

Swimmer, 18, Drowns In Quarry



Leo Mueller

An 18-year-old Sheboygan man drowned while swimming with friends at the Sheboygan Quarry Saturday afternoon. Police divers recovered his body 2½ hours later in about 55 feet of water.

Leo N. Mueller II, 1827 Cambridge Ave., whose friends said he was not a good swimmer, drowned after he apparently became weak while swimming from a raft toward the log barricade that marks the far outside edge of the swimming area patrolled by lifeguards.

Police were called at 1:45 p.m. after lifeguards, informed that Mueller was missing, announced his name several times over the public address system.

A large crowd of swimmers watched as police scuba divers began a search a short while later.

Divers said the body was eventually located near the bottom in the area where the man had been swimming.

Mueller was with a group of young persons that included Jody Williams, 17, and Tracy Williams, 15, of 708 N. 26th St., and John Steinbruecker, 15, of 1515 N. 12th St., who were swimming between the two rafts farthest from shore.

Mueller's friends told police that they had swum from a raft to the logs and had not noticed that Mueller was missing until they got there.

The last drowning at the Quarry occurred June 7, 1973, when a 15-year-old Oostburg youth drowned in about 25 feet of water. The next previous drowning there was in July 1968.

Mr. Mueller was born May 5, 1961, in Sheboygan, a son of Gerald M. and Carol A. Lohse Mueller. He attended Cooper Elementary and Urban Junior High schools, and was graduated in June from North High School.

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Quarry

He had worked part time at Geno's Top of the First restaurant, and, since graduation, at Nemschoff Chair Co.

He was a member of Ebenezer United Church of Christ, the Senior Youth Fellowship, of which he was treasurer; the church basketball team, Citizens Bank softball team, and the Sheboygan Youth Band and Buccaneers.

Survivors are his parents; three brothers, Jeffrey, Robert and Larry, all at home; his maternal grandmother, Mrs. Della Lohse, and his paternal grandfather, Leo N. Mueller, both of Sheboygan, and his paternal great-grandfather, Harry Wells of Random Lake.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Ebenezer church, by the Rev. Ruben Grosshuesch, pastor. Burial will be in Wildwood Cemetery.

Friends may call at the Ballhorn Funeral Chapels after 4 p.m. today, and at the church from 9 a.m. Tuesday until the time of services.

Memorial funds have been established in Mr. Mueller's name for the Buccaneers and Ebenezer church.

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