



Ladislaus "Laddie" Michalowski

December 30, 1913 - December 26, 2006

Ladislaus "Laddie" Michalowski, 92, a lifelong New Britain resident and loving husband of Dr. Elizabeth Geragosian Michalowski, died Tuesday December 26, 2006 at Hospital of Central Connecticut in New Britain. A graduate of New Britain High School, Class of 1933, he was employed by the American Hardware Corporation and while there, helped organize the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers UE-CIO. Laddie was a World War II US Army veteran serving in the European Theatre. He was later employed at Fenn Manufacturing Company until his retirement in 1977.

Laddie dedicated his life to social justice and to his community. He was active with many groups, including the Connecticut Citizens Action Group CCAG; Citizens for Action in New Britain and the Citizen-Labor Energy Coalition CLEC. He served on the board of the Legislative Electoral Action Program LEAP and the Hartford area Civil Liberties Union, and was a member of the NAACP and the New Britain Human Rights Commission. Laddie was active in the civil rights struggles of the 60's and 70's, participated in the 1962 march on Washington and the 1965 voting rights march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, lead by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.. One of his proudest moments came when he and his wife's names were inscribed on the pedestal of the monument to Dr. King on Martin Luther King Drive in New Britain

Laddie was also a devoted husband and father. Besides his wife Elizabeth, he

is survived by two daughters, Judy Michalowski and her husband Barry Wasserman; and Linda Michalowski, all of Sacramento, California; a granddaughter, Terra Michalowski; and six nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by three brothers, Walter, Stanley, and Joseph Michalowski; and a sister, Albina Bernacki.

Funeral services are Saturday 10 AM at First Church of Christ, Congregational, 830 Corbin Avenue, New Britain, CT 06052. Burial with military honors will be in Fairview Cemetery. Calling hours are Friday evening 5 to 8 PM at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain. Donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Resource Center, 1261 North Main Street, Plantsville, CT 06479 or to a heartfelt cause of your choice. Please share a memory or note of sympathy with Laddie's family by clicking on "GUESTBOOK" at the bottom of this page.

Tribute Wall

KE

“ *Well put, sir, well put. I'll craetingly make note of that.*

Keshav - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ *Laddie's daughter Judy is my aunt her husband Barry is my father Bill's older brother. I never met him, but I've never forgotten her telling me about him and his life over dinner one night when she was visiting here. I hope that he finds peace and his family, eventually, happiness, in this new year.*

Mycroft Holmes - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

HG

“ *Dear Betty...*

I was saddened to learn from my sister Hayastan of the passing of your husband. As the adage puts it "the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh" and to this inescapable fact of life we must resolve our sorrow no matter how difficult it may be to do so. May memories of "Laddie" burn ever bright in your mind's eye and rest warmly in the deepest recesses of your heart as well as in the those of your loved ones. Our heartfelt condolences.

Haige and Dora Garabedian

Haige Garabedian - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ Throughout the 1970's, and 80's Laddie's timeless efforts to extend the rights of Workers, Minorities and the downtrodden was the 'Prime Example' that many of us in the Labor Movement attempted to model and follow.

As a rank and file Machinist's Union member I personally benefited from his leadership and constant dedication to community and social issues.

As a representative of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, here in Connecticut, I extend our Union's consideration and offer our heartfelt condolences to Laddie's family, and join with all those who sense the true loss of a 'People's Activist.'

Bill Rudis - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ Condolences to Betty and family on Laddie's passing. Knowing this day would come doesn't make it any easier. Take comfort in knowing that he will live on in the hearts of those of us he inspired. We all have stories to tell, moments to remember. As we mourn his passing, we also celebrate his life. Knowing Laddie, he's already organizing the angels into the movement.

Mel Tripp - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

NW

“ *Dear Family of Laddies'*

Please accept my sincerest condolences on the passing of a wonderful , gentle man.

I hope that knowing you are in the thoughts and prayers of many people during this difficult time, makes it a little easier for all of you..

Laddies' leadership in the areas of civil liberties and human rights helped me to be a better elected official.

He will be missed .

Again, please accept my sincerest condolences.

Nancy Wyman

State Comptroller

Nancy Wyman - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ *The Continuation of Ladislaus Michaelowski*

Important leaders like Laddie Michaelowski have a multiplicative effect upon our history. His first impact was directly upon the people like you and me whom he taught, inspired, and mobilized thru two generations of activity. We, in turn, have tried to carry that spark to wider political fields and new activists.

Now the band of thousands whom Laddie touched directly has ceased to grow. His indirect effect ripples thru Halls and kitchens indefinitely. It's now up to us, his direct descendents, to emulate his soft-spoken endurance, his ideological depth, his good nature, and insure that these qualities inspire the character of a new generation.

The slow disappearance of the actual voice of Laddie Michaelowski imparts an urgency to the work of those of us preparing for the next great uprising of the people. There can be no doubt of its coming. The inexorable, irregular alarm clock of history awakens crowds of millions, not satisfied by activism, but driven, like Laddie, toward revolution.

Bill Shortell - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ *Never did a kinder more caring person walk on our Planet. Laddie will be remembered for his love of his fellow man. He will be missed by all who knew him. Rest in Peace Laddie.*
Dave and Judy Barrows

Dave and Judy Barrows - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ Laddie was an amazing man. I treasure my memories of him. He has inspired many people, including myself, and his legacy will live on through Betty,Linda,Judy and Terra.

When my dad married his daughter,Judy, i was welcomed into his family as if he had known me my whole life and i will always be grateful for that. I always enjoyed listening to him talking about his many experiences and will never forget them. I send all my love and condolences to Betty,Judy,Linda and Terra and the family.

Andy Wasserman - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ I knew Laddie through his vists to California to see his family, Judy, Linda, Terra and Barry. I never met a kinder more generous man. My heart goes out to the family and to his wife Betty. I am nonored I had the opportunity to meet him and talk to him. HIs legacy lives on in his two wonderful and caring daughters and his beautiful granddaughter as well as his loving wife Betty, My heart and prayers will be with you.

Pat Stevens - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ Dear Betty, Judy, Linda, and family,

We just wanted to let you know that we are thinking of you all. While we know this is a difficult time, we share the wonderful memory of Laddie and the amazing life he lived. While we did not have the opportunity to spend a lot of time with him over the years, the time we did share was always a time of enjoyment, insight and reflection. We know he touched all who had the good fortune to know him, as he touched us. Please know that our thoughts are with you all.

All our love,

Tim, Lee and Kyle

Tim, Lee & Kyle Wasserman - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

WH

“ *We knew Laddie in his later years when Win was honored to serve with him as a member of the LEAP board where Laddie always offered wise counsel.*

We extend our heartfelt condolences to Laddie's family. We have all lost a wonderful human being who never ceased fighting for social and economic justice.

He is a true inspiration.

Win & Carol Heimer - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Dear Betty and Family,

I am so very sorry to hear of Laddie's passing. I knew from John G. of the long illness that Laddie suffered, and thought of him often. I was first introduced to Laddie by Sid Taylor who thought so highly of him, and they both told me many stories of the CIO days, and labor history in Connecticut. As a young activist I learned a lot from watching Laddie's ability to build coalitions of labor and community that had the strength to win reforms that would improve working people's lives. I remember sitting with George and Gerri Springer at the wonderful tribute to Laddie held in New Britain some years ago. Laddie helped develop many progressive leaders that are fighting the good fight in Connecticut today. I believe our tireless efforts to defeat the right-wing and our beginning success in this year's elections to change control of Congress are in the spirit that Laddie lived and taught. It is an honor to have known him and also yourself, for "two is a team!" As we continue to build the movement for a better world, Laddie will always be at our side.

Love, Joelle

Joelle Fishman - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM