



## Owen Joseph Lecheler

March 19, 1931 - September 1, 2020

Owen Joseph Lecheler, 89, of Fort Collins Colorado passed away on September 1, 2020.

Owen was born in Farm Hill, a small town in Wisconsin. He was one of nine children and grew up working hard on the family farm. Owen gave up the farming life to attend college at North Dakota State University where he received his master's degree in Speech Pathology. Through a blind double-date that his sister set up, he met and married the love of his life Connie, whom he was married to for over 65 years.

Owen never gave up his love for farming. He always had a huge garden where he grew a variety of veggies and it came in handy to send his children to weed the garden when they misbehaved. Nobody could grow a tomato like him. Owen also loved camping and fishing in the Colorado mountains. When nobody else could catch a fish, Owen would always be able to catch one. He was like a fish-whisperer. He was also very lucky in cards which he would play with his friends and family whenever possible. Owen was also an avid football fan. His favorite teams were Notre Dame, Denver Broncos, and the Green Bay Packers. He was an active member of John XXIII church and the Knights of Columbus.

Owen started his career as a teacher, then after he completed his master's

degree went on to help open Gateway Sheltered Workshop. He worked several years as a director at Gateway then later at The A.R.C. in Laramie, Wyoming where he commuted to daily from Fort Collins for over five years.

Owen loved spending time with his family. He and Connie raised six children. Paul (Barb), Jennine Billingsley (Doug), Nicholas (Molly), Mary Hohnstein (Brant), John (Kathleen), and Rosanne McDonnell (Mike). They had fifteen grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. He will be met in heaven by his parents, Nicholas and Henrietta Lecheler, several brothers and sisters, and three grandchildren; Shannon Lecheler; Mitchell Bengford; and Stephen Lecheler.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, September 5 at John XXIII in Fort Collins.

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

SEP 5. 11:00 AM.

John XXIII

# Tribute Wall



“ *Bohlender Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of Owen Joseph Lecheler*



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**Bohlender Funeral Chapel** - September 05, 2020 at 02:52 PM

PF

*Dear Connie, Janine, Mary, Rose Ann. Paul, John Nick. Your Dad was a the finest example of what a father should be . Compassionate loving, always teaching how to be a good man. And a good husband. and father. (yes, even that liberal guy.) With your mother to cover his back. He did what our heavenly father said to do. The ball is in your court. Gods peace and mercy be upon you all Connie, Phyllis and I wish we had been there to say goodbye. Think of him having the perfect hands and feet hand and always a successful hunt and catch fishing*

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**Phyllis and Larry(LU) Kimsey & family** - September 13, 2020 at 06:13 PM

MK

“ Dear Connie and Family,

*I was out of town and just recently learned of Owen's passing.*

*Since Pat and I moved to St. Joseph's, we have had only occasional contact--usually at a K of C Breakfast following the 8:00 am Mass. Those contacts were enough to bring fun conversation about our times together through J23. Thank you both for your loyalty to your faith and family. God bless Owen.*

*Mark and Pat Korb*

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**Mark Korb** - September 11, 2020 at 01:00 PM

TZ

“ Dear Connie and Family,

*I most remember the smile that Owen had. He was always upbeat and truly wanted to know how things were with our family. It's been a long road for all of you and now he can Rest In Peace and without pain. We love you all and our prayers are with you.*

*Love, David and Trish Zander*

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**Trish Zander** - September 04, 2020 at 10:48 AM

JA

“ Dear Connie, sending prayers for you and your family. I think of you often. God's peace. Love, Janie Arndt

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**Janie Arndt** - September 04, 2020 at 09:21 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Owen Joseph Lecheler.



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September 03, 2020 at 10:09 PM