers are with you Margaret.

Fondly

Jane Easton

Jane Easton - October 08, 2019 at 02:53 PM



“ Thank you Jane for your kind words! Say hello to Amy, Walt and Gracie and Nolan

margaret ostrowski - October 13, 2019 at 11:38 PM



“ Larry was very special to all of us in the White Lake Historical Society. You could always count on him to jump right in and volunteer. There are just not enough positive adjectives in the dictionary to describe this beloved gentleman. I am sure he will remain a role model for all who ever had the opportunity to meet him. God bless you Margaret as I truly know what a tremendous loss this is for you.

Love and prayers,

Marge Sawruk

Marge S. - October 07, 2019 at 07:21 PM



“ Thank you so much Marge!

margaret ostrowski - October 13, 2019 at 11:40 PM



“ Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Lawrence Clark Ostrowski.



October 07, 2019 at 05:55 PM