



Leslie Asbury

April 15, 1931 - January 15, 2012

Leslie E. Asbury "Les" Family Nickname: "Sunny" Les died at his Fort Collins home on January 15th, 2012 at the age of 81 after a long illness due to heart disease. He served in the United States Marine Corps. His Life: Les will be remembered most by his trademark bib overalls and colorful welder caps (his favorite had jelly beans on it); as well as being the tractor guy and telling corny jokes. A Colorado native, Les was born in Limon, CO on April 15, 1931 to Owen Ralph and Bessie Florence (Harris) Asbury. He was the 5th child of 14 children; He was survived by wife Virginia; his son Michael; and daughter Sandra (and her husband Herb) Kelly also of Fort Collins. He is also survived by three grandchildren, Jade Cordova of Thornton, Austen Kelly and Danielle Kelly of Fort Collins; five great-grandchildren, Shaelyn, William, Alesia and Elijah Cordova of Thornton; and Mason Logan Kelly of Loveland, CO. He is survived by his brother Owen (Bud) Asbury and sister Bonnie Bruckner of Grand Junction, Patricia Stout of Salem, Oregon, James Asbury of Pueblo, CO and Judith Light of Longview, Texas, Marie Hooper of South Dakota. His parents were originally from Rifle, CO. In 1955, Les and Virginia Neville were married in Rifle. At the time of his passing they were married for 56 years. He had lived in Lafayette for 28 years and moved to Fort Collins, CO in 1998 by the Horsetooth Reservoir. He was a self educated and very successful Mechanic a natural, and also trained as a plumber /pipefitter and worked for Kennecott Copper in Ariz, and Local #208 out of Denver Co, he was a union member for over 35 years, he bragged to someone once that he had worked

at the King Soopers Store on 30th Street in Boulder, CO he told them he put the pipes in under the floor they were standing on, at the time. He was talented and invented many of his own tools, such as a log splitter, if he did not own it or could not afford it he made it for himself and in his retirement kept himself busy helping others with mechanical problems and rebuilding old tractors and selling them. He made a car run once by installing a crank on the front of the Radiator, a tire iron was used to crank it, just like the old model T's we were the only ones in town who had a car like that. Eventually he fixed it and A lot of our friends admitted later that they had learned to drive in that car , we had five acres to drive around on, and not much to run into, a few old tires maybe. He was happy to advise you on anything mechanical. When his hearing got bad he once used a stethoscope to listen to an engine. He had an unforgettable personality and was known by his trade mark colorful welder hats and corny off the wall jokes. He attended church regularly at the Snowy Ridge Church in Fort Collins and made many friends; he helped in building a new church in Lafayette and tried to participate in many church functions. He loved western music and spent a lot time falling asleep in his recliner watching his old country and western videos, he was not shy about his political views and frequently had to be reminded not to tell his political jokes to strangers, but it did not stop him, he wanted young people to know how important unions and politics are to this country. He also was a devout Democrat, but registered as a Republican just so he could receive the literature, he was stubborn to the end. He was preceded in death by Louise Asbury of Rifle, Donald Asbury of Pueblo, Kenneth Asbury of Fort Collins, Dorothy Perry of Delta, CO, Mary Ellen Asbury of Rifle, CO, June Johnston of Delta, CO and Gerald Asbury of Grand Junction, CO. The Asbury Heritage goes back to England and the Asbury name goes back more than 12 generations here in the U.S. as far back as the year 1620. The twelfth Great-Grandpa, Frances Asbury came to this country on a boat from England. A service will be held in his honor at Snowy Ridge Church at 320 W. Trilby Road, in Fort Collins, CO., from 11-2 (snacks will be provided at the church) and a graveside service in Lafayette,

CO., Cemetery North West corner from 3- 4 PM Saturday. Three words that sum up his life: Friendly, Talented, and Unforgettable His greatest joy: His Grandchildren His Greatest sorrow: two sons preceding him in death, Steve age 24, and Greg age 52. He had the most fun joining his friends at any greasy spoon, telling jokes, and talking about working on vehicles.

Tribute Wall



“ *Leslie Asbury*

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM



“ *Sonny was a good big brother he was always there for me. He was the kind of person if you were stranded in a snow storm @ midnight he would go get you where ever you were. We took a road trip in 1990 after Keller passed. Good time except his driving scared the hell out of me. He will be missed. Love you.*

Judith Light - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *I only met Les few times but he left such an impression on me. I only wish I could have known him better.*

sam cooley - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *My prayers are with your family. So sorry to hear. Ken*

Kenneth Little - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Leslie Asbury*

Peggy(Saltkill)Clark Gish - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *you will be missed he was always helping others however he could*

Larry Hout - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ So very sorry to learn of Sonny's passing. Although our meeting was brief, he has permanently touched our hearts. Our deepest sympathy to his family and friends. We share your sorrow.

Jimmy and Carol Hubbs

Carol Hubbs - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ Forever memories les, good times, we go back a long time ago!!!We didnt have to see each other often but when we all did it was always memorable!!!Rest in Peace

Alice Sawaya - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ To the Asbury family. I was saddened to hear of Uncle Sonny's passing. I remember him so well as a child. I too remember the coveralls and colorful hats. I also remember him letting my brother and I ride on his tractors and running around the farm. I am so thankful that I was able to attend the family reunions. He was the same as I remember him as a kid. Often times when we would visit, we would pull up to the house and his head would be buried in the hood of a car, and he would have grease all over. I know you all will miss him. He will have great company in heaven. My dad Harold will welcome him. My dad had great respect for him. May you all find comfort in your many memories of him. Love and prayers to all.
Cheryl.

Cheryl Hewett-Sollars - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ For the living are conscious that they will die, but as for the dead, they are conscious of nothing at all, neither do they anymore have wages, because the remembrance of them have been forgotten.” Ecclesiastes 9:5.

"d0 not marvel at this, because the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs' will hear his voice and come out, those who did good things to a resurrection of life, those who practiced vile things to a resurrection of judgement." John 5:28,29

P.S. I'll see you in Paradise.

Patsy Ann Stout - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ I had a great time visiting with you last year with David. You were a fun guy to be around and I really enjoyed riding on your tractors. I wish I had half the knowledge you had on how to repair them. I know you are in heaven, wearing your silly hat (he said "that's what pipefitters wear!"), and smiling down on all of us. God Bless.

Ken Pettibone - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ My brother Bill and I called him Chester. He loved Gunsmoke. He and I had in common the love of anything mechanical, especially old cars and tractors. He gave me one of his welding hats one time and said that he only gave it to me because I had earned it. That was one of the best compliments I ever got. I will miss his stories and attempts to shock me or make me squirm since I am such a prude. He and I came to trust Jesus at about the same time. I'm glad that we will meet again when Jesus calls.

Robbi (Neville) Douglass - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ *RIP...Thank you for all the jokes, smiles and words of encouragement over the years*

Mary Lappin - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BQ

“ *Les and I were steady partners for a couple years as journeyman members of Local 575. He was known in our Local as "Tin Can". I forget the story as to why. He was a good partner and a good mechanic. My favorite memory of him was the time he was asked to move several welding machines to a place at the back of our construction site. These machines were shaped like fire plugs mounted on block type base. Les hooked all of these machines together in a line and pulled them to the new location in one trip. It looked like half a dozen C3PO's toddling along behind that old beat up work truck. Our boss got a bit peeved about it, but the crew sure enjoyed the show.*

Bob Qualls - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ TO the FAMILY of ELMER LESLIE ASBURY: I want all of you to know what a loss I feel in the passing of my brother, your husband, your Daddy, your Uncle, or whatever he was to you. For most of us he was our everything. He was, not just a friend or relative; he was always there when we needed him. In fact, it was just a few months ago that he told me he was there for me anytime I needed him. I was deeply touched by those beautiful words. He was one of the best mechanics in his area, so I've had some folks say. He even taught his children how to fix their own cars because most of the time he was too busy fixing others cars and keeping his business going. One day when I was visiting the family from Oregon, I saw this pickup with the hood up, but all I could see was two little feet sticking out from under the hood. I had no idea what was attached to the other end of those feet until those two feet touched the ground. There standing before me was "Rabbit" as her Daddy called her. Her nose looked a lot like a rabbit's nose, and she wasn't a lot bigger than a rabbit. Yes, my brother "Sonny" wanted his children to learn how to fix their own cars, and he obviously taught them well. I would like to dedicate this song to my brother and all those he left behind. I'm sure all of you will find a lot of comfort from these words. (Next)

Patsy Ann Stout - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ HE WILL CALL (Job 14:13-15)

*Life, like a mist, appears for just today,
Then disappears tomorrow.
All that we are can quickly fade away,
Replaced with tears and sorrow.
If a man should die, can he live again?
Hear the promise God has made:*

*He will call; The dead will answer. They shall live at his command.
For he will have a longing
For the work of his own hand.
So have faith, and do not wonder,
For our God can make us stand.
And we shall live forever,
As the work of his own hand.*

*Friends of our God, though they may pass away,
Will never be forsaken.
All those asleep who in God's memory stay,
From death he will awaken.
Then we'll come to see all that life can be:
Paradise eternally.*

*He will call; The dead will answer. They shall live at his command.
For he will have a longing
For the work of his own hand.
So have faith, and do not wonder,
For our God can make us stand.
And we shall live forever,
As the work of his own hand.*

Patsy Ann Stout - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RA

“ He will be dearly missed by us all. He was a master of masters of mechanics and a magician of engines.

Robert Asbury - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

P(

“ I am so sorry to learn of Uncle "Sonnys" passing. Death is never anything less than an enemy as the Bible describes it to be, even when it is expected or can bring relief to a sufferer and those close to them. I am comforted at this time of the Bibles sure promises that death and all the pain and loss that comes with it will soon be brought to and end itself and then we can hope to see our dear loved ones and live a healthy, purposeful life as God truly intended us to do. Not logical or fair that a tree or even a turtle can out live a human, Gods finest intelligent creation whom he found as "very good". In the meantime it is a reality we must brave through and I know Uncle Sonny was very loved by his immediate family as well as others who knew him less such as myself. I would have preferred to know him better as an adult but remember him most from childhood. I remember his kind smile. Seemed sort of shy to me but what does a kid know? :) Am honored to have witnessed the long duration of marriage to his wife, "Becky" of so many years. What a wonderful thing to see and know. Also, the 4 wonderful children they created and the love as a family network that has been there through all of these years! You will truly be missed and were certainly loved by many, perhaps more than you ever realized. :)
With Warmest Regards,
Patty Jo Asbury Pearson

Patty J. Pearson (Asbury) - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ Les will be missed by all of us here at the Raintree Branch. He always had something entertaining to say and was very kind. Our thoughts are with you.

Suzette Randall - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RI

“ I have Had a hard time with his passing, uncle Les was a GEART Person in my life. He show me how to be a Man because my dad was not around. I was his shadow because i followed him everywhere because we lived next door.I will miss all the jokes and teasing that he would give me as a kid! I Love Him and my Aunt and cuzs for being there for me! Lots of LOVE!!!!

Rick - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BO

“ june johnston was the oldest of 14 children(les;s sister she was left outdr

Bonnie - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BO

“ i miss you every day

Bonnie - January 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM