



## Michael LeMerise

May 21, 1949 - May 14, 2024

Michael LeMerise, a lifelong Utica resident, passed away on May 14, 2024 at the age of 74. Michael is the cherished husband for over 52 years of Janet (nee Scott); the loving father of Amanda (Scot) McLeod, Brent (Alicia) LeMerise, and Mark (Luiza) LeMerise; the adored grandfather of Sean (Kaitlyn) LeMerise, Haley (Erik) Batt, Alyssa (Devin) Milhem, Austin LeMerise, Brooklyn LeMerise, Brianna LeMerise, Jude McLeod, Juliana LeMerise, and Lia LeMerise; and the dear brother of Victor (Rhonda) LeMerise, Kurt (Mary) LeMerise.

Michael graduated from St. Lawrence High School in 1967. In 1971, he graduated from Eastern Michigan with a Bachelor's degree. In 1975, he received his Master's degree from Wayne State. In 1980, Michael obtained a Specialist degree (1/2 of a PhD) from Wayne State in 1980. Michael always knew he wanted to work with kids, driving his passion to teach and coach. Michael worked for over 36 years in the Utica Community Schools, teaching physical education, health, social studies, where he was honored with the Teacher of the Year award. He was a longtime coach at Malow and Eppler, coaching football and baseball and was inducted into the Michigan Football Coaches Hall of Fame. He created and coached the jump rope team at Beck for over 20 years to benefit the American Heart Association. Michael also worked with the State of Michigan writing the curriculum for physical education. He achieved the Governor's Fitness Award. Over the years,

Michael oversaw over 20 student teachers from Wayne State. Michael was the President of MAHPERD/SHAPE. After his retirement from UCS, Michael was a student teacher area supervisor at Wayne State, Michigan State, Hope College, Adrian, and Albion. After his work career ended, he found a new passion in biking. Starting in 2006, Michael biked approximately 2000 miles a year. Finishing in 2022 with over 30,000 miles. Most of all, he loved his family. He enjoyed getting together with his children and grandchildren. Keeping his coaching close to his heart, he often organized backyard games for his family events. He will be deeply missed.

Michael's family will receive friends for a memorial visitation on Thursday, May 23, 2024 from 2:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. with a Celebration of Life Service at 7:00 p.m. at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 8459 Hall Road (3 blocks East of Van Dyke), Utica. His service will be live streamed and can be viewed here: <https://view.oneroomstreaming.com/index.php?data=MTcxNjA2NDQ5MDMwOTc4NiZvbmVyb29tLWFKbWluJmNvcHlfbGluaw==>

In lieu of flowers, the family is asking for donations to be made in Michael's honor for a commemorative bench in River Bends Park in Shelby Township., Donations can be made at: [https://www.gofundme.com/f/honoring-mike-coach-lem-lemerise-with-a-memorial-bench?member=34382737&sharetype=teams&utm\\_campaign=p\\_na+share-sheet&utm\\_medium=copy\\_link&utm\\_source=customer](https://www.gofundme.com/f/honoring-mike-coach-lem-lemerise-with-a-memorial-bench?member=34382737&sharetype=teams&utm_campaign=p_na+share-sheet&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_source=customer)

Please share a story or leave a tribute at [www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com](http://www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com)

# Previous Events

## Memorial Gathering

MAY 23. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wm Sullivan and Son Funeral Home  
8459 Hall Road  
Utica, MI 48317  
(586) 731-2411  
utica@sullivanfh.com  
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

## Memorial Service

MAY 23. 7:00 PM (ET)

Wm Sullivan and Son Funeral Home  
8459 Hall Road  
Utica, MI 48317  
(586) 731-2411  
utica@sullivanfh.com  
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors created a Michael LeMerise Livestream in memory of Michael LeMerise*



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**Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors** - May 18, 2024 at 12:36 PM

BL

“ *Thank you everyone who has shared kind words about my dad. As you all know, he gave so much because he just enjoyed and loved people. I'm glad to have shared him with all of you.*

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**Brent LeMerise** - May 21, 2024 at 01:40 PM

ML

“ *Coach, I learned so much from you in the short time I new you. 9th grade football was awesome deapite my injury and stealth participation! You are one of those extraordinary individuals that gave so much to every student and athlete you worked with. After 40 years it was my delight to reconnect with you on Facebook. Thank you, my life has benefited from your teaching. God bless. Prayers, Love and Good Thoughts to your wife and family.*

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**Mark Logar** - May 16, 2024 at 05:38 PM

AL

*Thank you for graciously sharing your memory of my father. He never forgot a former student or player's name, and had such a love for coaching and teaching. ❤️*

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**Amanda McLeod ( LeMerise)** - May 16, 2024 at 07:23 PM

TF

“ We will miss you Coach, you were a wonderful man and the best role model for the kids... and the adults!  
God Bless you and peace be with your wife and family.

The Humphries Family - May 16, 2024 at 04:23 PM

AL

♥ Thank you!

Amanda McLeod ( LeMerise) - May 16, 2024 at 07:28 PM

MM

“ You will be missed immensely Mike. Thank you for all that you have done for the profession and the countless people that you have helped along the way. Mike was my cooperating teacher from when I was at Wayne State. He was very much responsible for the position I have currently in UCS. Thank you for changing my life and being a part of it. Couldn't have asked for a better mentor and friend. So giving...So personable...So full of life! God bless the family and our prayers are with you!

Michael Moscato - May 16, 2024 at 09:54 AM

AL

What a beautiful message. Thank you for sharing this. ♥

Amanda McLeod ( LeMerise) - May 16, 2024 at 07:53 PM



“ My girls worked with Mr. Lemerise on the Beck jump team. He was the most patient coach, and you could tell he truly loved what he did. Such a generous heart and kind man, so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family during this difficult time - The Ivy Family

Candie Ivy - May 16, 2024 at 08:35 AM

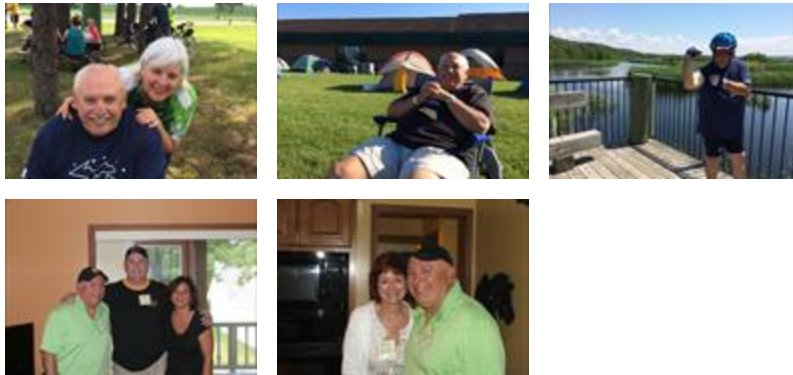
AL

*Dad has so many fond memories from his years of coaching the Beck Jump Team. Thank you for the kind condolences. ❤️ - The LeMerise Family*

Amanda McLeod ( LeMerise) - May 16, 2024 at 07:49 PM

JB

“ *Always a smile. Always the optimist. We will miss you Mike. Next time we meet - it's you and me on the bike path - making those long miles you always wanted to do! Prayers to Jan and the family. John and Jen Bickel*



Jen Bickel - May 15, 2024 at 05:48 PM

AL

*These are great photographs of Dad, Jen! I appreciate your sharing them here. He held love for all of you and took pride in being a LeMerise. ❤️*

Amanda McLeod ( LeMerise) - May 16, 2024 at 07:35 PM

KH

“ *May you rest in Perfect Peace Coach LeMerise. Thoughts and prayers to your family and all your wonderful friends throughout the years. Everyone liked you! Such a genuine and stand up person. Prayers sent. 🙏 Karen Hucul-Lydick*

Karen Hucul-Lydick - May 15, 2024 at 05:10 PM

BL

“ Rest with Jesus dear cousin! Your light will shine on forever. May God shower his peace and comfort over Jan and his entire family. You will be missed by all.

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**Bernadette LeMerise-Caullay** - May 15, 2024 at 02:32 PM

DZ

“ Wow, this one really hurts. Loved this guy. I believe I was his first student teacher from W.S.U. In 1988. Couldn't ask for a better supervising teacher than Lem. Even though he had many years of experience, he was very interested in new ideas and together we developed some great lesson plans. So sorry Jan and family which was his pride and joy.

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**Dominic Zombo** - May 14, 2024 at 10:55 PM

AL

You two had a special friendship that goes way back. Thank you for sharing your memory of Dad. ❤️

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**Amanda McLeod ( LeMerise)** - May 16, 2024 at 08:04 PM

GC

“ Coach I will miss you my dear friend and mentor! Condolences to Jan and the family. Peddle On! 🙏❤️

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**Greg Czar** - May 14, 2024 at 05:57 PM