



Larry M. Bogard

January 21, 1943 - May 2, 2024

Larry Martin Bogard, 81, passed away peacefully on Thursday, May 2nd, 2024, at his home in Ft. Collins, Colorado. Larry was born on January 21st, 1943, to Josephine Bogard (Dahl) and Leonard Bogard in Palestine, Illinois, where he was raised and lived until he graduated high school. A star athlete in both football, basketball and baseball, he attended Palestine High, graduating in 1961. He went on to attend both the University of Illinois and Southern Illinois University, before enlisting in the United States Airforce in 1965. Stationed in Wiesbaden, Germany for the majority of his 4-year enlistment, he traveled extensively throughout Europe and developed a real passion for music; his house was always filled with the songs from his extensive collection. Larry made many of his lifelong friends during this time, and met his wife of 56 years, Linda Bogard (Deaver). It was love at first sight, Larry and Linda got engaged 17 days after they first met and were married several months later.

Upon his return stateside, Larry began working for the Rio Grande railroad, following in the footsteps of both his father and grandfather, as a 3rd generation Rail. He worked in coal freight for many years, until eventually transferring to passenger trains, where he finished out the last 15 years of his career as a Conductor for Amtrak. His career facilitated both his love of travel and the outdoors. His whole life, Larry was an avid outdoorsman, he loved fishing and hunting and in his later years, working in his garden. During his

retirement, he enrolled at Colorado State University and completed a series of classes and earned his “Colorado Master Gardener” designation, of which he was quite proud.

His family often joked he was the “MacGyver” of the family, he was very handy and loved to tinker in his garage. He maintained the family vehicles, built and refurbished furniture, installed skylights, built multi-story wrap-around decks, and of course handled all the “honey do” list projects!

Larry was well loved by his family and friends and will be sorely missed. He is survived by his loving wife, Linda, his beloved children, Lorin and Jeff and his cherished grandson, Camden. Last, but not least, his faithful pooch, Abbey, whom he spoiled rotten!

A Celebration of Life is planned for Saturday, June 22, 2024, 11:00am at Bohlender Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive St., Fort Collins CO. A reception will follow at Best Western University Inn, 914 S. College Ave., Fort Collins CO 80524.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUN **22**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (MT)

Bohlender Funeral Chapel
121 W. Olive Street
Fort Collins, CO 80524

Reception

JUN **22**. 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM (MT)

Best Western University Inn
914 South College Avenue
Fort Collins, CO 80524-3033

Tribute Wall

DF

“ I just stumbled on Larry's obit, this morning, 25 August 2025, more than a year after his passing. I am sitting here stunned. To Larry's family, I offer both my deepest sympathy and my apology for having been "out of touch" with Bogie for such a long time... learning only this morning he is gone.

Earlier this morning, I received a call from Mary Green, Roger Green's wife, with the sad news that Roger passed away at 3:00 a.m. today. Roger was a close mutual friend from our days at SIU. At one point, we were housemates who remained "semi" in-touch over the years. The last time we were all together was seventeen years ago, when Larry, Marty Smith and I traveled from our respective homes to attend Roger and Mary's wedding in South Carolina. It was a joyous event and a splendid reunion. I searched for Larry's contact information on my computer and when it became evident that it was no longer there, I simply typed in Larry's name and Ft Collins. I cannot begin to describe my reaction when his obituary popped up. Here I was, feeling an intense need to contact Bogie to tell him about Roger ... only to learn that he left us more than a year ago.

I am broken-hearted this morning, trying to get my head around the shocking revelation that both Bogie and Rog' have passed.

The only redeeming thing about the past few hours is that I have abundant memories ... great memories about the time we "were buddies."

I don't have the words to express how I am feeling at this moment. Only the word "numb" comes to mind, so I'll leave it at that.

*Thanks, Bogie for the important role you played in my life. I love you, Man!
G-DSPEED.*

Russ Fine

Birmingham, AL

DR RUSS FINE - August 25, 2025 at 10:45 AM

VC

“ *Larry was an important part of our social life....eating out and playing cards together. His dry wit and friendship will be greatly missed!*

Val Cornetet

val cornetet - May 16, 2024 at 04:43 PM