



## Leonard (Bud) Hall Gerow, Jr.

April 9, 1925 - October 2, 2022

Leonard Hall Gerow Jr., 97, passed away peacefully on October 2, 2022, after a short illness. He was born April 9, 1925, in Temperance, Michigan to the late Leonard and Alma Gerow.

On June 10, 1951, Leonard married Charlene A. Johnson at the home of her parents in Chicago, Illinois. They celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in June 2021 and enjoyed many, many, happy years together.

Leonard was preceded in death by his wife, Charlene; his brother, William; and his parents, Leonard Sr. and Alma Gerow. He is survived by his three children, Linda Gerow of Kingsley, MI; Jeffrey Gerow (Ann) of Alpena, MI; and Nancy Gerow Hoffman of Bloomingburg, NY; his six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Described as a true gentleman, he will always be admired for his strength of character, dedication to family, positive approach to life, and for his patriotism. Leonard proudly served in the U.S. Army during World War II 1944-1946 with the famed Merrill's Marauder's unit behind enemy lines in Burma. He was severely wounded, survived his injuries to be discharged in February 1946, and was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, the Combat Infantry Badge, the Purple Heart, the Silver Star, and the Bronze Star all for valor.

After his military service, Leonard attended Michigan State University, graduating with a degree in chemical engineering. He worked in a variety of food industry positions ending his career as Vice-President of Operations at Chef Pierre/Sara Lee in Traverse City, Michigan. He and Charlene retired to Florida in 1984.

Leonard was active, athletic, and keen-minded in his working and leisure pursuits. Golf was a lifetime passion for Leonard starting as a young boy at the age of 8 and he continued to play to the age of 97. Leonard achieved ten hole-in-ones and shot a score of his age or under more than 1400 times during his lifetime of playing golf.

Military honors and farewell service to be held on Monday, December 5, 2022, at 1:00pm, at Sarasota National Cemetery, 9810 State Road 72, Sarasota, FL. 34241.

The family would like to thank the caring staff of Doctors Hospital of Sarasota and his friends and neighbors at Jacaranda Trace, Venice for their kindness and support.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Southwest Florida Honor Flight at [swflhonorflight.org](http://swflhonorflight.org).

# Tribute Wall

PD

“ I spoke with Mr. Gerow on the phone several years ago - his father was the architect who built the home I grew up in in Monroe, MI. He told me some stories about his dad and sent me a photo of him. It was a kind gesture - sorry to hear of his passing. -Paul Domick

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**Paul Domick** - December 02, 2022 at 12:57 PM

JT

“ A very distinguished man who carried himself well, daily. He was a disciplined and very accomplished golfer whom I had the pleasure of meeting at Jacaranda West.

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**joseph thornton** - October 22, 2022 at 09:34 AM

RC

“ I first met Bud in the late 70's when I became his secretary at Chef Pierre/Sara Lee.

Always remember when it was time for him to do my annual review, he was suppose to discuss/evaluate specific job areas. Well, he would just say he did not like to do these required reviews, told me I was doing just fine; and we would just chuckle and back to work we went.

Another memory I have of Bud was the year he purchased a "snow shovel" for his wife for Christmas. Needless to say, I don't think it was one of Char's favorite gifts.

We have kept in touch all these years with an occasional note or card. Those notes meant so much to me. The last note I received from him was to tell me his wife had passed. He was/is my motivation to exercise and keep active, especially after my retirement. I'm not a golfer but he planted the seed with my husband.

As his obituary says, Yes...Bud was a true gentleman.

A life well lived. Will truly miss him.

Romona Crain

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Romona Crain - October 12, 2022 at 07:08 PM