



John "Jay" LePera

September 1, 1948 - October 9, 2018

John "Jay" / "Jay Jay" / "Jay Bird" Howard LePera, 70, of Millersport, died peacefully at Fairfield Medical Center with God at his side on Tuesday, October 9, 2018. Survived by siblings, Edward (Kitty), William (Debora), Laura, Ellen (Marc Borst), Anne, and Joseph (Hazel); loving nieces and nephews; Natalie (Tom), Amy, Daniel (Amanda), Alicia (Jack), Rebecca (Walton), Jessica, Eileen (Cory), Christopher and Stephen; precious greats; Talia, Vincent, Nikolas, Emory, Oliver, Madeline, Ayla, Briella, Hank and Calvin. Preceded in death by parents Art and June LePera. Jay was born September 1, 1948 in Columbus, Ohio living 59 years in Gahanna, Ohio. Despite being diagnosed at 10 years old with Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease, Jay lived a full life volunteering at Gahanna Lincoln High School, participating in St. Matthews's choir and the Gahanna Community Theatre. Over the years, Jay loved music, TV, riding his bike and visiting friends. A Memorial Mass will be celebrated at 11:00AM on Tuesday, October 16 at St. Matthew Catholic Church, 807 Havens Corner Road in Gahanna. Burial will immediately follow the Mass at Mifflin Township Cemetery. Family will receive friends one hour before Mass and after burial back at St. Matthews. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Jay's name may be made to the Gahanna Lincoln High School Band Boosters, Fairfield Medical Center Foundation or FAIRHOPE Hospice & Palliative Care, Inc.

Cemetery Details

Mifflin Township Cemetery

218 Agler Road
Gahanna, OH 43230

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **16**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Matthew Church
807 Havens Corners Road
Columbus, OH 43230

Funeral Mass

OCT **16**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Matthew Church
807 Havens Corners Road
Columbus, OH 43230

Tribute Wall

GH

“ I just saw Anne's Facebook post of Jay's passing. So sorry to hear this. I knew Jay since 1958 when we moved to Gahanna on what was then simply Johnstown Road, a little east of the LePeras. Over the years we remained friends, even though there were long stretches when we lost touch. We reconnected and renewed our friendship around 1992 or 93. We saw each other frequently and had long visits and went to different places. Jay was always warm and full of news about people, always ready to share stories and memories. After he moved to live with his sister and brother-in-law I saw less of him. I stopped driving a few years ago and was unable to visit him but would talk to him on the phone. It was always good to hear his voice. In time I was unable to reach him very often and our contact gradually ceased. I thought of him often and remembered his cheerful and loving kindness. He was full of life and love and he carried that with him throughout his life. I know his family and friends will miss him and cherish the time he was here.

Gay Hammons - October 16, 2018 at 04:05 PM

JS

“ Jay always lit up the room with his infectious smile! So happy to have known him. Our deepest condolences to Ellen & Marc and the entire family. You will remain in our thoughts and prayers!

Joe & Treva Schmittauer - October 15, 2018 at 10:04 PM

JU

“ Jay was always happy to see me, to talk about what he had been doing, and to share souvenirs of those events. Being with him was a happy experience. But my experiences were not unique. He loved to see and talk with my father, Albert. He loved to be with my sister, Cindy, and with my late wife, Darla. My wife, Judy, and Jay enjoyed meeting each other. There is an encompassing picture here--Jay loved and was loved by the whole family. In an even bigger setting, Jay loved and was loved by many people. Judy and I are sorry for the loss of this truly unique and remarkable person and offer our sympathy to his caring siblings, nieces, nephews, and all those in Jay's extended family. Terry LePera

Judith - October 15, 2018 at 09:46 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of John "Jay" LePera.*



October 15, 2018 at 11:38 AM

EB

“ *Jay was a sweet guy, one of my first memories when we moved to Gahanna Heights in 1971. Riding up to our house on his bike frequently, he would share neighborhood news, and made my family feel welcome. Condolences to Eddie, Ann and family.*
Gene Brugger

EUGENE BRUGGER - October 14, 2018 at 10:15 AM

KS

“ *We moved near Jay's home in 1972 and were warmly welcomed by Jay riding his bicycle through the neighborhood. Over the years we had many "bike visits" from this happy neighbor. He always had the best attitude, best sense of humor, and a cheerful heart. Special memories in particular were in the car the year I drove Jay to the band room to volunteer at Gahanna Lincoln High School. We had good talks on the drive to school and many a morning he started my day off with a laugh and a good feeling. He was truly a blessing. My deepest sympathies to Ellen, Marc and all the family. Jay always shared his faith in God and there is no doubt he is making heaven even more joyful than ever. He will be greatly missed. God rest his soul.*

Karen Caldwell Sheffer

Karen Caldwell Sheffer - October 13, 2018 at 11:10 AM

AL

“ *I always loved visiting Jay, we always talked about band. I remembered that brought my clarinet and played for him.....he loved that. He will be missed, prayers for his family and friends!!*



Anne Landes - October 13, 2018 at 10:05 AM

RW

“ Growing up in Gahanna I was friends with Jay's brother Bill, and anyone who know's the LePera's know that if you were a friend of one family member you were accepted by all. My memories of Jay are that he was always smiling. God is with Jay now and I am sure he is smiling. God bless. Roger Wilson.

Roger Anthony Wilson - October 12, 2018 at 04:33 PM