



## Lee Coleman

February 20, 1939 - October 3, 2022

Lee Coleman, 83 of Bluffton, passed away early Monday morning, October 3, 2022, at Markle Health & Rehab. Center.

Lee was born on February 20, 1939 in Kendallville, Indiana to Carl & Gladys (Good) Coleman. He graduated from Kendallville High School with the class of 1957 and completed a degree from International Business College.

Lee retired from Lincoln National Life after 30 years of service. He was also a Tenant Lease and Commercial Lease Consultant for Waterfield Mortgage, Centennial Wireless and the Academy Mortgage Corporation.

Lee served on the boards of Fort Wayne Catholic Social Services, Child Care of Allen County, Cancer Services of Allen County and Bluffton Boys & Girls Club. He was active in Big Brothers Big Sisters, Junior Achievement, Kiwanis and the formation of the Allen County Community Harvest Food Bank. Lee had a passion for golf and for serving children. Lee attended The Chapel in Fort Wayne.

On June 7, 2008, in Bluffton, Lee and Carolyn Hay were married.

Survivors include his wife, Carolyn Hay of Bluffton, three children; Debbie (Eric) Zayas of Olathe, KS, Linda (Ted) Braselton of Fort Wayne and Steve (Angie) Coleman of Weston, OH, two step-daughters; Jodi Kaehr of Wabash and Toni (Creighton) Nagao of Fort Wayne, five grandchildren; Matthew & Allison Zayas, Karena Huff, Justin Braselton and Ashton Coleman, three step-grandchildren; Ian Kaehr, Nikia Muller and Taylor Kaehr, one great-grandchild Lennon Huff and three step-great-grandchildren; Daedric & Parrish Kaehr and Haydon McLaughlin. He is also survived by a sister Evelyn Thiem of Kendallville.

Lee is preceded in death by his parents, a brother Gene Coleman and a nephew Dave Thiem.

A Graveside Service will take place on Saturday, October 8, 2022 at 2 P.M. at Elm Grove Cemetery with Tony Garton officiating.

Memorials may be made in Lee's memory to Wells Community Boys & Girls Club.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the family at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Elm Grove Cemetery

3500 East State Road 124  
Bluffton, IN

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

OCT 8. 2:00 PM (ET)

Elm Grove Cemetery  
3500 East State Road 124  
Bluffton, IN

# Tribute Wall

SM

“ I grew up with the Coleman family. Lee was a fun father. He gave me the nickname “Buckshot O’Reiley”. Many happy memories of him. Rest In Peace, Lee. My condolences to his children.

Steve Moran - October 10, 2022 at 09:18 AM

BS

“ Fond memories of Ball State and good friends. Always remembered. Rest well, Col. Coleman! – bob shraluka

bob shraluka - October 07, 2022 at 01:24 PM

GW

“ My condolence to Lee’s family. I worked w/ Lee for many years at Lincoln Financial Group. Those were fun years. RIP my friend. Ginny Wyman

Ginny Wyman - October 05, 2022 at 09:52 AM

BH

“ Our deepest sympathies to Carolyn and the family. I had the honor of spending time with Lee as we served together in the Kiwanis Club as well as he and Carolyn being loyal customers for Hiday Chrysler. I will always remember Lee being the driving force for the one and only "Polar Bear Dip" at the ole Psi Ote Pool, Lee was always quick with a smile and a story that would make you smile in return. He will be missed.

Brent Hiday

Brent Hiday - October 04, 2022 at 01:09 PM

JJ

“ Carolyn and family - so sorry for your heartache as Lee has begun his heavenly journey. I'm sure you will feel comfort knowing he's no longer suffering.

jackie johnson - October 04, 2022 at 11:50 AM

TB

“ We send our condolences to Carolyn and the family. You have our friendship and wishes for peace and comfort in the days ahead. Lee was always upbeat, a great advocate for projects that strengthen our community and a friend who made the day brighter just by a greeting or a smile. We’ll miss him.

Tom and Maureen Butler - October 03, 2022 at 09:59 PM

DG

“ So sorry to learn of Lee’s passing. We first met Lee when he was a member of the Kiwanis club and he worked with us when we owned the D & D Fish trailer. Lee was an interesting guy. He was new to Bluffton so he asked a lot of questions. Lee was very friendly and always fun to be around. Carolyn and the Coleman family will be in our prayers. Dan and Darlene Gerdom



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**Dan Gerdom** - October 03, 2022 at 10:01 AM