



Lee Ischinger

May 29, 2009

Lee S. Ischinger, age 65, of Fort Collins, passed away in his home surrounded by loved ones, Friday, May 29, 2009. Lee was born June 23, 1943 in Chicago, IL to Arthur and Eunice Ischinger. He married Julie Berger on July 10, 1965 in Chicago, IL. He was a graduate of Northern Illinois University Dekalb, IL, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Invertebrate Zoology 1965 and a Master of Science in Aquatic Biology 1967. Lee was a professional scientist and supervisory manager with private and Federal agencies. He authored and co-authored over 20 scientific publications. As part of the Western Energy and Land Use Team of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, he defined and completed the first National Fisheries Survey and pioneered the application of geospatial technology to aquatic systems through the computerized River Reach File. Lee served in several leadership roles in the Service, as well as the Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Geological Survey, and launched a variety of interdisciplinary teams to address complex and challenging natural research problems. He retired after 32 years of Federal service in 2002. Lee was the founder and served as President of the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Society of Wetland Scientists from 1984 to 1986. He served as the International Convention Chair for the Society of Wetland Scientists in 1987, 1992 and 1997. He was the Vice President of the Society of Wetland Scientists in 1992 and President of the Society from 1993 to 1994. In addition, Lee was a certified firearm instructor with the U.S. Geological Survey and a Regional firearms safety manager for the Central Region of the

U.S. Geological Survey from 1998 to 2002. Lee was a member of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America since 1961. He was one of the founders of the Fort Collins SPEBSQSA chapter. He became a member of the Loveland chapter when the Fort Collins and Loveland chapters merged. He was named "barber shopper of the year" for the Rocky Mountain District in 1994 and the Loveland Chapter in 1993. Lee served as President of the Fort Collins Chapter from 1987 to 1988, and President of the Loveland Chapter from 1996 to 1997. He was the member of the Barber Shop Quartet Preservation Association from 2005 to 2009. He served as a member of the steering committee and as secretary. Lee is survived by his wife Julie Berger Ischinger; son, Reid Ischinger of Fort Collins; daughter, Allison Schanaman Daniel of Minneapolis, MN; his mother Eunice Ischinger of Fort Collins; brother, Martin Ischinger Carol of Fairfax, VA and two grandsons, Sandis Ischinger and Jack Schanaman. A memorial service will be held at 2:00 pm on Tuesday, June 23rd at Bohlender Funeral Chapel in Fort Collins. Memorial contributions can be made to Pathways Hospice in care of Bohlender Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive St., Ft. Collins, CO 80524.

Tribute Wall

DL

“ Dear Julie, I have recently learned of Lee's passing and sincerely offer my condolences . I'm able to empathize with you, as I've had this experience twice and know how difficult it is. Hopefully, by the time this message reaches you, you will have recovered & moved on with your life. I am sorry that we have lost touch for the past 40 years. Following our phone conversation at that time, I did receive the nice letter from you. Since we were in the process of moving, I misplaced it along with your address & telephone number. I've tried many times over the years to locate you without success. I would like very much to hear from you. I'm on facebook and my email is donnalanson2011@yahoo.com. Very Sincerely, Donna Larson Houcek

Donna Larson - January 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KI

“ Dear Julie: Very sorry to hear of Lee's passing. He and I corresponded several years ago to try to determine if we are related. I just found Lee's obituary on the internet. I will light a candle this evening. Best, Kathryn Ischinger

Kathryn Ischinger - April 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Julie I am so sorry to hear the sad news that Lee passed away. My deepest sympathy to you and your family. I wish I would have known that you and Lee lived in Ft. Collins. I lived up in BlackHawk for two years. It would have been so nice to see both of you. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this time. Sharon

Sharon Semrow Stout - July 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ Dear Julie, I was so sorry to hear of Lees passing,yet, strangely enough, a smile came to my face when I saw his name. I remember the booming voice, the big smile, and of course, he and Don...their middle name was mischief. I'm sure he's somewhere up in heaven starting up a singing group! I hope that your faith will carry you through the sorrow. Please know that so many friends are sending their love to you, me included. Fondly, Patti Wilson Simonides

Patti Wilson Simonides - July 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

NF

“ Please accept my deepest sympathy on the loss of your dear husband. Although it has been many years since our days at Luther, please be sure that you are in my thoughts and prayers. Nancy

Nancy Fieck-Roppolo - July 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

EA

“ Dear Julie and family, I just got word today about Lee's death. Please accept my deepest sympathy. I remember Lee from Luther High North. Those days were wonderful. All of us as students had such a close bond. May you and your family be strengthened with the hope of the resurrection. Because Jesus lives - WE LIVE- and we can face tomorrow courageously knowing that he will never leave us or forsake us. God's blessings during this time, elise

Elise Rehberger Arndt - July 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ Dear Julie and Family, May God's peace and love comfort all of you. God bless and keep you in His tender loving care. Judy and family

Judy Suffern Toensing - July 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *I have happy memories of being in a class room with Lee. He was always fun, friendly and wore a big smile. Luther was blessed to have his voice. May your family find comfort knowing your friends care, peace that Lee is now with our Lord and support in God's promise to always love us and be with us. I send my sincere condolences.*

Jacque StolzCottingham - July 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM

D1

“ damn, Ischinger, TOO SOON - but what a life! That tribute by your son-in-law - extraordinary! You lived the life we learned and loved as VERY NAUGHTY BOYS bassetogether in the Luther North choirs and Elsa Birkner's rib-splittingly funny German class, only enhanced by the shit you used to pull! - Jacobsen, Ischinger, a memorable gruesome twosome, and Sass right along with you both, knowing he never could match the originality of the mayhem that team dreamed up and executed - that son-in-law, Dan, knows the best, from you - restaurants, love, pawn shops, love, GUNS!!!!, love, fishing, love, a beautiful woman, love, a great successful career wetlands - damn, Lee, who knew?! You were smart???, love, staying close to your mother, love, Julie, love, a son and his family near in Colorado and a daughter with her evidently teachable meathead in Minneapolis, of all places-I went to St. Olaf!, love, scaring the shit out of that son-in-law funny!, love.....and more, much more, that many of us missed these past 50 years because we all lost track of each other -but that tribute from Dan, your daughter's other man, says it all for us who did go our different ways from those idyllic dastardly days of youth - and kept honoring our God of Youth, which we sang so mightily when teenagers - I'm proud to have been in escapades with you then, and to have shared these thoughts with those who continued to know and love you since then - damn, Lee, the love.....love.....love. Dan Sass, Ilwaco, Washington, in the Forest, by the "Ocian" and River, and Oyster Bay, with my wife Leanne and my son Jesus. 2783 Hwy 101, Ilwaco, WA 98624 360 642-0050

Daniel W. Sass, LHN, Class of 1961 - July 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ So sorry to hear of Lee's passing. He was always a good guy and brilliant too, I see. How blessed to have been married to him all these years. Surprising at how hard it is to lose a classmate. Luther North certainly taught us that we rest in Christ's eternal love. Julie, may you feel God's loving arms surround you at this difficult time. "Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord." 1 Timothy 1:2

Monika Runge Werner - July 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Dear Julie, I was so sad to hear about Lee. I remember him so fondly and the great times we had at Luther, especially singing. My Dad would be so glad to hear that he continued to sing. He was really great and truly had a musical gift. I wish I would have known you were in Colorado. My husband went to school in Boulder and we got back there many times to visit friends. Sure would have been fun to see you guys. I can't imagine how sad you are. Lee was a gift to us all and I'm so grateful for having known him. Please know that you are in my heart and prayers at this difficult time and that God loves us more than we know. He has promised never to leave us without comfort and I pray that you find that now. God Bless you and your family. Love, Mimi Schroth Sager

Mimi Sager - July 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Dear Julie and family: May the love you feel for the one you lost lessen your sorrow. Let the memories be your source of comfort and going forward in Christ. We, from LHN know the meaning of "in Christ we trust" and we live with that in our daily undertakings. Knowing Lee in our earlier years was a joy and always that quizzical thought of what is he and Jacobson up to now? Lee gave us laughter, excitement and that was something natural. I will always remember those times.

Chic Edward Martin - July 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ To Julie and family, so sorry to hear of the death of Lee. Please accept my condolences and find comfort in the Lord.

Janis Lippert nee Bernsee - July 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ I did not know Lee as well as did Ross, but I've come to know and very much admire you in the last months. What I do remember most about Lee were his "on-the-lips" greeting kisses which I will describe as hearing "oom-wah!" when he gave them. Those kisses were memorable, but I know his very special kisses were for you and he would love to give you one right now if he could. You called Lee your "rock," but I think you were his "rock," and I know you were the love of his life. Sincerely and with love, Jan

Jan Schoo - July 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ Julie and family Lee was a most interesting and wonderful person with such a diversity of interests. He was like a brother to me. I will always have fond memories of all the time we spent together over the years. Summer evenings on the patio talking and laughing, winter evening by the fire in your family room more laughing, Lee and I working on woodworking projects I never had to worry if I was doing something right because if I wasn't he would tell me. Lee and I shared a personality quirk. At almost any time someone would say something, just a phrase or whatever, Lee and I could start singing a song with those words, then we would just laugh. This was something my own Dad and I shared. It was wonderful finding someone else who shared this strange behavior. There will always be a somg! I feel very fortunate and honored to have been able to spend time with you and Lee over his last months. I miss him tremendously. Some day we will be able to sing and laugh again.

Ross Pywell - July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ Julie, Allison, Reid: Although it has been years since we connected and shared kids and thoughts, we fondly remember those early adolescent years together. Our family extends its deepest sympathy and offers prayers of peace as you deal with the loss of your husband, your father, our friend. The Weitkunat Family

Tom and Karen Weitkunat - June 25, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Hello Lee- "I Remember" "I remember" when I first met your daughter and after dating awhile she invited me to Christmas dinner. I was scared shitless!! "I remember" when you told me you would "shoot" me if I ever hurt your daughter...I'm still alive!! "I remember" coming over every Tuesday night and Julie would cook me a pizza. "I remember" eating at your house every Sunday night...It was WONDERFUL! "I remember" all of your holiday parties, WHAT GREAT FRIENDS! "I remember" when you told me you believed in me. I remember" coming to your barber shop sing off's in Ft. Collins and Denver. "I remember" your kiss with your daughter when you gave her away to me. "I remember" my fishing pole and our first hunt together. "I remember" how clumsy you could sometimes be. "I remember" Chicago and Minnesota how you were always on a search for a good German restaurant... or gun. "I remember" how you and Julie would go to the store everyday and get the "best meal" served for me after working all day. "I remember" how we used to drive around to pawn shops looking for a good deal. "I remember" when you would sing. I'll miss that "I remember" when you hugged me....Ohhhh so warm. "I remember" you being here when Jack Sandis Schanaman was born. "I remember" your smile! "I remember" how strong your cocktails were. "I remember" how much you loved your guns "I remember" how much you loved your family. I really remember how much Allison LOVED HER DAD "I remember" how sick you were, and I cried..... and you said "it is what it is Danny". "I remember you and I talking about the tree's IT WAS SO BEAUTIFUL TO SPEND THOSE LAST MOMMENTS WITH YOU, LEE You had such a impact on me. "I remember when you asked me to grab your hand and I told you to rest..... I Love you Lee... And just remember... "I rememeber" everything about you Lee and so will Jack "Sanders" Schanaman. I wuv you pappa! Dan and Jack son-n law and grandson "I remember"

Dan Schanaman - June 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ It was a privilege to meet Lee only a few years ago for the first time. He was a mentor in history and a wonderful Father figure that inspired me to learn more about myself and family. I will treasure the times we spent together and always remember his joyful spirit, love of family and friends and most of all his dedication to his wife. I share my deepest condolences to all his wonderful friends, family and my Aunt Julie. Thank you Uncle Lee for being such an inspiration to me and so many others. I will always remember "your" special martini you made me celebrating Jack's birth. Cheers!

Darren Schubert - June 23, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ Gwen and I extend our condolences at this time Julie. You are a wonderful cousin according to our son Darren. His frequent trips and continuing contact with you and Lee have kept us up to date with some of the activities in your lives. I'm sorry that my only recollection of Lee and you as well face to face was the time you were newlyweds and honeymooned in Germany. I still have the excellent photo Lee took of you and I in Munich. I wish I would have taken one of Lee at that time. We all were so young and carefree. Today, I get to see you once again and hope it will be one of many visits and in better times. God bless you Julie. Our prayers are with you as you go forward in your life. We await your visit to us and my family in Eugene. Love and Blessings, Gary & Gwen Schubert

Gary Schubert - June 23, 2009 at 12:00 AM

NC

“ My dear Eunice, Julie & Martin, I am so sorry to hear about Lee. He was such a good man. We enjoyed his singing and his humor here at The Worthington. You all will have many wonderful memories, I am sure, to help you get through this very sad time. You are all in my prayers. You have my deepest sympathy, he will be missed!
Sincerely, Nancy Jean Collins, The Worthington.

Nancy Collins - June 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Allison and family, Although I haven't seen you in nearly 18 years I wanted to express my deepest sympathy to you and and your family. My thoughts and prayers and with you. Sincerely, Michelle Heiner

Michelle Heiner - June 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ Our lives are sweeter because of our relationship with Lee and his family. The pinewood derby support, hunting and fishing tips and his kind smile that always greeted us our some of our tender memories. Mark affectionately called him "My Ischinger". We are so grateful for his example. He was a marvelous man, one I am glad my boys admired.

The Slade Family - June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KA

“ Lee was my older cousin and I thought the world of him. He and Julie helped me when I became a widow at the age of 22. When I visited them after Ron's death Lee told me that whatever I decide to do in life he was sure that Ron would only want the best for me and that I should live my life knowing that whatever choice I made it would be his wish for me. Julie, my wish is that you find the comfort that Lee gave me when I thought my life had ended. I love you all and want you to find the peace and comfort that I found in the love of my family and friends. God's blessing upon you all!

Kathryn Ackley - June 20, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ Dear Julie & family - So sorry to hear of your loss. Lee was a great co-worker. He was always cheerful & helpful to everyone. It was a pleasure to have known him.

Carol Wircenske - June 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BO

“ Julie and family- Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this sad time. Bob and Maggie Ottermann

Bob and Maggie Ottermann - June 17, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JI

“ Uncle Lee will be truly missed.

Jill and Justin Ischinger - June 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ Lee Ischinger

Katie Hoover - June 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ Dear friends and family of Isch, We share the loss of a great comrade. Let us be thankful for the time we shared with Lee and his family celebrating his life. For me it's been since 1970 that we met and first worked together for US EPA. It was even Lee who nicknamed me as Fat Albert. I have put together a PowerPoint presentation In Memoriam for Isch. If you would like to see it I can e-mail it to you. My e-mail address is lmarshall3@cinci.rr.com. We shall miss him a lot. A wonderful friend! Lynn Fat Albert & Joan Marshall Cincinnati, OH

Lynn and Joan Marshall - June 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ Julie and family, I want to express my deepest sympathy to you and your family. This is a very sad and difficult time. Thank you for letting me know where to read the obituary. Although I never met Lee, I know he was married to a wonderful lady. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Always, Debbie Graff

Debbie Graff - June 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PP

“ I am so sorry for your loss and all of our loss. He was a mentor to me when I joined WELUT and kept me informed on how to work with a bunch of scientists!! I loved his humor, fun for life, and the Thing! I was so pleased to talk with him at Nanytutu's. Such a good man and a wonderful husband, father and grandfather. He adored you all!

Peggy Plate - June 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TO

“ We'll miss Lee very much, both as a former co-worker and as a neighbor. He took his work seriously but always managed to liven up the place. As a barbershop singer Lee was incomparable, and won a special place in my late elderly Mom's heart with his private and city-wide performances. Hopefully he's serenading her again.

Tom and Sherry O'Shea - June 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ Dear Julie and Family - I was very sorry to hear of Lee's passing. Although I never had the pleasure of knowing him, it sounds like Lee was a marvelous person, I'm sure he will be greatly missed.

Kathy Robinson - June 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ Dear Julie, Reid and Allison, May warm memories help to soften your sorrow...and may faith help you to face each tomorrow. May you find peace, strength, comfort and love. I wish you whatever you need the most. May all the things that made Lee such a special gift from God forever bless your life in beautiful memories. If there is anything that you ever need...or anyway that I may help, please, let me know. Through every moment of this difficult time...you are being held close in my thoughts and my heart. In loving sympathy and caring ~ Susan J Lukanovich Psalm 23

Susan J Lukanovich - June 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ Dear Julie and family, My heart goes out to all of you. I know the pain that you have and pray that you will find that peace that passes all understanding in our precious Lord Jesus Christ. He has prepared a place for all of us as we come to Him. My deepest condolences and prayers. With love, Cousin Deb

Deb Loudenback - June 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ We were so impressed by what we read about Lee. We are so sorry for the loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.

Steve & Eursa Schueler - June 07, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Dear Julie and Family, I was saddened to hear of Lee's passing. I always enjoyed his friendship and especially singing barbershop with him. His booming bass voice will always have a special place in my memories. God Bless, Dave Haggerty

David M. Haggerty - June 07, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ Dear Julie and Family: I sang with Lee in the Barbershop Chorus and in a quartet, and loved his super bass singing voice and his great personality. He was a good friend, and he will be sorely missed.

Chet Rideout - June 07, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ It has been our joy and deepest pleasure living next door to Lee and Julie for the past 30 years. We will deeply miss our wonderful, wonderful friend and neighbor. Our deepest sympathy. Steve & Carolyn

Stephen & Carolyn Stack - June 07, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GH

“ Julie and Family I am so sorry for your loss. As you know Lee was a great guy to be around. He was smart, insightful, caring, a great boss, fair with contractors, and a wonderful friend. Folks always wanted to have a drink or dinner with Lee. He was funny and entertaining. Lee knew much about a wide range of topics and had no problem expressing his opinion. He definitely was not politically correct. He was a man's man. More importantly, Lee took care of his family until his time on this earth ended. He was a husband, father and grandfather first. Lee knew what was important. It was an pleasure to know him and he will be missed by all of us.

Gerry Horak - June 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ It was with profound sadness that I read the words posted by the Society of Wetland Scientists. My heart and prayers are extended to your family for your loss of such a wonderful individual. With my deepest respect, Jacob

Jacob Dunnell, PWS - June 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AE

“ My thoughts and well wishes are with you and your family.

aymi eggars - June 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ Allison how lucky you are to have had such a wonderful and intelligent father.

Robin Conniff - June 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ Lee Ischinger

terry waddle - June 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ Allison and family, I can't tell you how sorry I am for your loss. What a wonderful dad, husband and grandfather you were all blessed with. You are all in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Brewer family Susan, James, Carter, Grant, Jackson and Kennedy

Susan Brewer - June 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ I was privileged to know Lee for nearly 30 years. His smile and impish sense of humor, often bawdy, still makes me smile. We spent many hours in various goose pits futilely hunting geese but laughing and solving the world's problems. He took me on the only elk hunt of my life and besides being a hunter, made a very good martini. The last day we shared left me with warm and happy memories. His sense of humor was still intact and made me feel comfortable with his condition. I hope eternity finds you where the hunting and fishing never disappoints. Peace, my friend.

Ralph Morgenweck - June 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Lee was the best boss and mentor I've ever had. I've never learned as much or laughed as much since working for him. He has a special place in my heart and I hope to see him again some day.

Dr Molly R Whitworth - June 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CI

“ Lee Ischinger

Carol and Martin Ischinger - June 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ Lee will always have a special place in my heart. What a wonderful, inspiring, sincere and joyful man to have known. I have been blessed with his friendship and will miss him dearly. Thank you, my dear one, for all that you gave to me and to SWS.

Sandy Doyle-Ahern - June 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ Julie and Family: Lee was a great man and a friend. He live a life more full that most of us can imagine. He was a great leader in his career in the Department of Interior. My inspiration from him came from his many many accomplishments and leadership within the Society of Wetland Scientists. But more importantly, his energy and positive personality drove all these accomplishments and his sense of humor and intelligence are what I admire the most. I will miss him terribly. I feel honored to have known him.

Jan Keough - June 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ I'm sorry for your loss.

Julie Lechtanski - June 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

HM

“ Dear Ischinger Family, I am sorry to hear about your loss. Although I have not seen Reid in a few years, I have always remember the family with fond thoughts. Nothing I can say will replace your loss, but know there are those of us from your past, presesnt, and future who smile on the family and know how strong and caring you are. My thoughts are with you during this hard time. Heather McCormick and family

Heather McCormick - June 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ Dear Julie and family: We're so sorry to hear that your husband, companion, father and grandfather has passed away. He was much too young to leave already. Please accept our deepest sympathy, you are all in our thoughts at this difficult time. Sincerely, Lucinda, Bruce, Lily, Graham & Robin

Lucinda Baker - June 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ Dear Mrs. Ischinger and Family: We were sorry to learn of Lee's passing, and send our heartfelt condolences to you and your entire family. John, Jeanie, Chris, Sharla, and Alex Aronson

The Aronson Family - June 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KN

“ Dear Julie, I was so sad to hear about Lee's illness and passing. Please know I have been thinking of you. Warmly, Kim Nohava

Kim Nohava - June 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM