



Fred "Fritz" Leithe, Jr.

July 26, 1941 - May 1, 2025

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Fred William Leithe, Jr. (Fritz) 83, who left this world peacefully, surrounded by his loving wife and daughters.

He passed away Thursday May 1, 2025 at Liza's Place, Wheeling . He leaves behind a legacy of generosity, hard work, and unwavering kindness.

He is survived by his devoted wife of 32 years, Linda Leithe; two daughters: Tracie Spencer of Raleigh, NC and Hollie (George "Moose") Strauss of Columbus, OH; two granddaughters: Alex and Kelsey Spencer; two sisters: Mary Kay Heller and Shirley Milhorn and numerous nieces and nephews.

Born July 26, 1941 in Wheeling, he was the son of the late Fred and Helen (Swineburg) Leithe. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two sisters: Helen Minzler and Beverly "Micki" Heller.

Fritz enjoyed a fulfilling 32-year career as a driver-salesman for Carenbauer Distributing Corporation. His down-to-earth personality and work ethic turned customers into friends. After retiring, with his desire to socialize and be helpful to others he worked as a bellman at Oglebay's Wilson Lodge for 13 years. He shared the same welcoming and helpful charm with visitors from near and far. Guests remembered him not just for his service, but for the way he made them feel -- like family.

He was an active and cherished member of several local clubs, including the Cave Club, the Snake Club, and the Elm Grove Fraternal Order of Eagles.

These clubs were a source of camaraderie and fun for him. One of his favorite

weekly traditions was gathering with his friends for what they affectionately called "Therapy Sessions" -- time to share beer, stories, and laughter.

He shared 32 beautiful years of marriage with his beloved wife Linda, his best friend and travel companion. They loved to travel and socialize with friends.

Their love was evident to all who knew them.

Fritz was a proud and devoted father to his two daughters Tracie Spencer and Hollie Strauss. His granddaughters Alex and Kelsey Spencer brought him great joy. He and Linda loved entertaining and creating wonderful memories during the holidays at the Oglebay Park Cabins.

His family & friends will miss him dearly, but they carry his legacy in the stories they tell, the laughter they share, and the love he gave so freely.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, May 10, 2025 from 11:00am until 1:00pm at the Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory, 1 Ridgecrest Road, Bethlehem/Wheeling, WV.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Valley Hospice Liza's Place Care Center - 308 Mount St. Joseph Rd, Wheeling, WV 26003 - (www.valleyhospice.org)

Sympathy expressions can be sent to grisellfuneralhomes.com

Cemetery Details

Grisell Crematory

Moundsville, WV

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 10. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory- Wheeling/Bethlehem

1 Ridgecrest Road

Bethlehem/Wheeling, WV 26003

(304) 232-0400

<https://www.grisellfuneralhomes.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Grisell Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Fred "Fritz" Leithe, Jr.*



Grisell Funeral Homes - May 07, 2025 at 10:52 AM

BD

Beautiful

Brenda Derflinger - May 09, 2025 at 08:33 PM

KA

“ *I have so many great memories of Fritz back in the 70's when I worked dayturn at the Moose in Moundsville. He was so kind and always so thoughtful and good to everyone. I lost touch with him over the years but I am so happy to see all the wonderful pictures of his happy times!! He always talked so much about his "little girls" it's amazing to see them all grown up!! There's no doubt he is in Heaven and I hope to have a beer with him again someday!! RIP Fritz you always gave it your Best!!*

Karen - May 19, 2025 at 12:33 AM

RS

“ Fritz was my favorite salesman while working at my fathers grocery store in Elm Grove. We had a lot of conversations over the years. I was happy to see him again at Wilson Lodge while dropping off passengers. He was still the same great man I always loved. He will be missed by everyone that knew him.

Randy Strope - May 09, 2025 at 06:26 PM

CT

“ I had the pleasure of knowing Fritz for many years. I worked at Kroger in Moundsville. He was a driver for Carenbauers. Also got to see him and Linda. At class reunions. RIP my friend. Chuck

Chuck Taskalines - May 09, 2025 at 04:49 PM

TF

“ The Leonard and Cyrus family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Fred "Fritz" Leithe, Jr..



The Leonard and Cyrus family - May 08, 2025 at 06:25 PM

TF

“ The Leonard and Cyrus family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Fred "Fritz" Leithe, Jr..

The Leonard and Cyrus family - May 08, 2025 at 06:25 PM

RN

“ So sorry for your loss I met Fritz back in the late 60s I was a new coca cola driver in moundsvill he was driving for strohes later we met up at ogelbay he was a great guy and the world be at a loss

Raymond Naegele - May 07, 2025 at 12:03 PM

EM

“ Linda and family, My sincere condolences. I remember the fun times and stories with the folks. Peace be with you all. Ellen Dupke McAninch

Ellen Dupke McAninch - May 07, 2025 at 08:53 AM

HJ

“ Fritz's Family,

An all-around good guy. It was a pleasure to speak to him whether at Oglebay, the Snake Club or the Y. He was a first class "Y guy".

H. Lawrence (Larry) Jones

H Lawrence Jones - May 06, 2025 at 03:02 PM

GH

“ So sorry to see this news. He was indeed a down to earth nice guy. I enjoyed his thoughts and words of wisdom when working at the Snake Club. Thoughts and prayers to Linda and family from my new home in NC. 🙏

Gary Hagerman - May 06, 2025 at 08:48 AM

DG

“ *Hollie, Tracie, and Linda-
When I think of Fritz, the first thing I remember is his genuine smile.
He always made me feel welcome whenever we met. May precious
memories surround you in the days ahead.*

Denise Winkler Gates - May 06, 2025 at 07:27 AM

KB

“ *Fritz was always so kind and it was so apparent how much he loved
you Linda. So sorry for your loss.*

Kim Brown - May 06, 2025 at 12:23 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the
family of Fred "Fritz" Leithe, Jr..*



May 06, 2025 at 12:20 AM



“ *A [Memorial
Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Fred "Fritz" Leithe, Jr..*

May 06, 2025 at 12:20 AM

ST

“ I'm so deeply sorry for your loss.

I wanted to share a special memory I have of Fritz. One day when I was home from university, Fritz invited me over to the garage to share a beer with him and my dad. It reminded me of watching my older cousins have their first beer with my dad and uncle when they turned 21. For me, that moment with Fritz and my dad was more than just about having a drink—it was one of the first times I truly felt "grown up" in the eyes of my dad and Fritz. It's a memory I'll always cherish.

And, of course, I'll never forget the Christmas when Fritz gifted me one of his famous bottles of eggnog. While the details may be a bit fuzzy now, the warmth and laughter from that holiday remain vivid.

Thinking of you all during this time.

Warmest regards, Steve W.

Steve - May 05, 2025 at 01:33 PM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Fred "Fritz" Leithe, Jr..



May 05, 2025 at 01:32 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Fred "Fritz" Leithe, Jr..

May 05, 2025 at 01:32 PM

M(

“ *What a great guy. Have known him for a long time as well as Linda, he and my Bob enjoyed spending time at the Cave sharing stories. Sending prayers of comfort to Linda and the family at this most difficult time.*

Mary (BinkyLufft - May 05, 2025 at 12:43 PM

DA

“ *My sincere and humble condolences to the family and friends of "Fritz". Denny Albaugh*



Dennis R Albaugh - May 05, 2025 at 09:56 AM