

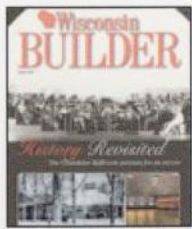


- Login
- JobTrac ↩
- Construction News
- Columnists
- Wisconsin Builder
- Hardhat Mail
- Internet Links
- Business Calendar
- Public Notices
- Sheriff Sales ↩
- Classifieds
- Events
- Advertising
- Photo/Story Reprints
- Subscriptions
- Contact Us
- ↳ Subscriber Only
- Search our archive:
-
- GO!
- Advanced search
- View past issues

Add The Daily Reporter RSS feed
What's this?

XML

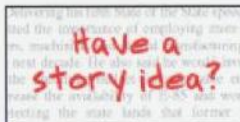
MY YAHOO!



Click here for the latest issue of Wisconsin Builder

HARDHAT MAIL

Get the latest construction news and top jobs by e-mail each day for FREE!
FIND OUT MORE!



Oliver benefit helps carpenter's family

Joe Grundle,
joe.grundle@dailyreporter.com

Posted July 31, 2007

Considering the difficulties endured by LeAnne Nord the last few months, an outpouring of emotion was certainly understandable.

But LeAnne, whose husband, Bill, died of leukemia on July 8 and son Kyle passed away in an automobile accident in February, insisted her tears were the result of utter thankfulness rather than sadness.

For LeAnne was the recipient of Oliver Construction Co.'s golf outing charity drive, which raised \$7,000 for the grieving widow. Bill's brother Scott is a field director for Oliver.

"I hope to use this money to put a monument at Bill's gravesite,"

LeAnne said.

Far more touching than the financial assistance, LeAnne expressed her utmost thanks for the overwhelming support she has received from both Oliver and the entire Oconomowoc-area community.

"I just want to thank everybody for their support," she said. "People that I don't even know have contacted me, and I want to thank everyone for their prayers, because it's the prayers and love that keeps me and my family going. Every prayer is felt."

Bill, 47, became a carpenter in the 1970s and worked for Opus Corp. in Minneapolis as well as for his dad, Donald -- who partially owned Berghammer Construction Corp. until retiring in the 1980s -- among others. Bill started his own company, Triangle Construction, shortly before getting sick and worked several jobs for Oliver.

"(Bill) had a nice niche with the different contractors and met a lot of people over the years," said Scott, one of Bill's three brothers. (Bill also had a sister Jenny, who donated bone marrow for Bill's August 2006 transplant.) "Had his health not failed him, his business would have been a big success."

Scott noted Bill's commitment to carpentry work.

"One of the last jobs Bill did was for Briohn Builders on the day he was diagnosed with cancer," Scott said. "I was at our folks' house, and I said 'Where's Bill? He's supposed to be here.' But he had six exterior doors he wanted to finish for them because he knew he wouldn't be able to finish the project later on. That's one thing that stands out to this day.

"I don't know if I would have had the strength to do that."

Loved what he did

LeAnne related a later time when Bill, who she described as a listener and a gentle soul, fixed the door to his chiropractor's office without prompting after one of his appointments.

"Bill was a simple man, but he was an honest man with a handshake, and people came to him with their problems," LeAnne said. "I can't say enough for the Oliver Company also, because Oliver is exactly who Bill, if he was well enough, would have loved to work for.

"He loved what he did, and he loved all the good people he met in (the field)."

Bill's death followed Kyle's accident five months prior. At the time of his death, the 22-year-old Kyle was on leave from the Iraq War, where he served in the U.S. Army. As hard as losing both her husband and son has been, LeAnne takes comfort in knowing they are together in heaven.

"Kyle was like (Bill) in many, many ways, and what's getting me through is I know where (Bill's) going, and I know where Kyle is, and I know they are together," she said.

LeAnne earned her nursing assistant certification during Bill's 18-month-long sickness and hopes to give back to the medical community that gave the couple so much care during that time.

"It's a whole new chapter of my life, and I want to do my husband proud and anyone and everyone else who has been praying and supportive," she said. "The support is unreal; this whole community is just absolutely fantastic. I want to reach out and help, too, in the community."

- E-Mail This Article
- Printer-Friendly Version
- Digg this story
- Add to Del.icio.us



LeAnne Nord and her daughter Alana accept a \$7,000 check Monday from Oliver Construction Co. officers Robb Wierdsma (far left) and Keith Farley (far right). The money was raised from Oliver's 2007 golf outing, held July 18 at the Kettle Moraine Golf Club. Daily Reporter Photo/Joe Grundle