



Jeffrey "Gus" Kessler

February 3, 1954 - May 26, 2026

Jeffrey "Gus" Kessler, age 72, of Willoughby, passed away on May 26, 2026, at his residence. He was born on February 3, 1954, in Lakewood, Ohio to Johann and the late Richard Kessler.

Gus graduated from Mentor High School and went on to attend Kent State University. He had a long and successful career – over four decades – with The Lubrizol Corporation in Wickliffe, Ohio. Gus had a lifelong passion for music, and he was a talented bass guitar player, partnering with many musicians and friends throughout his life in numerous bands. He was an active and proud supporter of young musicians, frequenting many local venues, in awe of their talent. In recent years Gus also enjoyed many relaxing afternoons and evenings at the performances of local musicians.

Gus leaves behind a legacy as a deeply loved and respected friend and mentor. He is considered a best and most trusted friend, professionally and personally, always "going to bat" to defend and support those he believed in. In his final days with us, Gus received messages expressing gratitude and thankfulness for what he has taught and shared with those in his life, and that he is loved and will be missed. He was considered as a brother to many. Gus also had the gift of charisma – he knew how to deliver a joke to anyone in order to cheer up their day – and everyone loved him.

Gus is survived by his loving partner, Nancy Zone; his cherished sons, Joseph Kessler and Steven Kessler; mother, Johann Louise (Borgerman) Kessler; siblings, Jane Kessler-Copeman (Bruce), Amy Jo Withrow (Jack), William Richard Kessler (Barb); niece, Ellen Withrow; nephews, John Withrow (Marie) and Peter Kessler; and extended family, Aaron and Augustus Zone. Gus loved his family beyond measure.

In addition to his father, Gus is preceded in death by his sister, Judith Ann Kessler.

In honor of Gus's wishes, there will be no services.

Contributions in celebration of Gus's life may be made to Cypress Hospice, 2 Berea Commons Suite 1, Berea, Ohio 44017. Gus's family is deeply grateful to Cypress Hospice for embracing us with love and hours of tender care for Gus that was above and beyond wonderful.

Arrangements entrusted to Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor, Ohio 44060.

Offer condolences at www.brunners.com

Tribute Wall

RL

“ I grew up in the same neighborhood as the Kessler family. My condolences to the family.

Robert Leonard - June 07 at 08:20 AM

DE

“ I am very saddened to hear of Gus's passing. I always enjoyed his wry smile and talking to him about swimming and such. My heart goes out to Nancy and of course Joann.

Denise - June 02 at 04:58 PM

FD

“ I remember Jeff from school, he was a good guy.
R.I.P.
Our sincerest condolences 🌸
Frank Dolence family

Frank Dolence - May 31 at 01:44 PM

EW

“ Ellen B Witkowski lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey "Gus" Kessler



Ellen B Witkowski - May 31 at 11:39 AM



“ Gus and I worked together on the Pilot Plant Utility crew driving forklifts way back in 1978. It was my very first job there. The winter of 1978 actually. It was a bitter winter but we made it through and humor was a big part of it. Gus was definitely one of the good guys. Gone too soon.

Steve Manchook - May 31 at 08:02 AM

DS

“ I worked with Gus for many years sorry to hear of his passing prayers to his family and friends

Dennis Sterle - May 30 at 01:00 PM