



## William Leonard

September 24, 1950 - September 12, 2025

William Leonard, age 74, of Baxter, MN, formerly of Herscher, IL, passed away unexpectedly after a short illness on September 12, 2025, in St. Cloud, MN.

Visitation will be Friday, October 3, 2025 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm. Services will be held on Saturday October 4, 2025 at 10:00am at Schreffler Funeral Home in Kankakee, IL. A private burial will follow at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Kewanee.

William was born on September 24, 1950, to Lowell and Jean (Bostic) Leonard. He earned his master's degree and dedicated more than 30 years to teaching Junior High Science at Herscher Grade School. In addition to his work in the classroom, William also served as a basketball coach and a bus driver, enriching the lives of countless students. Being a grandpa and attending his grandchildren's events was his greatest joy.

Following his retirement, he moved to Minnesota, where he enjoyed cycling, camping, fishing, and spending time in the outdoors. William was also deeply committed to his community, volunteering with the Salvation Army Food Shelf and Habitat for Humanity. He is survived by his children, Brian (Patty) Leonard of Downers Grove, IL, Cara Hunt of Kankakee, IL, and Amanda Cline of Brainerd, MN; his grandchildren, Leo, Dylan, Dakota, and Mason Leonard, Brooke and Lance Johnston, and Drew, Lucas, and Carter Cline; his brother Steve (Marilyn) Leonard of Tuscola, IL; and his sister Karen Cedarmoon of Cañon City, CO.

William was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Barbara, and his parents, Lowell and Jean Leonard.

In lieu of flowers donations should be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Olivet Cemetery

1000 Pleasantview Avenue  
Kewanee, IL 61443

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

OCT 3. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel  
1900 W. Court St.  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 932-2421  
<https://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com/>

## Memorial Service

OCT 4. 10:00 AM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel  
1900 W. Court St.  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 932-2421  
<https://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com/>

# Tribute Wall

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“ So sorry to hear the news. Being of the class of '68 with Bill in Tuscola, I have many memories of this good friend. Perhaps, at least from the class of 1968, I may have been one of last classmates to have spoken to Bill in April this year and then again when we "texted" in early August. Bill said he might come down to watch an event with me in IOWA but he preferred to be fishing with one of his grandchildren. I am so glad he chose the time with his grandson, I believe. Bill was an outstanding football player for the Tuscola Warriors and may have been one of the toughest I knew on the field. Seeing him later in Colorado and in Kankakee one time were some good moments. I will miss him. He was a good man and a great American.

*Alex Tingley*

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**Alex Tingley** - September 24, 2025 at 03:35 PM



“ Myra Devine lit a candle in memory of William Leonard



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**Myra Devine** - September 23, 2025 at 09:22 AM