



Larry D. Saunders

November 4, 1957 - November 4, 2023

Larry Douglas Saunders, age 66, of Dowling, Michigan went to be with The Lord while surrounded by his loving family on his birthday Saturday, November 4, 2023.

Larry was born November 4, 1957 to the late Larry Herman Saunders and Edna Annette (Helvey) Saunders. He married Beverly May (Wiedmann) Saunders on February 14, 1981 and was happily married for 42 years.

Larry is survived by his loving wife Beverly, his four children, Shane Christian Saunders of Mount Pleasant, Michigan, Summer Grace (Saunders) Sagara and David Sagara of Prosper, Texas, Sheridan Faith (Saunders) Coplin and Austin Coplin of Nashville, Michigan, Shealin Joy Saunders of Detroit, Michigan; Three grandchildren Aria Noel Coplin, Sterling James Sagara, and Kayce May Coplin. He is also survived by his mother Edna Annette Saunders, and siblings Paul Curtis Saunders and Penny Saunders as well as many nieces and nephews.

Larry was preceded in death by his father Larry Herman Saunders, and sister Sandra Kay Saunders.

Larry dedicated his life to Jesus and to Christian Ministry, pastoring in many churches, including First Baptist of East Lebanon, Maine, Faithway Baptist

Church of Ypsilanti, Michigan, First Baptist of Pound, Wisconsin, L'Anse Baptist Church of L'Anse, Michigan, Prairieville Bible Church of Prairieville, Michigan and Jackson Baptist Church in Jackson, Michigan upon his death.

Larry was an outdoorsman and musician. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, playing his guitar, bluegrass music and singing with his family, watching the Green Bay Packers and U of M football, playing with his grandchildren, and serving The Lord through music and ministry.

Friends may join the family for a time of visitation on Friday, November 10, 2023 from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. at the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home in Saline. Funeral Services will be held at 1:00 P.M. Burial will follow the service and will be held in the Lodi Township Cemetery in Saline. A luncheon will follow the burial and will be held at the Saline American Legion Post #322 located at 320 West Michigan Ave, Saline, MI 48176. Memorial contributions in Larry's honor may be made to the family, care of Beverly Saunders, and envelopes will be available at the funeral home. The service will be livestreamed and can be viewed by visiting the funeral home's YouTube Channel. To leave a memory you have of Larry, to sign his guestbook, or for directions please visit www.rbfhsaline.com.

To view the livestream please click on: <https://www.youtube.com/@rbfhsaline>

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **10**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services
301 E Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176
(734) 429-9760
rbfhsaline@hotmail.com
<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

Funeral Service

NOV **10**. 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services
301 E Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176
(734) 429-9760
rbfhsaline@hotmail.com
<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

Graveside Service

NOV **10**. 2:15 PM (ET)

Lodi Township Cemetery
Corner of Textile Road and Ann Arbor-Saline Road
Saline, MI 48176

Luncheon

NOV **10**. 3:00 PM (ET)

Saline American Legion
320 West Michigan Ave.
Saline, MI 48176
<http://www.salinelegion.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ Robison-Bahn Miller Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Livestream will start at approximately 12:40pm in memory of Larry D. Saunders



Robison-Bahn Miller Funeral Home & Cremation Services - November 06, 2023 at 07:06 PM

HP

I have many great memories of Pastor Larry. Loved his sense of humor, the way he opened up The Book, the way he could play anything on his guitar, his singing voice, the way he would call me sister. Pastor Larry had a great way of helping to heal a bad situation. I will always be privileged to have known him and to have had him as my pastor. Until we meet again in glory, thanks for everything you did for us and the Lord.

Hollie Pierce - November 07, 2023 at 07:44 PM

JW

Beyond Grandma and Grandpa, you really were the glue that bound us all together at all the holiday and reunion events. There was always an audience surrounding you, listening to you tell jokes and stories. Sometimes it was hard to break away to get food or find the port a potty, because there was always just one more.:) You always led the singing with your guitar for Christmas holidays and often for the reunions. 2023, now to be your last earthly reunion, included about an hour of rather serious well planned hymns and choruses. How could anyone ever forget your composition of "Yellow Snow, Yellow Snow, Yellow Snow", (a spoof of "Let it Snow") "Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer", at Christmas time, and my all time hysterical favorite "The Colonoscopy", an original Larry composition. I shall forever remain irritated that you never wrote it down and couldn't remember it. I have fond memories of our dating days with you and Bev, and Kenny and I, doing music in your parent's basement. We called ourselves the "Gospel Intersections" and we would all start in a different corner, then sashay out to the middle, then belt out a Southern gospel song! You loved my children, and no one on the planet could produce a certain laugh out of my husband's throat except you. He has already said a few times, "Who am I going to call?" Your weekly, sometimes daily, political rants to each other, spiritual gleanings from church events, and your play by play, moment by moment reenactment of every hunt and kill just can't really be duplicated. Your legacy could be told of your less than stellar handyman skills. I remember well the day you came home from a day at church up in L'anse, MI, anticipating putting together your gun cabinet you had purchased. When you got home, you had discovered your wife had already accomplished the deed. You said, "but at least I wanted to try it!". :) Your legacy could be your propensity to accidentally break a few things over the years, that one never knew if those far fetched funny tales were fact or fiction, or it could be your ready smile and laughter. Your legacy could be your prankster sense of humor, like when you initiated my poor son in law of two hours into our family by tailgating he and his bride out of the church parking lot and getting too close, and you guessed it...Your legacy could be your fun spin on things. I remember when my oldest son Jamie was so shy when he was little that he refused to give "Uncle Larry" a hug for a popsicle. Finally you relented and let him quickly shake your hand. He grew up to love and respect you and you told him he was like a son to you. He got choked up just today when he said it would be hard to come back and you not be here. So, you didn't get his hug when he was little, but you gave him a boatload of memories to treasure. Your big legacy remains though, as the love you had for your own family, your church members through the years, and your large passion for lost souls. I dedicate my offertory to you this Friday, "A Passion for Thee", as your most important desire. It will be the first song when people exit to salute you; a "soldier of the Lord", farewell.

Janice Wiedmann

Janice Wiedmann - November 07, 2023 at 11:43 PM

TM

Larry, though I haven't seen you in a long time, I am certain we'll be one day singing together in eternity. I remember you leading the Awana program, including the awesome fair with games/prizes. I spent many days playing with Shane. You married a godly wife and raised four wonderful children. Thank you for being my pastor and making it possible for all the memories made in L'Anse.

Bev, my condolences for the loss of such a great man. He left an amazing legacy as a man of God. May we keep our focus on our Saviour and give Him glory.

Shane, I really don't know what to say. This has to be extremely difficult. I pray that God will place peace on your heart.
-Tony Marcellino

Tony Marcellino - November 09, 2023 at 11:29 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Larry D. Saunders.*



November 09, 2023 at 10:56 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Larry D. Saunders.*



November 08, 2023 at 08:39 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Larry D. Saunders.*



November 07, 2023 at 09:48 PM



“ *The Phillips family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Larry D. Saunders.*

The Phillips family - November 07, 2023 at 09:48 PM



“ *Sorry for your Loss, Sanders Family.
I remember Pastor Larry leading all those fun VBS in Pound. (Hay, hay, Milk that cow, Beat the Balers right now!)
One of my fav memories was driving up to the U.P. to spend the weekend after he moved there and playing Bible Trivia.*

Brandon Rosner - November 07, 2023 at 09:16 PM

DW

“ Well, it's heaven at last Larry!

My memories of you started at South Jr. High in Belleville in 7th grade in Home-Economics class. We learned how to play Euchre together that year. Then, a few years later, Mom and Dad enrolled us in Faithway Christian school. Alas, I was in 10th grade and you were in my class again. The next three years, I got to know you better, and before we graduated, you became my brother Kenny's best friend and my sister Bev's boyfriend.

Then we went to college! I became a nurse, you became a pastor and married my sister Bev. My brother Kenny and his girlfriend Jan introduced me to Keith, and I eventually married him, and Kenny and Jan also married.

I remember our date, Four of us couples went to the Michigan State Fair, and you played the game where you throw a penny in a dish from a distance, and if it stayed in the dish, you would win a prize. When the guy running the game turned his head, you placed the penny in the dish and yelled hey! I won! When the guy turned back around, he thought you really won, and you gave the big stuffed animal you won to Bev. We all had a great time and a big laugh. Amazing that all of us four couples remained married, even today. Then we all started our families and had children. We were crazy, but enjoyed a lot of Thanksgiving, Christmas holidays, and Family Reunions together. Life became busy, and it was hard to get together. When our kids began to graduate and get married, we began to see each other a little more.

Now many of us are retired, or close to retirement, and becoming Grandpa's and Grandma's, and life looks shorter and closer to heaven.

Little did we know how close, when you slipped into glory last Saturday, November 4, 2023 on your 66th Birthday. We celebrated with pizza, knowing that you were also celebrating in heaven, and getting re-acquainted with loved one's and seeing Face to Face our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Maybe you were able to see those nail-scarred hands too!

The memories I have with you are many, but one sticks out more than the other ones. I remember a summer long ago, that you, Bev

and me took a vacation trip with Dad's camper and truck up North to the cabin. You were the driver, and Bev and I were the passengers. We thought we had graduated to adulthood and called ourselves Norwin, Ellie, and Ray. I was in a darker place prior to that trip, but being with you and Bev, helped me get to a brighter, better future. I will always be grateful for having known you and getting to be your sister-n-law was just icing on the cake.

Thank you Larry for sharing your life with our family.

Until we meet again in Glory, I will miss you,

Darlene (Wiedmann) Worrell

Darlene Ruth Worrell - November 07, 2023 at 06:31 PM

SP

Darlene that is beautiful, from the heart. Larry loves it!

Scott Phillips - November 07, 2023 at 07:17 PM

SS

“ *Larry was a few years ahead of me at Faithway I was in junior high and he was in senior high. He was always kind to nerdy me and I really looked up to him.*

Scott Schindler - November 07, 2023 at 06:21 PM

LA

“ *I don't think we could of had a better pastor. He was devoted to teaching us and loved the sense of humor he had. At times we didn't get the punch line and he'd have to tell us it was a joke*

Lauri - November 07, 2023 at 01:30 PM



“ Larry, was a good friend I met at FaithWay Baptist College. He was a tenacious warrior who fought to the end. I remember in college he was kicked in the face during a soccer game and suffered a broken jaw. He finished the soccer season with his jaws wired shut, and yet I never heard him complain. If I were going into a fight I would want him on my side. He was also a faithful servant of the Lord. He was an example to us all in " serving the Lord wherever God has placed you. He only sought to hear his Savior say "Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Larry fought a good fight, he finished his course and he kept the faith. He is now in the presence of his Savior. David Sutphin

David Sutphin - November 06, 2023 at 06:04 PM

PG

“ Pastor Larry Saunders was a man of God filled with passion to share God's word wherever he was. I know at Jackson Baptist Church he touched everyone in a special way. Pastor Larry always came in with a smile, 😊 I will never forget. My condolences to Bev and the family. In my prayers 🙏📖

Pamela Goodnough - November 06, 2023 at 07:28 AM