



Leo Pavlow

March 8, 1943 - January 4, 2025

Leo Pavlow passed away peacefully in Sarasota, Florida, at the age of 81 on January 4, 2025. Leo was born on March 8, 1943 in Babanka, Ukraine, to his parents Alexander and Alexandra Korobtschenko (later Pavlow). Leo's passing was preceded by his son, Lance Pavlow (Jennifer). Leo is survived by his life partner, Christiane Meyer, his daughter, Lauren (Aaron) Weegar, and his four grandchildren, Jessica, Kate and Morgan Weegar and Alexis Pavlow. Leo is also survived by his loving mother, Alexandra Pavlow (currently 100 years young), his brother, Victor (Yvonne) Pavlow, his sister, Ludmila (George) Kitsos, along with five nieces and nephews (Gregory Kitsos, Nicole Golden, Victoria Gillum, Christopher Pavlow and Jason Pavlow) and their families.

Leo was larger than life.

At the age of 1, Leo's parents fled from the Ukraine to Germany and later to Belgium where they waited to obtain their Visa to immigrate to the USA. Leo arrived in Connecticut on a Constellation airplane in 1953.

From a very young age, and being a WWII child, Leo was a leader and took his life into his own hands. Throughout his youth, but also later in life, he stood up and protected his family and friends - bullies had no chance with Leo and he had no time for injustice or prejudice.

Extremely intelligent, athletic, competitive and hard-working, Leo graduated from James Hillhouse High School in New Haven, CT, and was the Valedictorian of his class. As the All-State Quarterback of his high school football team, Leo led his team to win the state championship. After graduating H.S., Leo attended Boston University on a full football scholarship. Leo was also offered the opportunity to try-out for the Dallas Cowboys but decided instead to join the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado and completed his master's degree in electrical engineering.

At the young age of 26, Leo was assigned to support the NASA Apollo 8 through 13 programs. Leo was Assistant Flight Director, working directly for Gene Kranz for the Apollo 13 mission.

After the Apollo missions were discontinued, Leo moved back to Air Force service where he supported the F-16 fighter launch. Leo was an excellent project manager and wonderful with people – a born leader.

His Daughter, Lauren, was born in Pasadena, TX and son, Lance, was born in Hamilton, OH. Later the family moved to Sterrebeek, Belgium, followed by an assignment in Albuquerque, NM, where he raised Lauren and Lance on his own.

Upon retiring from the Air Force as a Major, Leo moved to Seattle, WA, to take on a management position in the private sector, leading 400 engineers on defense projects. He proceeded to work for his friend at F.X. Coughlin in automotive logistics and moved to Birmingham, England, in 1997 where he led the launch of a Jaguar S-type at Castle Bromwich. His colleagues called him a Maverick. Leo retired as a logistics Program Director in 2009.

On October 6, 1990, he met his life partner Christiane on an airplane from Seattle and Phoenix. The two started dating when Leo moved to Setubal,

Portugal in 1991 to start up an automotive plant for Ford Motor Company. When Christiane met Leo, she thought he was James Bond - charming, handsome, capable, multi-lingual (Leo spoke many languages, including French, Russian and Portuguese), adventure-loving and mysterious. She still thought the same about him after 34 years of being together. The couple moved to Plymouth, MI in 2000 where they were blessed with the friendliest and most supportive neighbors on the planet, as well as many dear friends. From 2021 on, they shared their time between Michigan and Sarasota, FL. Leo enjoyed travelling (no place too far, no location too exotic), golf, yoga, entertaining and Argentine Tango Dancing, as well as his friends and most of all, his grandchildren and family. Leo was very good with children, and his Volcano breakfasts and horror storytelling at night are legendary.

Leo made friends easily, his smile reached from ear to ear and was contagious, his charisma was always present, and he represented strength, kindness and wisdom.

He will be forever missed.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Toale Brothers Colonial Chapel located at 40 North Orange Avenue, Sarasota, Florida 34236 on January 18, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. A luncheon will follow.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made online in memory of Leo Pavlow to the following charities:

- St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

https://www.stjude.org/donate/donate-to-st-jude.html?sc_icid=header-btn-donate-now

- The Wounded Warrior Project

https://support.woundedwarriorproject.org/Default.aspx?tsid=11585&ovr_acv_id=16821&campaignSource=ONLINE&source=BS25001AAABREAA&gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAiAhP67BhAVEiwA2E_9g8lqQIfkxmvuZPwWMEEn4SkXiexbwhqxc5YCv-nIBL15SOB-kNJJDfxoCLLkQAvD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds

Previous Events

A Celebration of Life

JAN 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Toale Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory - Colonial Chapel

40 N. Orange Avenue

Sarasota, FL 34236

(941) 955-4171

info@toalebrothers.com

<https://www.toalebrothers.com/>

Tribute Wall

“ My eulogy notes, below, and a few of my favorite pictures with Uncle Leo.

Larger than life, Legend, maverick, James Bond, a living god... these are just some of the nicknames by which my uncle, Leo Pavlow was known.

I have always looked up to him, ever since I was a kid. When I was in grade school, I had a school assignment which posed the question of who I admired the most? You guessed it, I wrote about uncle Leo. He was the smooth talking, successful, worldly uncle to whom I aspired to be.

Effortlessly cool, striding around with such confidence, and So Many Stories. He was so intelligent and so experienced that he could talk about anything and everything, and really engage anyone in thoughtful conversation or lighthearted tomfoolery.

He was a great storyteller for sure, but the most amazing thing is that all his stories were true. Whether it was becoming the people's mayor of a small Portuguese city, living in a real castle with secret rooms in Birmingham England, running a street gang as a kid stealing scrap metal on the streets of Brussels, or avoiding knife fights in Rio, every story was incredible. I am still not 100% sure if he was a secret agent or international spy.

Uncle Leo was HUMBLE - he never bragged about his accomplishments, even though there were so many and so great. He just led - and lived by example.

No, he would never tell you that he bought hundreds of beds and supplies for an orphanage in India. He would never tell you he snubbed a tryout with the Dallas Cowboys for a job at NASA, but he was still playing football in his backyard in his 60s, still throwing a perfect spiral. He didn't complain at all when he woke up the next morning, bruises down the back of both legs from the few sprints he

made during the game.

Leo would never complain, instead he turned his attention to making everyone else feel welcome, feel happy, feel safe. His grandchildren may rave about his volcano breakfasts, but I was always a fan of his gooblywop, a one-pot dish of eggs and leftovers that was never quite the same, but was always delicious.

His love for life was only outdone by his generosity and kindness. He was always willing to give, to share whatever he had to make everyone else feel welcome, feel comfortable, feel included.

Leo's love and kindness lives on in his daughter Lauren, his grandchildren, and his friends, all who are more kind and generous than the last. His biggest gift of all was bringing Christiane into our family. Christiane has the intelligence, beauty, and grace to have filled Leo's heart and complete his life, and he shone more brightly whenever she was by his side.

That's who Uncle Leo was - he lived and loved life to the fullest. And that is what he would want us to keep doing. Not to mourn him, but to celebrate his life, and our family - both blood and chosen. I hope that I - and all of us - will carry forward the lessons he embodied in his life.

I'll miss you Uncle Leo. Thank you for everything.



Christopher Pavlow - January 29, 2025 at 06:20 PM

JP

“Hi everyone, I’m sorry I couldn’t make it today but I love and miss you all and I’ll try to keep this brief.

I’m sure by this point you’ve all read the wonderful Obituary put together by Christiane. Such a wonderful encapsulation of the life of Leo Pavlow.

The man was an absolute legend.

Reading about his wonderful life and all of his accomplishments made me incredibly proud and happy to have him in my life. It also left me motivated to do more and make sure that I too am living my life to the fullest.

Uncle Leo had this energy about him. It was the type of energy that made you feel like if you were talking with him, you were the coolest and most important person in the room.

In my last conversation with Uncle Leo, we spoke next to the fireplace about his time in Setubal, Portugal, which I recently had the pleasure of experiencing with my fiancé, Leah. I felt a wonderful sense of connection with him in being able to discuss such a hidden gem that few even know of and how we shared it with the people we love.

He was always interested in my travel, work, school, and of course, soccer. Some of my fondest memories growing up were spending time with him and Christiane in Michigan:

Watching Soccer matches during his epic breakfasts, playing football in the back yard, lighting off fireworks, eating delicious food, dancing, enjoying a cigar, telling inappropriate jokes, and all around enjoying the time with family.

Uncle Leo showed us all exactly that. How to love and enjoy the time with the family. So in honor of Uncle Leo, I hope you all will

take the time today to enjoy this wonderful family who have come together to celebrate his life. I know that's what he would have wanted.

I'll miss you cool dude.

Love forever,

Jason

Jason Pavlow - January 18, 2025 at 06:12 PM

LM

“ *Love Tom and Margaret purchased the Beautiful i
n Blue for the family of Leo Pavlow.*



Love Tom and Margaret - January 17, 2025 at 02:59 PM

YP

“ Leo was the consummate host, I first met him on Christmas day in 1973, and he welcomed me with open arms... just as he did with each new addition to the family, and the many friends he met along his inspirational journey. A great conversationalist - we enjoyed his many anecdotes about food and his travels.
Thank you for bringing Christiane into our family. It was an honor to be your sister-in-law, Yvonne



Yvonne Pavlow - January 17, 2025 at 12:19 PM

VP

“ Leo was a person of many accomplishments. But best of all he was my brother, and I always made time to visit wherever his work took him. When he came to Florida, we were able to talk more often about our childhood memories and football. I am so proud of him, and will miss him more than words can say. I love you so very much. Your brother, Victor



Victor Pavlow - January 17, 2025 at 11:39 AM

LO

“ 2 files added to the album *Your sister forever best friend*



Lou - January 16, 2025 at 05:06 PM



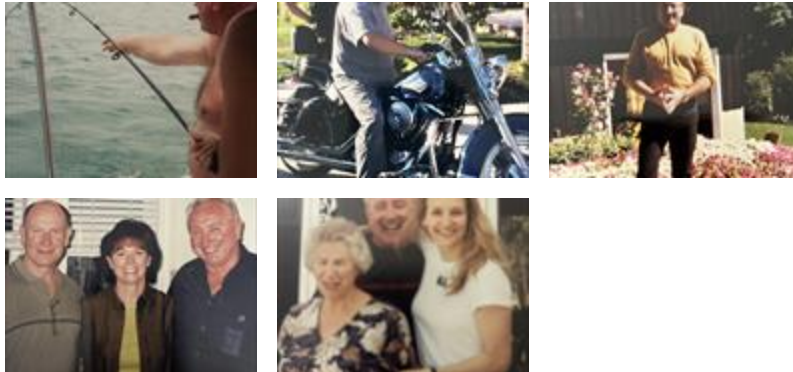
“ *Full Of Love Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Leo Pavlow.



January 16, 2025 at 04:29 PM

LO

“ 6 files added to the album *Your sister forever best friend*



lou - January 16, 2025 at 06:55 AM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Leo Pavlow.



January 15, 2025 at 08:33 AM

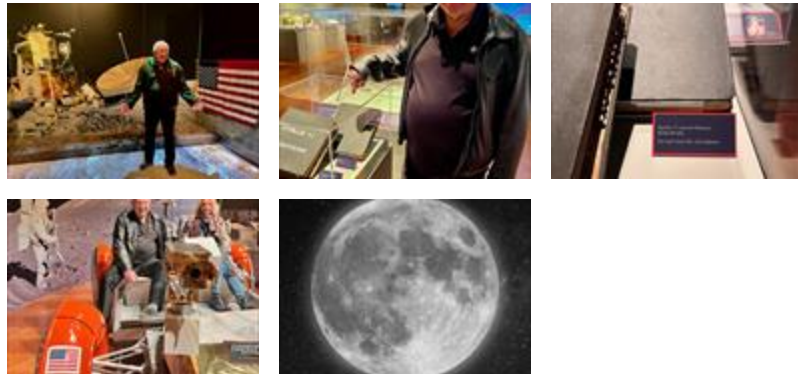


“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Leo Pavlow.

January 15, 2025 at 08:33 AM



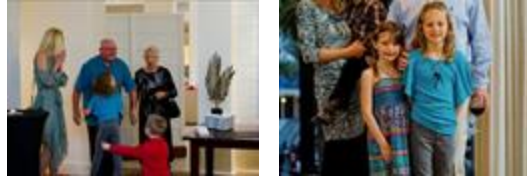
“ April 2022 visit to the Henry Ford Greenfield Village Exhibit of the Apollo Moon missions revealed the integral role Leo had in the successful voyages to the moon. Leo is pointing to a manual he contributed to and his name is inside!



Maggie DeBono - January 15, 2025 at 07:15 AM

MD

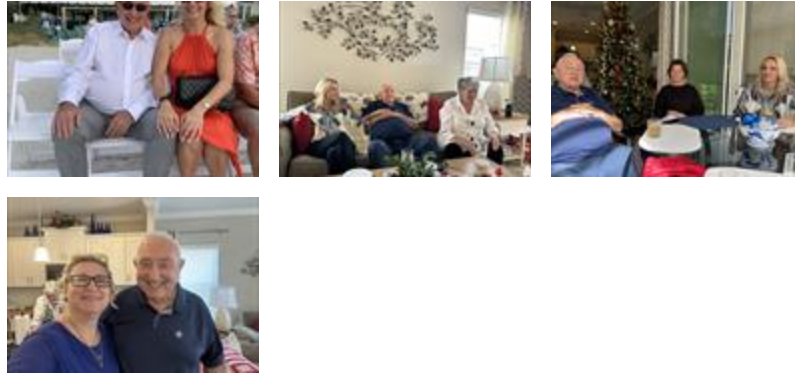
“ *Leo's Surprise Birthday Party in Sarasota, 2013 was full of family love. Hard to keep a secret from James Bond.*



Maggie DeBono - January 15, 2025 at 06:55 AM

SV

“ *4 files added to the tribute wall*



Svetlana - January 15, 2025 at 03:45 AM

SV

“ *Please accept our family deepest sympathies and condolences! We are sincerely sorry with unseasonable passing of your son, brother, father, life long partner. Leo will be always in our hearts and prayers! Full of love, energy and joy! We will miss him. Svetlana's family*



Svetlana - January 15, 2025 at 03:38 AM

MD

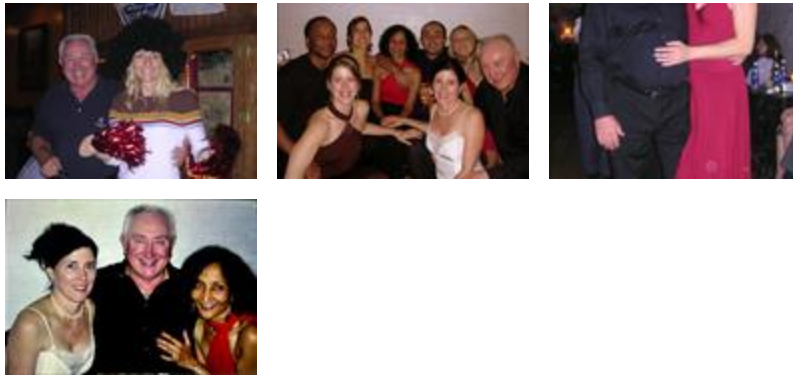
“ *From Dancing to Foodies. Never a dull moment. 30 September 2023.*



Maggie DeBono - January 14, 2025 at 11:15 PM

MA

“ *Many road trips to Cleveland. Great fun. Christiane, you will always be Leo's cheerleader.*



Maggie - January 14, 2025 at 11:13 PM

MA

“ *Forever in our hearts - Leo the Lion*



Maggie - January 14, 2025 at 11:08 PM

CM

“ 1 file added to the album Leo - The King of the Dance Floor



Christiane Meyer - January 14, 2025 at 10:11 PM

MA

the first time you and Leo came over, he broke out in the Ukrainian folk dance. Knew he was a special man,

Maggie - January 14, 2025 at 11:10 PM

LO

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



lou - January 14, 2025 at 04:40 PM

CM

“ 3 files added to the album Leo - The King of the Dance Floor



Christiane Meyer - January 14, 2025 at 02:30 PM

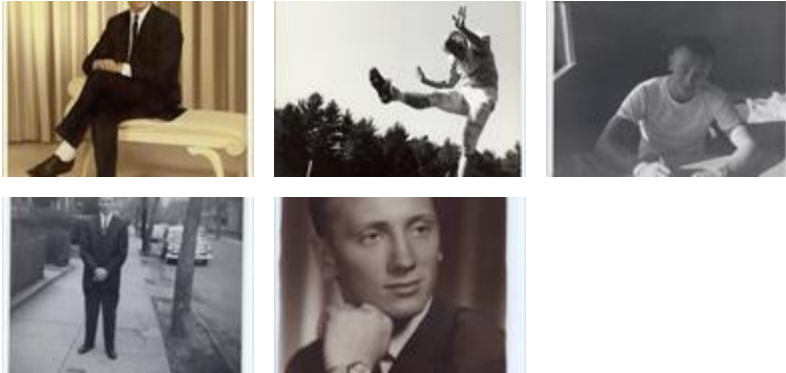
JB

“ We will never forget the good times we enjoyed dancing Argentine Tango with him and Cristeane. Rest in peace dear friend!

Jorge Broggio - January 14, 2025 at 11:21 AM

CM

“ 5 files added to the album Football and Highschool



Christiane Meyer - January 14, 2025 at 07:57 AM

MD

Incredible photographs of an incredible man. He was James Bond!

Maggie DeBono - January 14, 2025 at 11:19 PM

CM

“ 5 files added to the album Apollo 13



Christiane Meyer - January 14, 2025 at 07:52 AM

CM

“ 2 files added to the album Leo - The King of the Dance Floor



Christiane Meyer - January 14, 2025 at 07:45 AM

KM

“ Kristina Mills purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Leo Pavlow.



Kristina Mills - January 13, 2025 at 01:13 PM

KM

“ Kristina Mills planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Leo Pavlow.

Kristina Mills - January 13, 2025 at 01:13 PM



“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



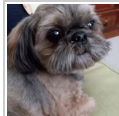
Colleen Beauchamp - January 12, 2025 at 10:37 PM



“ 2 files added to the tribute wall

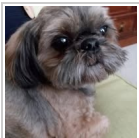


Colleen Beauchamp - January 12, 2025 at 10:29 PM



Leo man of mystery! and he could dance too! Love Colleen

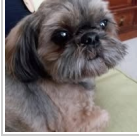
Colleen Beauchamp - January 17, 2025 at 06:04 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



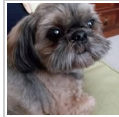
Colleen Beauchamp - January 12, 2025 at 10:25 PM



“ 5 files added to the album Leo - The King of the Dance Floor



Colleen Beauchamp - January 12, 2025 at 10:20 PM



I love Leo and his whole family, what an amazing man!

Colleen Beauchamp - January 17, 2025 at 06:05 PM



“ Isabella & Michael Jenkins purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Leo Pavlow.



Isabella & Michael Jenkins - January 12, 2025 at 09:43 PM



“ Isabella & Michael Jenkins planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Leo Pavlow.

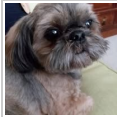
Isabella & Michael Jenkins - January 12, 2025 at 09:43 PM

CB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Colleen Beauchamp - January 12, 2025 at 09:35 PM



"Leo" my friend

Colleen Beauchamp - January 17, 2025 at 06:06 PM

CB

“ 2 files added to the album Your sister forever best friend



Colleen Beauchamp - January 12, 2025 at 07:47 PM

CB

New Years 2012

Colleen Beauchamp - January 12, 2025 at 09:34 PM



What a great couple, honored to be their friend.

Colleen Beauchamp - January 17, 2025 at 06:07 PM

GB

“ *Leo was real*

A true gentleman and every sense of the word. Our birthdays were connected by midnight Leo's on the eighth and mine on the seventh. Because Leo was my neighbor and friend we shared many cigars and pints together that led to thoughtful conversations.

I was witness to the joyous moment when he had his golf hole in one.

Of the many trips together (Australia, Hong Kong etc) One of my most memorable vacations was the trip we took to Argentina with the king and queen of tango. On a day trip we took a ferry across to Colonia Del Sacramento Uruguay. A quaint historical town with cobblestone streets where we had a fabulous lunch while being entertained by a local talent: afterwards Leo and I sat at a table doing what we did best and people watched while the ladies went shopping.

Leo had great smile and his laugh was beautiful and contagious. He will always be in my memories and will be missed in my heart.

Love ya Bro

Greg Beauchamp - January 12, 2025 at 01:00 PM

KF

“ *Kololgi family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Leo Pavlow.*



Kololgi family - January 11, 2025 at 10:21 PM

VK

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Vijaya Kololgi - January 11, 2025 at 10:08 PM

VK

Wedding India

Vijaya Kololgi - January 11, 2025 at 10:10 PM

VK

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Vijaya Kololgi - January 11, 2025 at 09:52 PM

VK

Wedding Chicago

Vijaya Kololgi - January 11, 2025 at 10:11 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Leo Pavlow.



January 11, 2025 at 12:16 PM



“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



christiane Meyer - January 11, 2025 at 10:33 AM



Our Friend Denise Daday sent these pictures, we had a chance to visit her in Australia twice and attend her wedding in Las Vegas.

christiane Meyer - January 11, 2025 at 10:34 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Leo - The King of the Dance Floor



John Cimaglia - January 10, 2025 at 04:19 PM

TS

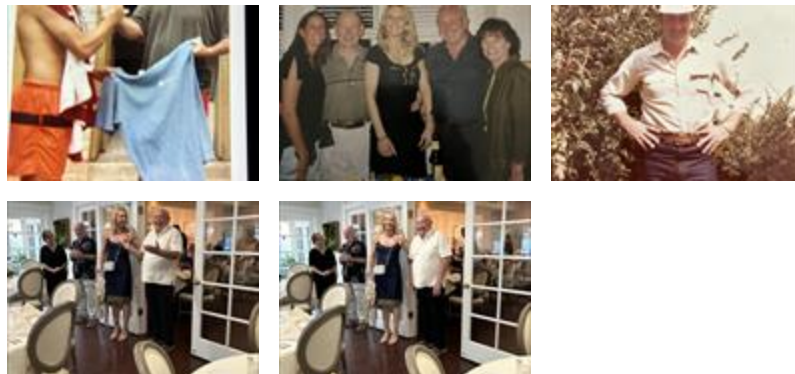
“ I met Leo on a weekend trip to San Francisco with Christiane and my wife Lisa. Leo introduced me to the world of cigars at a little club called The Occidental. We had a wonderful time and have been friends ever since. I'll be smoking a stogie for you Leo. God bless and give my Lisa a big hug for me.



Todd Swanson - January 10, 2025 at 08:22 AM

LK

“ 6 files added to the album Your sister forever best friend



Lou Kitsos - January 10, 2025 at 06:16 AM

LK

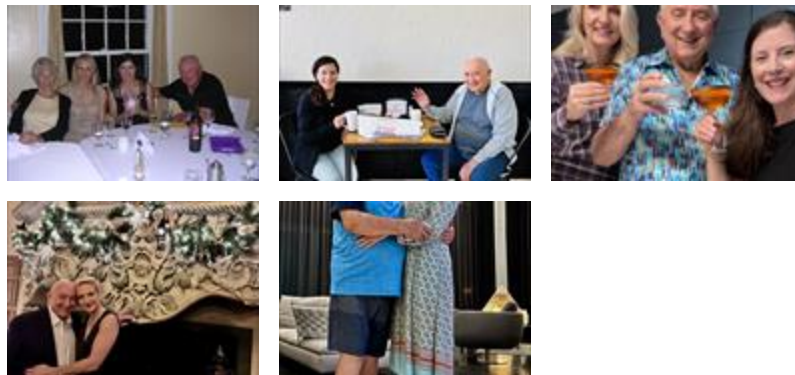
“ 16 files added to the album *Your sister forever best friend*



Lou Kitsos - January 09, 2025 at 11:20 PM

MD

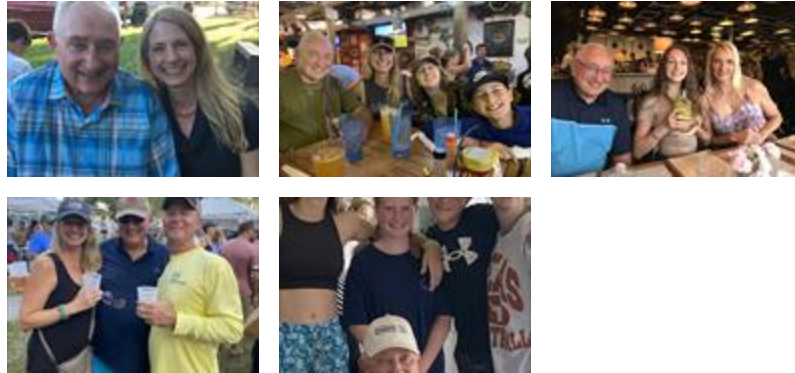
“ 13 files added to the tribute wall



Maggie DeBono - January 09, 2025 at 10:09 PM

LW

“ *Family*



Lauren Weegar - January 09, 2025 at 04:44 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Leo Pavlow.*



January 09, 2025 at 04:06 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Leo Pavlow.*

January 09, 2025 at 04:06 PM

MP

“ *3 files added to the album Leo - The King of the Dance Floor*



Melissa Pavlow - January 09, 2025 at 03:23 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Leo Pavlow.*



January 09, 2025 at 03:15 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Leo Pavlow.*

January 09, 2025 at 03:15 PM