



Leo Shuller

January 24, 1925 - November 6, 2023

Leo Shuller, 98, passed away peacefully at his home on November 6, 2023. He was born to Max and Anna Shuller in Cincinnati, where he lived his entire life except for his time serving as a B-17 pilot in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. He operated Shuller's Wigwam restaurant in College Hill, along with his father and brother, Saul, until its closing in 2000. He married Helen (Spitz) Shuller in 1948, celebrating 67 years together until her passing in 2015. He is survived by his children, Don (Jan) Shuller, Diane (Steven) Tvert, and Ken (Vicky) Shuller; his grandchildren, Lindsay (Blake) Shuller-Nickles, Susan (Max) Shuller Frantz, Jordan (Mike) Ragland, Mason Tvert, Mark Shuller, and Brynn Shuller; his seven great grandchildren; and his cherished companion, Sidney Singer. He was an avid Cincinnati sports fan and booster of the UC Bearcats, as well as an active supporter of the Tri-State Warbird Museum. He was also extremely passionate about music, especially jazz. He played clarinet and sang in volunteer performances for audiences throughout Cincinnati. A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, November 22, 2023, at Weil Kahn Funeral Home at 11:30 a.m., with visitation for an hour prior. A gathering for family and friends will follow the service. Private burial held by the immediate family. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to a charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Visitation before Memorial Service

NOV **22**. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Weil Kahn Funeral Home
8350 Cornell Road
Cincinnati, OH 45249

Memorial Service

NOV **22**. 11:30 AM (ET)

Weil Kahn Funeral Home
8350 Cornell Road
Cincinnati, OH 45249

Tribute Wall



“ *RIP coach, Lou Rubenstein, knothole 1960s*

Louis Rubenstein - December 27, 2023 at 05:25 PM



“ *I send my sincere condolences to the entire Shuller family, especially, my classmate, Don. Of course, we all remember fondly our times at Shuller's Wigwam. I hope the Shuller family knows how much the community appreciates all that you did for us and the joy you gave us. Leo Shuller, Rest in Shalom.*

Daniel J Hoffheimer - December 01, 2023 at 04:28 PM



“ *I send my sincerely condolences to the entire Shuller family, especially my classmate, Don. Of course, I remember Shuller's Wigwam with fond childhood memories. I hope everyone in the family knows how grateful the community is for your family's kindnesses over many, many years.*

Daniel J Hoffheimer - December 01, 2023 at 04:24 PM

BT

“ Leo and his family operated Shuller's Wigwam for several decades. The Wigwam was far more than a restaurant; it was essentially an extension of their home to the entire city, and it was a place where so many families celebrated weddings, bar mitzvahs, mothers day, special occasions and even just a night out. And the entire Shuller family was always there to welcome you, kibbutz...basically ensure you had the ENTIRE package of great food, tremendous service, but most importantly, the friendship of the Shuller family.

They also hosted many of Cincinnati's sports stars of the era, including the Cincinnati Royals. It just so happened Oscar, Jerry West, Jack Twyman, Wayne Embry and one other person were in and Leo managed to get all of their autographs on a Shuller's Wigwam postcard for me when I was around 9 years old (Leo and Helen were great friends of my parents Si and Isabele Tenenholtz). I imagine Leo did stuff like this ALL of the time.

If I could pick one thing that epitomizes Leo the person, it would be how he ensured that my mom was never without a home after my dad passed away in 1992. Whenever I talked to my mom and asked what she was doing on a New Years Eve, or other several nights (many of them for UC basketball games to watch), I cannot tell you how many times she told me she was going to the Shuller's. They never viewed her as a third wheel, just another member of their extended family.

There really isn't enough room to describe in depth what an extraordinary person Leo was. I was blessed to be able to talk with Don, Ken, and Diane at the memorial for Leo at Trio's. It does not take long to glean the type of legacy he and Helen gave to the world. And I was also blessed to have a brief conversation with Mel Shuller..Leo's nephew who continued the Wigwam's legacy with Ken until it closed. A beautiful family.

Jewish scriptures describes the existence of three crowns: the crown of Torah, the crown of kehunah (priesthood) and the crown of

malchus (kingship). But the crown of a good name is greater than them all. Leo is certainly wearing the crown of a good name quite proudly.

Love to entire Shuller Family!

PS - I have posted a copy of that postcard along with a picture of myself and Barby at her rehearsal dinner which, OF COURSE, was held at the Wigwam. Consider that picture as giving a toast to the Shuller family!



Barry Tenenholtz - November 26, 2023 at 12:45 PM



“ *Mr. Schuller also founded and organized the JCC Wildcats Football Team. Even though we only scored one touchdown the entire first year, it was still one of the best experiences of my life. Proudly, I have friends today from that team.*

Matthew Rosen - November 10, 2023 at 11:17 PM

HW

“ *Leo was a great guy. I remember playing basketball at the J with Leo. I also remember dinners at Shullers Wigwam with my wife Abby and my mother in law Anna Weinstein. Leo always welcomed us and made sure we enjoyed being at his restaurant. He will be missed. I now see Don at the J which always reminds me of Leo. I send my most sincere condolences. Herb Weiss*

Herb Weiss - November 09, 2023 at 12:34 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Leo Shuller.



November 09, 2023 at 11:01 AM



“ Leo Shuller was from the Greatest Generation. He was our neighbor and friend. I loved listening to his stories of when he was a young boy working for his father and along with his brother operating the wonderful Wigwam Restaurant for so many years. Leo would talk to me about Jazz and music from the American song book that we both loved.. I would occasionally sit with he and his beloved companion Sidney Singer at the front edge of her garage and trade jokes and stories. Leo loved his Bearcats and the Warbird museum. He and Sidney were always walking and attending concerts until recently. He was what I call a true mensch. Leo was a great inspiration to all. We will miss seeing him. Rest in peace Leo!
Herb & Julie Reisenfeld

herbert reisenfeld - November 08, 2023 at 03:28 PM



“ Diane, and Family...Our Deepest condolences on your dad's passing. A wonderful guy who always made you feel welcomed- actually we are looking at that perfect smiling Leo in the picture on the website right now and hard to not have a smile too just thinking about him. All of you, and the community too, were all very lucky to have him for so long- may his memory be a blessing - Marty & Sally Hiudt

Marty Hiudt - November 07, 2023 at 08:15 PM

DM

My name is Diane McAfee, I was. Bus Girl at Schuller's Wigwam from 1968-1972. It was a fun place to work. My aunt was Pauline she worked in the pantry will all of the desserts and relish trays. I have good memories Mr. Leo Schuller and his gracious wife and kind children were very precious human being. My Mr. Leo rest in peace. May the Lord bless and keep this dear dear family always. Diane McAfee

Diane McAfee - September 23, 2024 at 04:21 PM