



## Lyle Vincent Zenner

January 13, 1938 - January 21, 2019

### Lyle Vincent Zenner

TRAVERSE CITY – Lyle Vincent Zenner, 81, of Traverse City passed peacefully into the joy of heaven comforted by his family Monday, January 21, 2019. He was born January 13, 1938 in Hannah, Michigan to Edward and Marcella Zenner. It was there on the family farm that he grew to know the value of honesty and hard work and acquired a strong work ethic that followed him the rest of his life.

Lyle received his Catholic education, first grade through high school graduation, at St. Mary's of Hannah Catholic School and Church where he served as an altar boy and sang in the choir. He stayed true to his religious upbringing attending Mass faithfully all his life. After graduation he joined the U.S. Army and served proudly in Germany before being honorably discharged in 1959. Lyle returned to Michigan and made his home in Traverse City. It was there that he met and then married the love of his life, Sue (Eckler) Zenner on July 17, 1965 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.

At a young age Lyle discovered his talent for building and repairing. He loved a challenge and could fix just about anything and everything. He was always working on a project or two. During his forty-year career as a finish carpenter, Lyle built several custom homes and many commercial buildings in the area. He was a member of the Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights and retired from Comstock Construction Company in 2001.

Lyle had a love for the game of baseball. Growing up on the farm he would often play baseball with his family. He played men's fast pitch softball in Traverse City for many years and began coaching girl's high school softball in 1993. Through the years Lyle coached girls' varsity softball for both Traverse City Central High School and Suttons Bay High School. In the off-season Lyle taught many young girls the fine art of softball pitching. He became known and loved by many as "Coach Zenner", a title and nickname that meant the world to him. In addition to coaching, he was also an avid outdoorsman. When he wasn't on a softball field or conducting pitching lessons, he could often be found in the

woods hunting or stream fishing. Lyle also looked forward to his annual hunting trips to Colorado and Wyoming with family and friends.

Surviving in addition to Sue, his wife of 53 years, are their children; Scott (JoAnn) Zenner of Traverse City, MI, Kyle Zenner of Colorado Springs, CO and Karyn (Michael) Meier of Washington Township, MI and his six precious grandchildren; Nicolas Zenner, Steven Zenner, Brody Meier, Alexis Meier and twin grandsons (his name sakes) Sean Lyle Meier and Luke Vincent Meier. He is also survived by his brothers; Albert Zenner, Carl (Linda) Zenner, Elmer (Lucille) Zenner, Dan (Donna) Zenner, Jim (Sue) Zenner, Richard (Gaynell) Zenner, Roy (Benny) Zenner and sisters; Rose Schmitz and Mari-Ann Klisanac.

Lyle was preceded in death by his parents and five siblings; LaVern Zenner, Clarence Zenner, Doris Benefield, Ralph Zenner and Margaret Lovely.

Lyle's family would like to thank the Grand Traverse Pavilion Rehab Staff that provided their father's excellent, compassionate care. He truly felt he was treated like family by all of them.

A visitation for Lyle will take place from 4:00 – 7:00 pm on Friday, February 1, 2019 at the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home with a rosary recitation beginning at 6:30 pm.

A Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 11:00 am on Saturday, February 2, 2019 at Immaculate Conception Church with a visitation held one hour prior to Mass. Father Anthony Citro will officiate. A luncheon will be held immediately following Mass in the church fellowship hall.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that memorial contributions be directed to Immaculate Conception Church – Food Pantry, 308 N. Cedar Street, Traverse City, MI 49684.

# Events

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**FEB** **Visitation** 04:00PM - 07:00PM

**1**

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Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home  
305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

**FEB** **Rosary** 06:30PM

**1**

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Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home  
305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

**FEB** **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

**2**

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Immaculate Conception Church  
308 N. Cedar Street, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

**FEB** **Mass of Christian Burial** 11:00AM

**2**

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Immaculate Conception Church  
308 N. Cedar Street, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

# Comments

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“ Sue and family, so sorry to hear about Lyle's passing. We have such great memories of Lyle coaching the boys in little league. He was such a caring person to teach the team to love it as much as he did playing baseball. Thoughts and prayers John, Sally, Patrick and Joseph Witkop

**John Witkop** - February 09, 2019 at 02:24 PM

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“ Sue, our heartfelt condolences go out to you and your family we will surely miss the presence of a truly lovable and kind person. Lyle was like a mentor to me. He always knew a lot about some things and a little about everything.



**Ed Eckler Sr.** - February 01, 2019 at 11:27 AM

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“ Ed Eckler Sr. lit a candle in memory of Lyle Vincent Zenner



**Ed Eckler Sr.** - February 01, 2019 at 11:23 AM

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“ Dear Sue and family,  
I send my deepest condolences on your loss of Lyle. While he was an older cousin and not enough connection over the yrs since the Weber/Zenner families are so large, I always enjoyed seeing both of you, Sue. I could sense the love and gentle spirit in both. I was impressed with reading Lyle's obit -- what an accomplished man, and a willing giver of his time and expertise to youth, especially in softball or baseball. Those Zenners were all good athletes. Certain things stand out in my mind as a much younger girl, but I do remember those games on Sunday at Hannah! May Lyle now rest in peace, his work here done. The world is a better place because of Lyle. May God bless all of you, his family. He and all are in my prayers.

## Love, Judy Weber LaCross

**Judy Weber LaCross** - February 01, 2019 at 09:58 AM



“ So sorry to miss Lyle's funeral -- flying to FL on Sat. --Judy

**Judy Weber LaCross** - February 01, 2019 at 10:01 AM

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“ On the occasions that I had to talk with Lyle, he was a very kind and gentle man. He will be greatly missed. Judy and I will be remembering Lyle and His family during the days ahead. God bless! Jim & Judy Stevens

**Jim & Judy Stevens** - January 30, 2019 at 09:18 AM

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“ I worked with Lyle for many years and remember when he and Sue married. If I were to say a few words, it would be exactly like written here. Lyle was a brilliant carpenter and a kind man, honest and dedicated. Bless him and his family.

**Maryanne Jorgensen** - January 29, 2019 at 10:33 AM

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“ Our love and condolences to Sue and the family. We wish we could be there for the services, but that isn't possible, at this time.

Love,  
Cousin Jim Eckler and wife Jean

**Jim and Jean Eckler** - January 28, 2019 at 11:45 AM

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“ Lyle was a such a kind and caring man. I played for Traverse City Central softball with him as our coach from 99'-01' and in a Petoskey summer league for years as well. He and his wife Sue celebrated with my husband and I at our wedding reception and recently got to meet our two daughters just before Christmas. He was so much more than a coach. He had such a love for the game and a passion for teaching it. But he taught so much more than just the fundamentals, he taught us leadership, compassion, and how to loss and win gracefully. So many things that went far beyond the game. Our thoughts and prayers are with Sue and his family.



Mandy Quinn - January 27, 2019 at 09:44 PM

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“ I am so sorry for your family's loss. I thoroughly enjoyed getting to know Lyle while caring for him. My thoughts to Sue and family.  
Shawna (grand traverse pavilions)

Shawna - January 24, 2019 at 05:38 AM



“ I have always admired the gentle and generous way Lyle embraced life. We were classmates throughout our St. Mary Hannah education and graduated in the class of 1956. My sympathy and prayers to Sue and children, to his siblings and many friends. Hope once funeral/memorial arrangements are made that I will be able to travel North for them. Sister Barbara Hansen, OP

**Sr. Barbara Hansen, OP** - January 24, 2019 at 10:57 AM



“ Sue, my heart goes out to you and your family in the loss of this dear man! He always had a smile for me whenever I saw him and though we were distant cousins, he was also a dear friend. He will be sadly missed. I'm sure you have tons of beautiful memories to keep you going, but I will offer my prayers and thoughts for you anyway.

Betty Plough

**Betty Plough** - January 27, 2019 at 10:36 PM



“ Sue and Family: May the memories that mean the most to you live forever in your heart with the loss of your loved one. Thinking of you at this time. Tom and Marsha Petersen

**Marsha Petersen** - January 28, 2019 at 11:01 AM



“ Sue, so very sorry for the loss of Lyle. He was such an outstanding individual that gave of his time and talents to many. Our girls certainly learned more than softball from him and appreciated his kind ways. We have such fond memories of the games and such, just spending time together. Ray has great memories of his time playing ball with Lyle also. God bless you and your family and may the memories offer you comfort at this time of great sadness. Ray and Geri Maxbauer

**Geri A Maxbauer** - February 02, 2019 at 09:20 AM