



Roger Lee Leonard

May 14, 1956 - November 1, 2020

Roger Lee Leonard, 64, of Salisbury, passed away Sunday, November 1, 2020 at Atrium Health in Pineville.

Born May 14, 1956 in Rowan County he was the son of the late Arthur Gregory Leonard, Jr. and Leona May Shuping.

He was a strong man of faith who loved his family dearly. He enjoyed date nights and traveling with his wife. He loved to teach his family anything, and if he had an interest, he wanted to share it with his family. He enjoyed camping, model rockets, astronomy, fixing things, doing math and scuba diving. He often told his children how proud he was of them.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife of 42 years, Karen Gobble Leonard; son, Justin James Leonard (Sarah) of Holly Springs; daughter, Michelle Leigh Leonard Monk (Ryan) of Fort Mill, SC; seven grandchildren, Hannah, James, Liam and Connor Monk, and Logan, Benjamin and Riley Leonard.

The funeral service will be conducted 2:00 p.m. Thursday, November 5, 2020 at Summersett Funeral Home with Rev. Randy Kirby officiating. Burial will follow in Rowan Memorial Park. Due to COVID-19 the service will be held outside with mask and social distancing strongly encouraged.

Memorials may be made to the Doug Gobble Memorial Scholarship, c/o Curt Thomas, 720 Shive Road, Salisbury, NC 28146.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Leonard family. Online condolences may be made at www.summersettfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Rowan Memorial Park

4125 Franklin Comm Center Rd
Salisbury, NC 28144
(704) 636-8751

Previous Events

Service

NOV 5. 2:00 PM (ET)

Summersett Funeral Home
1315 W. Innes St.
Salisbury, NC 28144
(704) 633-2111
<https://www.summersettfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall

KG

“ Karen, I worked with Roger at Shat-R-Shield (years ago) and just learned of his passing this evening from another former coworker. I am so sorry for your loss; I know he will be greatly missed. My heartfelt condolences to you and your family.
Karen Gaskill

Karen Gaskill - November 14, 2020 at 12:03 AM

TS

“ Dear Michelle and Monk family, we extend our sympathy and prayers upon hearing of the passing of your dear dad, your kids' grandpa. May cherished memories lift your hearts to comfort you in difficult moments. May he rest in peace in the merciful arms of the Good Shepherd. Teresa and Tom Sanctis

Teresa Sanctis - November 07, 2020 at 07:55 AM



“ Karen, - Victor and I are so sorry to hear of your loss. We have so many memories of time spent together while our children were growing up. Hugs and prayers to your family.

Vickie Wallace

Vickie Wallace - November 06, 2020 at 05:43 PM

SC

“ Karen and family so very sorry to hear of Roger's death.



sherry corriher - November 06, 2020 at 02:42 PM

JS

“ Roger was the most fun loving “geek” I ever knew and was proud of it!!! You couldn’t spend time with him without hearing stories about his latest tinkering and experiments. He was the PROUDEST DAD you ever met. His kids excelled as athletes and scholars throughout their high school, college and graduate school years. On several occasions the Leonards adopted me for Thanksgiving and holidays during college when I couldn’t afford to travel home, and I left feeling an abundance of love from my second family. Watching him walk Michelle down the aisle at her wedding, he was beaming with pride. He was a jolly guy, always smiling and giggling. It’s truly a travesty to lose such a great man at such a young age, as he would be the first to do math and science projects with all of the grandkids he adored so deeply. Mr. Leonard, Roger, you will be dearly missed. If we weren’t in the middle of a pandemic, I would be on the next 6 hour flight from CA to celebrate your glorious life. Sending the biggest hugs to the entire Leonard and Monk families.

Jennifer Saxton - November 06, 2020 at 12:47 PM

LC

“ Lawrence Cruciana lit a candle in memory of Roger Lee Leonard



Lawrence Cruciana - November 05, 2020 at 03:20 PM

LC

“ I knew Roger only professionally, however, over many years we both learned that many of our interests overlapped and aligned. Professionally, he was one in a million - bright, articulate, committed, and tenacious. His character, stories, honesty, faith, and joy are the qualities that were always present in all interactions. Roger was one of the most genuine people I've had the privilege to know. He will be sorely missed. To his family, am so truly sorry for your loss. The world is a little darker without Rodger.

Lawrence Cruciana - November 05, 2020 at 03:16 PM

EJ

“ Karen, I am saddened by the news of Roger's death. He was a very fine person who will be greatly missed by many people. Blessings and peace to you and family. Keep the good memories you shared alive always. Edith Julian

Edith Julian - November 05, 2020 at 09:08 AM

WI

“ Karen, so sorry to hear about this. I'll always remember Roger coming over to the house on Woodson Street, when it was 5 degrees outside, and the lines going into the heating unit had frozen. I remember going under the house with him, glad that he knew what to do to fix it, I didn't have a clue. Carolyn and I used to talk about your family a lot. Again, so sad to hear this news. Sincerely, Bill Wilson

William B Wilson III - November 05, 2020 at 08:12 AM

DH

“ *The memories I have of Mr. Leonard are truly special. He was the father of one of my close childhood friends. I'm blessed to have been welcomed into his home with open arms. He shared the best parenting advice. It meant a lot from the man who raised two of the most remarkable and successful people I know. The words he shared that I'll never forget we're, "surround them with the right friends...challenge them...set the best example you can...and love them".*

I am forever thankful to have known him. Memories of his smile, laugh, words of wisdom, and kindness will live on in the lives of those he impacted.

~Darius

Darius Hyman - November 04, 2020 at 10:05 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Roger Lee Leonard.*



November 04, 2020 at 09:34 PM

GT

“ It has been a pleasure to know Roger from diapers to 64. AG and Leona knew they had a winner and the family has profited by his presence, personality, sharing of useful information, friendship, hospitality, and faithfulness through the years. The hosting of The Shuping Christmas Reunion the day after Christmas has been counted in decades at the home of Roger and Karen, usually including the presence of the growing number of grandchildren.

Roger and Karen hoped to provide homemade ice cream at our home on the third Sunday in August at an expected gathering of approximately 60 family members of a growing variety of surnames. Covid-19, our horrible pandemic, cancelled the event.

Roger was the youngest of ten grand children of George and Mary Shuping on his mother's side of the family. Mary was a Goodman. I was the third grandchild and am now 81. As the son of Spencer and Edith Thomason, I claim grandparent surnames of Shuping, Goodman, Barnhardt and Thomason. They all shared many of Rogers qualities.

I trust Roger and Karen's grandchildren will treasure the memory of Roger as much as I, and we, have treasured him in person.

Let's keep faith, hope and love alive while we say well done, Roger. Thanks for the memories!

Glenn Thomason, with Dottie Gilliam Thomason

Glenn Thomason - November 04, 2020 at 08:37 PM

NC

So very sorry to hear of Rogers passing. I worked with him in the IT Department at Proctor & Schwartz. He was a great guy.

Nick Carter - February 03, 2021 at 01:17 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Roger Lee Leonard.*



November 04, 2020 at 07:39 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Roger Lee Leonard.*



November 04, 2020 at 06:54 PM



“ *Industry Data Exchange Association purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Roger Lee Leonard.*



Industry Data Exchange Association - November 04, 2020 at 02:01 PM

BA

“ As an associate at IDEA, I knew Roger professionally and worked with him on several product data committees. He was thorough, thoughtful and cared about data quality. He was very proud of the work Shat-R-Shield has done with product data quality, and eager to share his insight with the Electrical channel.

He was, indeed, a fine man. We will miss him.

*Barbara Prince
IDEA*

BarbaraPrince - November 04, 2020 at 12:40 PM



“ *Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Roger Lee Leonard.*



November 04, 2020 at 09:08 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Roger Lee Leonard.*



November 04, 2020 at 08:12 AM

TM

“ *"The leader of the band is tired and his eyes are growing old
But his blood is in my instrument and his song is in my soul
My life has been a poor attempt to imitate the man
I'm just a living legacy to the leader of the band."
--Dan Fogelberg*

Thank you for the memories, maestro.

terry martin - November 04, 2020 at 04:58 AM

KF

Karen, You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. Roger was such a talented, smart, special person! He was thoughtful and very caring. His big smile was ever-present! His love for you and his family was so strong ! He will be greatly missed. Kathey Fisher

Kathey Fisher - November 05, 2020 at 09:43 AM

MR

“ *Maryann Rowe lit a candle in memory of
Roger Lee Leonard*



Maryann Rowe - November 03, 2020 at 09:44 PM

JY

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



John Yarbro - November 03, 2020 at 09:12 AM

AY

I worked with Roger at Shat-R-Shield in Salisbury for many years. One of the greatest opportunities of my career was being tapped as the liaison for our sales and marketing department to work with the IT Department in developing a product information portal to link our operational system to employees internal and in the field, and later to our sales team of manufacture agents throughout North America. A major accomplish for a company the size of SRS at that time. It was a two year project and absolutely the greatest learning initiative I have ever participated in. I learned so much from Roger and his team. And most important was the friendship that developed with Roger. He had always been a great co-worker, but the time spent with him on this project came understanding of the person; his love of his wife Karen and his two precious children. The excitement of their accomplishments and the love and pride of them finding their "forever person" and the awesome grandchildren that came. He also was interested in me and my life; my husband and son, our endeavors and accomplishments. We came to be that friend we could discuss anything with. One of the most humble and gracious Duke fans I've ever known!! My heart is hurting...but I am so, so very thankful for the powers that be; that led him to my life. I told you this often; but thank you so very much Roger Leonard for being my friend, a mentor, a cheerleader, for sharing the same opinions and for agreeing to disagree. You are forever a stitch in my life's quilt. And I am a better person having known you...Enjoy those Duke games from court side. I'll call on your spirit to lift me up, just as you did in life. Love, Hugs, Thoughts and Prayers to Karen and the family; God's peace and grace carry you through and let those precious memories hold you close and carry your hurt.

Anita Yost

Anita B Yost - November 03, 2020 at 10:27 AM

PS

Peggy Shuping, I got to know Roger at a very young age. I married Steve, his cousin. Roger was so special to his parents, AG and Leona. He was an only child. Roger grew up to be a very special person who loved and respected his family and life it self. He met Karen and his life with her and their set of twins was all Roger needed to share his love with until his grandkids came along and Roger had a heart filled with great joy. He loved his family and he showed everyone how much. Our Christmas get to gathers will always be a fond and grateful memory of Roger and Karen's great hospitality. Rest in peace with your mom and dad. You will be greatly missed especially your hugs from all of your family

Peggy Shuping - November 03, 2020 at 12:41 PM

MS

Roger and I have been cousins since he was born, of course, but his family moved to Florida when he was very young and we didn't see each other very often. We didn't grow up together. Uncle A.G. died when Roger was 13 or 14 years old. He was having trouble adjusting so Aunt Leona called me to see if I would come for a visit with Roger. Although I was 8 years older, I had no idea what I could do. But I had just finished college and didn't have a job yet, so I went for a few days. Roger had lots of camping experience with his father, so we went camping. I didn't know what or how to camp, but Roger knew. And he knew what we could eat. We stopped and got some sardines and crackers. I was new to sardines. All I knew about sardines I had learned from a comedian: "I just can't eat sardines. When I open the can and those little fish eyes look at me..." I got a good laugh when I opened my can and saw no eyes, just headless little fish. And they were pretty good with crackers!

I don't remember how long we camped, what we talked about or what we did. But I do know that after that, we had a connection. We didn't have to relive the past or reconnect each visit. I think Roger was that kind of person. He made a connection with each person he met. Our prayers are with Karen and the family today. We will miss Roger, too. I just wish we had one more day.

Mack Shuping

Mack R Shuping - November 03, 2020 at 02:15 PM

JR

I worked with Roger at ShatRShield remotely. Whenever I was in town, we would grab breakfast and get caught up. He was a big help as I was not the most IT savvy person. Him and Lee would walk me through a lot of computer issues. He always spoke highly of his family, especially his road trips with his wife Karen. My condolences go out to his family as he will be missed.

Jim Radi

Jim Radi - November 04, 2020 at 08:16 PM