



## Donald W. Schmidt

September 3, 1942 - November 9, 2024

Donald W. “Schmitt” Schmidt, 82, of Fond du Lac, passed away at his home on Saturday, November 9, 2024. Schmitt was born on September 3, 1942, in West Bend, WI, the son of Walter F. and Pauline C. Thill Schmidt. He was a veteran of the United States Army, working in foreign map services in Libya and Italy, during the Vietnam War. When he completed his service, he worked at the Arcade, setting pins and tending bar.

Schmitt worked at Ellison Electric for 34 years. In his retirement, he harassed the customers of Joan’s Kitchen by Joan’s side. Schmitt could always be found with a cold Old Style in his hand, a well-cooked meal sizzling on his Weber grill, and the Cubs game blaring on the TV. He enjoyed watching Badger football games, working on challenging jigsaw puzzles, visiting with his grandpuppies, and putzing around with new recipes in the kitchen.

Schmitt loved his family and would make a point to tell them that he loved them as often as possible. He was a partner, father, grandfather, and friend whose love was unwavering, even if he didn’t always express it in the way others might expect.

Schmitt is survived by his partner of 35 years, Joan Rait, his children: Gary Schmidt, Christine (Brian) Breister, and Sherri (Jeff) Bucher; his brothers: John Schmidt and Dennis “Mike” Schmidt; his grandchildren: Brian Skupas, Tyler Skupas, Makenna Schmidt, Tori (Mark) Misudek, Emily (Brian) Brookover, Megan (Spencer) Jones, Katie (Dillon) Bucher; and four great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother Robert Schmidt, his son Douglas Schmidt, and Joan's daughter Shelly Krahn.

Schmitt's family ask that you enjoy a cold drink, fire up a Weber grill, and if you're feeling brave, root for the Cubs in his honor. Rest in peace, Dad – Schmitt.

There will be no services at this time. Cremation to take place.

Special thanks to the Cancer Center of Fond du Lac and to the SSM Hospice at Home for the care given to Schmitt and his family during this time.

# Tribute Wall

SP

“ *My sympathy to Joan and family! He was a one of a kind person! Such a character! Hugs to all! Rest in peace!* ”

Sheri Preissner - November 23, 2024 at 12:42 AM

KT

“ *So sorry for your loss Joan. Remembering Schmitt on those GYC bus trips. Sincere condolences to you and family at this sad time. May He Rest In Peace. In Sympathy and friendship- Kris Tatro* ”



kris a tatro - November 13, 2024 at 01:07 PM



“ *Christine Pieper lit a candle in memory of Donald Schmidt* ”



Christine Pieper - November 12, 2024 at 08:17 AM

DZ

“ *Sending our love and sympathy to your whole family from The Nett family. Many great memories of growing up with that crazy guy. He will be missed . Love to you all Darcy* ”

Darcy Zrleske - November 11, 2024 at 06:34 PM

TL

“ Rest in peace Schmitt!! Spending most mornings at Joan's restaurant all of us enjoyed your banter and the nicknames you had for many of the regulars. You and Joan were two of the nicest people and downtown Fond du Lac was never the same after your final retirement.

*Tom Lambeseder*

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**Tom Lambeseder** - November 11, 2024 at 04:10 PM