



Leon M. Soltesz

November 2, 1934 - January 1, 2025

Leon Michael Soltesz, age 90, passed away on January 1, 2025.

He was born to Julius and Irene Soltesz on November 2, 1934, in Pickardville, Alberta, Canada.

Beloved husband of Kathryn Soltesz.

Loving father of Sharon Soltesz and Dianna Soltesz (Jeff Jemings).

Dear brother of David Soltesz.

He is preceded in death by his parents and his siblings, Valerie and Paul.

Leon loved watching NASCAR and was always excited to catch the races. He also enjoyed watching the NFL and shooting pool. Leon served as an usher for many years at St. Jane Frances de Chantal Catholic Church. He was a super handy man and could fix just about anything around the house. He took great pride in his lawn, he had the best lawn on the block and he was a master at taking care of it. Leon was married to his partner in crime, Kathryn, for 62 wonderful years and they did everything together. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate that donations be made to either St. Jane Frances Church <https://www.sjfparish.org/> or the Martha T Berry Foundation <https://www.marthatberry.org/>

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 5. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Mandziuk & Son Funeral Directors, Inc. - Sterling Heights
3801 18 Mile Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48314
(586) 997-3838

Instate

JAN 6. 11:30 AM (ET)

St. Jane Frances deChantal Catholic Church
38750 Ryan Rd
Sterling Heights, MI

Funeral Mass

JAN 6. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Jane Frances deChantal Catholic Church
38750 Ryan Rd
Sterling Heights, MI

Tribute Wall

TO

“ *Great usher mentor & the best euchre score keeper ever!*

Thomas Oleszczuk - January 05, 2025 at 09:00 PM

JM

“ *While many of the memories on this page mention Leon's skills in the preparation of food for parish events, I remember him running the dish washer. He was always a gentleman, but never above any task that needed doing. As a representative for the ushers, he also served for many years on the Worship Commission and was faithfully there every month, while for a number of years Kathy served as recording secretary. I am blessed to have known and worked with both of them. Rest in peace, Leon.*

John Martin - January 05, 2025 at 01:58 PM

MW

“ *My family lived down the street from Lee and Kathy. We would always see them walking around the block during our dinner time. They would always smile and wave. We would mention how odd it was if we didn't see them during dinner. RIP Lee.*

Mike Wiedbusch - January 05, 2025 at 01:33 PM

AF

“ *Alan Fendt purchased the Simply Elegant Spathi phyllum for the family of Leon M. Soltesz.*



Alan Fendt - January 04, 2025 at 02:45 PM

AF

“ Alan Fendt planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Leon M. Soltesz.

Alan Fendt - January 04, 2025 at 02:45 PM

JS

“ Reading through these memories of Leon it is evident that he was kind man, well thought of, and a friend to many! Lifting up prayers of peace, comfort, and healing for the Soltesz family and RIP Leon.

Jennifer Schmidt - January 03, 2025 at 03:23 PM

TW

“ We have many fond memories of Leon - from ushers parties to working side-by-side at the ushers fish fries. He took his "job" as an usher seriously and was always willing to help out. Leon had a smile and kind word for everyone. His pride and joy was his riding lawnmower. He would wash and wax it faithfully. He had a CB radio on it and would talk to the truckers while he cut his grass. Leon was full of laughter and life. We always enjoyed the stories of his time in the Army and his days working at Besser. In his later years, we would enjoy a "cocktail" and discuss everything from politics to the races to baseball. He will be greatly missed. Rest in peace dear friend.

Tony and Mary Wolf - January 03, 2025 at 02:11 PM

DA

“ We have had the pleasure to be Lee's neighbor since 1995. He was a great guy who quickly became our dear friend! He always came across the street to visit and check in. He was very patriotic and was proud to fly the American flag off his garage. Being a Christian/Catholic was very important to him, and he loved being an usher at St. Jane's. He loved to "shoot the breeze" and discuss many topics - including politics, the state of the world, and how he maintained his lawn and kept it so lush and green! His lawn was the envy of the neighborhood! I will never forget the day he showed us his "Dale Earnhardt Man Cave" and how excited he was to share it with us. He just beamed! He also was happy to "patrol" your house if you were gone for a few days - he took his responsibility seriously and always gave a report. He had a good heart, a wonderful smile, and a great outlook on life. We are so glad he got to celebrate his 90th birthday with all his friends and family. That was such a happy day for him, and, in retrospect, a wonderful final party that will remain in all the hearts of everyone who loves him! May our Lord welcome him with open arms, give him rest, and grant him peace!

Don and Joan Abdelnour - January 03, 2025 at 01:18 PM

SG

“ Leon will be missed at St. Jane for his ushering service and all memorable usher’s events he participated in. I have known him since he started ushering in 1999 and to his credit, he was present for all assignments unless he was ill. He was the first to arrive for his assigned Mass always greeting parishioners with a smile and a “Welcome to St. Jane” as he handed them a hymnal. Always glad to serve and proud to be an usher, Leon has served well.

Leon attended all our monthly ushers’ meetings, served as Sargent at Arms, preparing snacks, coffee, and food for the meetings. Leon also helped at Lenten Fish Fry Friday’s since they began. He worked in the kitchen wherever needed, starting in the morning, and coming back to work until closing at 7 PM and clean-up at 9 PM Leon was key in helping me put on our annual Ushers Steak Dinners since 2007. He elegantly prepared our table settings complementing our dinner theme. He really enjoyed the steak dinner evening every year.

I am proud to call him friend and fellow usher and we all will miss him dearly.

Steve Gadzinski,
St. Jane’s Ushers Ministry President

Steve Gadzinski - January 03, 2025 at 01:22 AM

MK

“ Leon and I become good friends when we were both members of the St Jane Francis Ushers Club. Leon was the guy who volunteered for every event the club held . My fondest memory was when we both worked the Preparation line and we put together 740 plus Fish Dinners over 4 hours! A record he was most proud of and as he always said would never be broken. He was a Great Sergeant-at-Arms for many years. Always the first to be at every event. He always had the coffee pot on . And was ready with a cup of coffee in hand. A wonderful Friend. And a Great Usher . I Will Miss Him ! My condolences to His Family. Mike Kijewski

Mike Kijewski - January 02, 2025 at 04:24 PM

CK

“ *I am very sorry for your loss. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers.* ”

Caryn Kearns - January 02, 2025 at 03:50 PM

BT

“ *My condolences to family and friends on his passing. May your hearts be warmed by memories, and may he rest in peace.* ”

Brice Tillander - January 02, 2025 at 03:39 PM