



# James Leroy Fitzgerald

January 1, 1946 - April 4, 2017

Greensboro- James Leroy Fitzgerald, 71, went home to be with Jesus on Tuesday, April 4, 2017.

A 1:30 p.m. Graveside service will be held Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at Mayodan Municipal Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. at Ray Funeral Home.

A Rockingham County native, Leroy was born January 1, 1946, the son of John Fitzgerald and Lucy Chatman Fitzgerald.

In addition to his parents, Leroy was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Siara Fitzgerald; two brothers, Cliff and William Thomas.

Leroy is survived by two daughters, Wanda Diane Bell of Greensboro and Debra Ann Fitzgerald and husband Maurice Hunt of Thomasville; two grandchildren, Miranda Jobe and Christian Williams; great- grandson, Brantley Jobe.

Online condolences may be sent to [www.rayfuneralhome.com](http://www.rayfuneralhome.com).

Ray Funeral Home in Madison is serving the Fitzgerald Family.

# Cemetery

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# Events

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**Mayodan Municipal Cemetery**

Mayodan, NC,

**APR**  
**12**

**Visitation**

11:30AM - 01:00PM

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Ray Funeral Home

119 North Market Street, Madison, NC, US, 27025

**APR**

**12**

**Graveside Service** 01:30PM

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Mayodan Municipal Cemetery

Mayodan, NC, US

# Comments

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“ Leroy was my best friend when we were kids. He lived across the bridge from me in Madison, but I really don't remember him much before 3rd grade where we both had the meanest teacher in the world. For some reason, she didn't like either one of us. I always figured it was because we were poor. Leroy and I somehow bonded as friends, I guess partly because both of us were the youngest children at home. We'd always go to the movies on Saturday, and we especially liked westerns, and we'd come back to my house and play cowboys and Indians for hours. We would take turns being a character from an Audie Murphy movie, The Utica Kid. Me, being a girl, and him being a boy, people naturally thought we were more than just friends, but we weren't-He always liked my niece. Somehow over the years, after I moved to Virginia, we lost touch. I tried many times looking him up online and telephone books, but never was able to reconnect with him. To this day, I still consider him my best childhood friend. So sorry to learn of his passing, but now I know where to find him.

**Marie Manuel Martin** - April 11, 2017 at 09:50 AM



“ this is his oldest daughter. I'm really touched that you remember my father so vividly. I would love to meet you and learn about his childhood. he hardly ever spoke of his childhood.

**Diane** - April 13, 2017 at 10:22 AM

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“ So sorry for your loss Leroy will be missed may god be with



**Purdy family** - April 06, 2017 at 03:32 PM

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“ I felt honored that You all allowed me to be there with you all while you prepared the last arrangements for a wonderful sweet, sassy, lovable and Yes Grumpy cousin, I Love him and always will, I know I'll miss him alot even tho I didn't get to visit him as much as would have liked to. I'm gonna miss the talks we had about Dirt Track Racing and Nascar and Wrestling, And Bluegrass Music, Those 4 things was his passion, He loved all of it. I'll forever have him in my heart and thoughts, He'll never be forgotten.. I have alot of Great memories and will cherish every one of them always.. I know he's with Ol' Buzzard Joe and the rest of the family and making all of them laugh with his joking and carrying on and picking that he Always did. I'm gonna miss him calling me Satchel.. R.I.P. Grumpy Grandpa Leroy I Love You <3



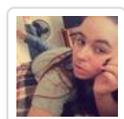
Jeanie Dunlap - April 06, 2017 at 12:00 PM

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“ Miranda Shae  
in a few seconds  
My grandpa...or as I called him...pawpaw. Words cannot describe the pain I've been feeling all day. The pain of not having him here anymore. The pain of never being able to hear his voice again. The pain of never being able to say "I love you" once more. I have been fighting this breakdown all day. A fight I continuously keep losing. Today my family lost a wonderful man. A brother, father, grandfather, and great grandfather. My son won't remember on his own how much you loved him. He won't remember much about you. But I promise 1 thing. He will ALWAYS know about you. He will always here the great memories I have of you. The happiness you expressed when I called you and told you that I was pregnant. I'll never forget that day. I just wish you knew how much you truly meant to me. I'll never be able to deny how much of a pawpaws girl I was. I wish so much I could've had more time with you. As I write this, I can't help but bawl my eyes out. I've felt true pain and heartbreak today. I try to be strong for mom. But I don't even know where to begin. I love you pawpaw!

Miranda Shae - April 04, 2017 at 08:04 PM



“ Hear\*

Miranda - April 04, 2017 at 08:05 PM

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“ My Uncle Leroy, he was what I would call a dying breed. He came from a time many know nothing about and he could be quite set in his ways. He was old fashioned but that didn't stop him from trying to evolve it seemed to understand this new generation (that sometimes confuses me, lol) because in it he had family and loved ones he had to communicate with and care for. He loved them dearly and made it known. He had a heart of gold that was sincere and caring, he stuck to what he believed in and also made that known. He was stubborn, stubborn enough to care when others wouldn't and stubborn enough to stand his ground if he believed in it. His beliefs were not for sale. He was real! I have memories that will forever have me looking up to the man he was til the end and remembering the smiles for the character he had and the laughs he created. I will remember the discipline as well anytime I tried to pull a fast one, lol. He was too wise for that. It's a painful day for those who got to know him as they will surely miss him. Most all my memories come from the 80s/90s remembering a man that was definitely a man by definition. His character traits were picturesque of a time gone by when morality was more abundant, family meant something and men instinctively provided for and loved everyone they held dear. There is not enough room nor words to sing the praises of this man and what he meant to me and many others so I will say to those who knew him, you know Leroy, what can I say that you don't already know. We are all affected by people in our lives as well as learn different things in our lives from the people we meet and those who leave their mark upon us at some point while we are here and I will say this, there are things that I have learned and his presence in my life has touched me as well and is directly related to some of the same things I see and feel and believe having seen them and learned them. You never forget these things and a day like this can have those memories flood you and overwhelm you as if it were moments ago. He will be sorely missed. My deepest sympathy goes out for all those affected by his loss. To Diane and Debbie, Ann and Christian, and the many many others feeling his loss, smile on his memory, have no regrets. Never forget and in your hearts he will always be. The world has truly lost one good man and honestly, I have cried like a baby thinking about all of it.

**Billy Thomas** - April 04, 2017 at 07:37 PM



“ My grandpa...or as I called him...pawpaw. Words cannot describe the pain I've been feeling all day. The pain of not having him here anymore. The pain of never being able to hear his voice again. The pain of never being able to say "I love you" once more. I have been fighting this breakdown all day. A fight I continuously keep losing. Today my family lost a wonderful man. A brother, father, grandfather, and great grandfather. My son won't remember on his own how much you loved him. He won't remember much about you. But I promise 1 thing. He will ALWAYS know about you. He will always have the great memories I have of you. The happiness you expressed when I called you and told you that I was pregnant. I'll never forget that day. I just wish you knew how much you truly meant to me. I'll never be able to deny how much of a pawpaw's girl I was. I wish so much I could've had more time with you. As I write this, I can't help but bawl my eyes out. I've felt true pain and heartbreak today. I try to be strong for mom. But I don't even know where to begin. I love you pawpaw!

**Miranda** - April 04, 2017 at 08:01 PM