



# Gary "Rusty" Russell Leep

JUN 5, 1974 - JAN 6, 2022



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FUNERAL HOME  
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# Gary "Rusty" Russell Leep

JUN 5, 1974 - JAN 6, 2022

**G**ary Russell "Rusty" Leep, 47, of Proctorville, Ohio traded his cape for wings to join his Heavenly Father on January 6, 2022. Rusty was the son of Gary and Pamela Leep, and brother of Worm Leep. He was born June 5, 1974, and proudly spent his entire life in Proctorville. Rusty was preceded in death by his grandparents, Jim and Betty Leep and Hollis and Glenna Edwards, uncle Larry Ward, and his mother-in-law Debby Skeens.

Rusty was a member of Rome Church of Christ. He was a 1992 graduate of Fairland High School, where he played football, basketball, and baseball for the Dragons. He later attended Ohio Valley University, playing baseball, and graduated from Marshall University in 1999. Rusty was an RN at Cabell Huntington Hospital on the ICU. He touched many lives with his caring and compassionate service there.

Rusty coached many youth baseball, basketball, and football teams over the last 16 years for the Dragons. He served on the Fairland school board from 2006-2009. He had a great love of God and his church, and such pride in his family. He spent his time fishing with friends, hunting, watching Dragon sports, and rooting for the Pittsburgh Steelers.

In addition to his parents and brother, Rusty is leaving behind his wife of 22 years, Shawna, his daughter Holli, and his son Steeler. He is also survived by his aunt Sharon Ward; aunts and uncles Debbie (Rob) Steiff, Janetta Tischer, Mary (Joe) Pichert, Terry (Ruby) Leep, and J.D. (Grace) Leep; cousins Bryan (Tonya) Ward and James (Kristen) Ward; his in-laws Linden (Linda) Skeens, Elizabeth Cremeans, and Ryan (Liz) Skeens; his nieces and nephews, Taegan, Lakin, J.T., Jacob, Joe, Jack, Desmond, Sam, Lindsey, Mason, and Braden. He leaves many extended family and special life-long friends, and co-workers as well.

Funeral Service will be held Sunday, January 9 at 5:00 P.M. at Hall Funeral Home and Crematory, Proctorville, OH. The family will receive friends from 2:00-5:00 P.M. at the funeral home. His



## Obituary

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body will be laid to rest Monday, January 10 at Rome-Proctorville Cemetery. All expressions of sympathy are appreciated, however if you would like to contribute to the education of his children an account is available at City National Bank. Condolences may be expressed to the family at [ehallfuneralhome.com](http://ehallfuneralhome.com).



## Tribute Wall

**Gary "Rusty" Russell Leep**

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MT

**Michael Taylor** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

I was in Cabell Huntington Hospital ICU for 2 weeks in February of 2020. Rusty was one of my nurses. He was an awesome guy and I will always remember how caring he was. I called him Stone Cold because he reminded me so much of WWE wrestler Steve Austin.

February 11 at 8:00 PM



BH

**Blake Holtzapfel** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

I am ever so sorry to hear about the passing of Rusty. I worked with him many years ago at SMMC and I learned so much from him. Truly an amazing nurse and athlete and he always spoke wonderful words about his family while at work . I am praying for family and friends through these times.

January 12 at 8:00 PM



RU

**Richard Unroe** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Dear family, I have been thinking of/praying for you so much the last few days. Rusty was absolutely one of the best people I have ever known. It was a joy having him in class for four years. What a loss here, but Heaven's gain. God bless you all.

January 11 at 8:00 PM



BH

**Barbara Holderby** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

My condolences to all of the Leep family 🙏🙏😊

January 11 at 8:00 PM





## Tribute Wall

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CH

**Callie Hutchinson** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Rusty was such an inspiring man to know. I knew him briefly as colleagues in the ICU as I was finishing school, then little did I know I'd become his nurse at the Cancer Center for over 5 years. I truly believe he did more for me in that time than I did for him. He taught me lessons on determination, faith, commitment to others, and the importance in living life each day to the fullest as I watched him battle stage IV cancer all while continuing to be an amazing husband, son, father, nurse, and coach. He literally never stopped. He'd come for chemo after he got off night shift and sometimes go back to work that same night. I made sure to override the schedule for him to get him in as quick as possible after being up all night caring for other patients, it was the least I could do for him. To Mom & Dad, as he introduced them to me as, I hope you are so proud of the man you raised and I know you are. He has blessed so many of us in so many ways and he will live on in the hearts of many and the halls of CHH/ECCC for years to come. Prayers to his wife and kids, Holli and Steeler. He spoke of each of you like angels and he was so proud of you all. I feel like you all are my family as I remember big moments like Steelers sports and Holli's graduation that we talked about. Rusty was a blessing to have known and cared for. So much love to all who loved him. God bless this amazing angel we've all gained.



January 7 at 8:00 PM

MK

**Margaret Keeney** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Never saw Rusty without a smile on his face. He left a wonderful legacy for his family! Praying that Shawna, Holli, Steeler, Pam and Gary and the rest of the family will feel God's presence and His peace. Peggy and Larry Keeney



January 10 at 8:00 PM

MS

**Missy Sowards** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

We are so sorry to hear of Rusty's passing. I remember when I was a teenager, I baby sat him and worm. They were good kids. Life is but a vapor so please cherish every memory you have and know he is with our Lord and Savior. Many love and prayers to everyone. Missy and Mark Sowards



January 10 at 8:00 PM

TE

**Teresa** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Our love and prayers are with you and your amazing family! With our deepest sympathy, Chris and Teresa Staten



January 10 at 8:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

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NL

**Nikki Lambiotte** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

We are so sorry for your loss. Your beautiful, precious family are in our thoughts and prayers. Love, Nikki, Joe, McKenzie, Joel Lambiotte

January 9 at 8:00 PM



AS

**Andrea Starkey** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Prayers of comfort for you: Gary, Pam, the Ward family, and Rusty's wife and kids. Rusty was always smiling, and joking, and loving life. His positive outlook and fun loving spirit will be missed for sure, but what a blessing to know he loved God and was prepared. We look forward to seeing him again. Until then, God bless you all as you adjust. Brant and Andrea Starkey

January 8 at 8:00 PM



MB

**Melissa Perry-Ball** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

So very sorry for your loss, I know he was a great guy who has a beautiful family my prayers go up and out for everyone 🙏❤️

January 8 at 8:00 PM



DC

**Debbie Conley** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

So sorry for your loss. Rusty was with my father in law when he passed away. He was right there with him and kept us informed. He will truly be missed by Shawna, the kids, Gary & Pam and all he touched. He is truly at peace and without pain. Time will heal all- much love to you all- Debbie & Doug Conley

January 8 at 8:00 PM



CL

**Cathy Lawson** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

I am so, so very sorry, Pam and Gary! I cannot imagine the heartache you must be going through with the loss of your son! Please know: if I can help in any possible way, I would be honored to do so. Prayers for all of the family as well as so many others who knew Rusty.....

January 8 at 8:00 PM





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AD

**Alicia Dennison** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Gary and Pam, my heart is saddened for you but rejoicing also. He's now in the arms of Jesus. Praying for you at this time.

January 8 at 8:00 PM



OD

**Olen Doddridge** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Gary and Pam, we are so sorry, praying for you all....you now have a special Angel in haven.....

January 8 at 8:00 PM



TH

**Trena Fuller Haynes** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Prayers for the Leep family ❤️

January 8 at 8:00 PM



SH

**Shad Holley** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Love and prayers for the family!

January 8 at 8:00 PM



BB

**Bro Jac Breedon** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Prayers

January 8 at 8:00 PM



DD

**Duane And Kathy Dornon** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Gary & Pam, So sorry for your loss. Prayers for God's comfort & peace for your days ahead. Gary, if you ever need to talk you can reach me @ 740-547-9680. I have been through this with my oldest son also a little over 16 years ago. God is Good! Duane & Kathy Dornon

January 8 at 8:00 PM





## Tribute Wall

**Gary "Rusty" Russell Leep**

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BH

**Bambi, Kerri, And Tj Henson** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

You are in our thoughts. Prayers for his beautiful family. Rusty will never be forgotten.

January 8 at 8:00 PM



DC

**Donna Leep Campagnola** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Gary, Pam, and Family, sending you all my love and Prayers!

January 8 at 8:00 PM



DH

**Dan Holderby** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

My deepest sympathies and most sincere condolences to you Shawna, Holli, and Steeler. When my dad was in his final days on Earth, Rusty was there to care for him and to lift my family's spirits. I am forever grateful for the kindness, compassion, and love he showed dad and us. I hope that in your moments of grief that you, too, will be comforted and flooded with the outpouring of love from folks whose lives were touched by Rusty. Continuing to send prayers of strength and comfort. "To have been loved so deeply, even though the person who loved us is gone, will give us some protection forever." - Albus Dumbledore (Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone)

January 8 at 8:00 PM



CC

**Carol Casto** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

January 8 at 8:00 PM



SA

**Suto And Barbara Akpanudo** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Please accept our most heartfelt sympathies for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time.

January 7 at 8:00 PM





## Tribute Wall

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HR

**Heather Rodebaugh** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

So sorry for your loss. He was awesome and a trooper till the end! What a brave man he was! He will surely be missed.

January 7 at 8:00 PM



KP

**Keith And Joshua Petrie** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Our sincere sympathy during this difficult time.

January 7 at 8:00 PM



MO

**Mike And Bess Odle** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

January 7 at 8:00 PM



SG

**Steve, Christa, & Ethan Goodson** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

With our deepest condolences

January 7 at 8:00 PM



BR

**Bronco** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

With love to an old friend.

January 7 at 8:00 PM



DS

**Debbie Steiff** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

I loved Rusty not because he was my nephew but because he was my friend. He had the best sense of humor, could tell the best stories, had an infectious laugh and a beautiful smile. I will treasure my memories of him.

January 7 at 8:00 PM





# Tribute Wall

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LW

**Leighann Galloway Wittman** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

I am so sorry for your loss. Rusty was a fighter, and I'm forever in awe of the strength he showed. Sending my love to the whole family.

January 7 at 8:00 PM



MA

**Martin & Rebecca Appleton** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

I came to Marshall University in Fall 1996, Rusty was in the first Nursing class with me at Marshall. He sat all the way in the back of the class in Harris Hall he wanted to be a Nurse. My husband (Marty) got to know Rusty because he was on the Fairland School Board and Marty got to know Rusty as a really strong supporter of sports and helping Fairland become a better school. Rusty will be missed in this community. Love and prayers to the whole Leep family Pam, Gary, Holli, Steeler and Shanna...

January 7 at 8:00 PM



JH

**Jason Henderson** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

A lot of people refer to Rusty as their best friend which shows the kind of person he was to everyone. I pray the Leep family finds strength with all the great people that Rusty touched in his life. A best friend that will be missed by many! Much love for the Leep family.

January 7 at 8:00 PM



JD

**Judy Duncan** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Prayers for the family 🥺❤️🙏

January 7 at 8:00 PM



AL

**A Memorial Tree Was Planted For Gary "Rusty" Russell Leep** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Hall

January 7 at 8:00 PM





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BS

**Ben And Ross Skeens** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit. In memory of Rusty, who planted many trees throughout his life

January 7 at 8:00 PM



RB

**Rob, Allison, Parker & Addy Bryan** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

We pray the love of God enfolds you during this time. You will all remain in our prayers.

January 7 at 8:00 PM



DP

**Debbie Pemberton** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

January 7 at 8:00 PM



DS

**Debbie (Cremeans ) Smoot** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

January 7 at 8:00 PM



MR

**Michelle & Robert** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Prayers, love and hugs to you all. From michelle and Robert

January 7 at 8:00 PM



JE

**Jera Eudy** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Sending love and prayers to Shawna, Holli, Steeler, Pam, Gary, and Worm. Rusty's strength, courage and faith was a true testimony of the kind of man he was. Such a blessing to have known Rut!. We pray for continued comfort and peace knowing that Rusty is whole again with our Heavenly Father. We love you all so much- Jera, Billy, Kate & Hunter

January 7 at 8:00 PM





## Tribute Wall

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JT

**Johnda Lane Thompson** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Rest In Peace, Rusty!

January 7 at 8:00 PM



GB

**Ghassan Bandak** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

May his soul rest in peace. He will be greatly missed.

January 7 at 8:00 PM



TS

**Troy Smith And Tom Sellers** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

So sorry for your loss. Rusty was our roommate for 2 years at OVU, and we played baseball with him. He was a great friend, roommate, and teammate.

January 7 at 8:00 PM



GB

**Gary And Sheila Brunty** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

As you grieve know that we are remembering you and honoring the memory of Rusty. Arrangement to go to Pam Leep. We love you, Gary Worm, and entire fam

January 7 at 8:00 PM



TS

**Tribute Store** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Rusty was a great nurse and an even better friend. Thinking of you all

January 7 at 8:00 PM



BR

**Bronco** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

With love.

January 7 at 8:00 PM





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DP

**Debbie Pemberton** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Pam, Gary, Shawna and family, I pray for all of you at this most difficult time. Rusty was a special young man. Even though words fail me, Pam...please know I love you and your family and pray for peace and comfort. Lots of love to you dear friend.

January 7 at 8:00 PM



HK

**Heather Kruel** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Condolences to the family. I was his neighbor and he was very friendly to our family. He will be missed!! Rest in peace 🙏

January 7 at 8:00 PM



TR

**Toni Ray** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

So sorry for the loss of Rusty. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

January 7 at 8:00 PM



CC

**Connie Cox Campbell** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Prayers for the family 🙏

January 7 at 8:00 PM



DC

**Debra Coleman** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

You have my deepest sympathy, Pam. May light perpetual shine upon him and bring you peace. Debra Coleman

January 7 at 8:00 PM



TJ

**Travis Jones** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

So sorry for your loss he was a good friend teammate and all around person. He will be greatly missed by all. Prayers go out to the family that he left way to soon.

January 7 at 8:00 PM





## Tribute Wall

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PB

**Phyllis Brady** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Oh my Pam so sorry love you

January 7 at 8:00 PM



VE

**Vickie Edwards** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Sorry for your loss prayers for your family.

January 7 at 8:00 PM



DJ

**Debra Jessee** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Love and prayers to the family. I am so sorry

January 7 at 8:00 PM



LW

**Laura Workman** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

PRAYERS for his sweet family. ❤️

January 7 at 8:00 PM



RS

**Ron Starcher** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Shawna, Holli, Steeler, Gary, Pam, Jeremy; I know how devastated that you all must be! The loss of an incredible husband, father, son, brother and fine gentleman as Rusty was is a horrible thing to endure! My heart aches for you all! Please accept my most heartfelt condolences! Our community has a void now that will never be filled! May God comfort you all during this terrible time of mourning!

January 7 at 8:00 PM



HB

**Heather Bird** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Prayers for his family. He was a great person. We talked many times on night shift about life, family and what means the most to us in our life. He was kind, wise and one heck of a nurse. He will be missed.

January 7 at 8:00 PM





## Tribute Wall

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KP

**Keith Petrie** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Gary, Pam and the entire Leep family: Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers during such a horribly devastating time.

January 7 at 8:00 PM



JK

**Janie Keeney** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

So sorry sending prayers for the family!! 🙏🙏🙏

January 7 at 8:00 PM



JT

**Janetta Tischler** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

My brother said it right, Rusty was a warrior from day one until the very end. I loved Rusty's laugh, humor and passion especially for football and his family.

January 7 at 8:00 PM



TS

**Terrie Smith** lit a candle in honor of Gary "Rusty".

Prayers for his family 🙏

January 7 at 8:00 PM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Gary "Rusty" by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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