

## Dr. Gordon V. Boudreau

November 18, 2020

Dr. Gordon Boudreau, Professor of English Emeritus at Le Moyne College, died on November 18, 2020 at Kendal on Hudson, Sleepy Hollow, New York. Born May 17, 1929, at Marshall, Minnesota, he was the son of Louis Boudreau and Lena (Rykhus) Boudreau. A 1947 graduate of Worthington, MN HS, he received his B.A. from St. Mary's College, Winona, MN, in 1951, and after a brief stint as a reporter/columnist/photographer for his home town newspaper,

The Worthington Daily Globe, was called by his country and served as S/Sgt in the USAF 1951-55. After earning his M.A. at Marquette University, he taught at its College of Engineering for three years, thereafter earned his Ph. D. at Indiana University, and in 1963 began his 31 year teaching career at Le Moyne College, retiring in 1994.

As a scholar, Gordon was most known for his work on Henry David Thoreau, work that culminated in his luminous book, ""The Roots of Walden and the Tree of Life"". It was a close examination into Thoreau's search to connect the meaning of words, the rhythms of nature, and the hand of God in the world around us, and it closely echoed the way Gordon, himself traveled through the world. Shortly after its publication, he was recognized as LeMoyne College's Scholar of the Year, something he treasured as a mark of his colleagues' esteem. The certificate hung on his bedroom wall until his very last day. Preceded in death by his parents, his brothers Louis and Douglas, and in 1992 by his beloved and incomparable wife, Grace, he is survived by sons,

Joseph (Pascale) of Pittsburgh, PA, Vincent (Toinette) of NYC, Gordon (Sara) of Oswego, NY, and Louis (Margaret) of Syracuse, NY, and by daughters, Maura(Pete) Kennedy of Tarrytown, NY, Kristin (Kes Roberts) Boudreau of Worcester, MA, and Suzanne (John) Allman of Tarrytown, NY. Also surviving are grandsons, Daniel ("Duke") Allman, William Boudreau-Roberts, and Oliver Boudreau, and granddaughters, Frances ("Sissy") Allman, Grace Boudreau-Roberts and Annabelle Boudreau. He is survived by his brother, Richard, La Crosse WI.

A long time lector at St. Rose of Lima Church in No.Syracuse, he was also a Literacy Volunteer and a mentor for No. Syracuse School student writers. Above all things, he was devoted to his family-to his wife and to his seven children. Before college, career and family scattered the branches of the family tree, very few Sundays ever passed without the entire troop making their way through some forested hike, and he provisioned each with the education and appetite for a full life, lived in the reflection of his example. He ended the acknowledgments of his book by invoking the image of his family, as it once was with father and mother together, sitting around a dinner table once more, clean fingernails all around. May it come to pass.

Following Covid guidelines, private calling hours are live streamed Wednesday, November 25th from Ferguson Funeral Home, 215 South Main St., North Syracuse followed by live streamed Mass of Christian Burial via stroseny.org at 10:30 am and at St. Rose of Lima Church, 409 South Main Street, North Syracuse. Burial, with military honors, will be in North Syracuse Cemetery, 555 South Bay Road, North Syracuse.

In lieu of flowers, Dr. Boudreau's family asks those who wish to remember Gordon with a gift to make a contribution to the Gordon Boudreau Endowed Fund, established at LeMoyne College to support student and faculty scholarship in the Department of English. Gifts may be made online at [LeMoyne.edu/give](http://LeMoyne.edu/give) or mailed to Le Moyne College, Office of Advancement, P.O. Box 527, Syracuse, N.Y. 13214, specifying the gifts for this Fund. Inquiries can be made to Ms. Jane Brown at: [brownjae@lemoyne.edu](mailto:brownjae@lemoyne.edu)



# Cemetery Details

## North Syracuse Cemetery

555 South Bay Road  
North Syracuse , NY 13212

# Previous Events

## Mass of Christian Burial

NOV 25. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Rose of Lima Church  
407 S Main St  
Syracuse, NY 13212

# Tribute Wall



“ Fergerson Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. Gordon V. Boudreau



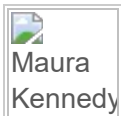
Fergerson Funeral Home - November 25, 2020 at 10:56 AM



“ Fergerson Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Dr. Gordon V. Boudreau



Fergerson Funeral Home - November 25, 2020 at 07:48 AM



*This is a video of the calling hours. We asked Fergerson to keep the mic off until we were ready to address those watching remotely. To see message from Dad's seven kids, go to around one hour and 40 minutes.*

Maura Kennedy - November 29, 2020 at 10:21 AM



“ Dr. Gordon V. Boudreau

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM

BP

“ My most sincere condolences to all of you; some of whom I knew better than others but, I also knew your parents. You are, each one of you, a wonderful composite of them and of each other and they will live on within all of you. Rejoice in the love and wisdom they imparted upon you and find comfort and peace in your memories of them.

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**Beth Patri** - November 23, 2020 at 03:09 PM

KH

“ Mr Boudreau was quite a gentlemen. He was truly loved by all ! i think of him often when he came to the dental office. my condolences to the family.

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**kathy hepfner** - November 23, 2020 at 03:09 PM

SC

“ One of the last of a great generation  
Sympathy and condolences on your loss.  
May he live forever in our memories.  
And in your hearts.  
Wish we could do this normally.  
As it would be good to see all and express in person.

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**Stephen P Czarniewicz** - November 23, 2020 at 03:09 PM

PB

“ I am grateful to Gordon for his commitment to his family, and for his book, which has been influential in my life. He has brought his seven children, including daughter Maura, safe thus far. May they always remain safe until tomorrow.

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**Patricia Battaglia** - November 23, 2020 at 03:08 PM

ML

“ Our most sincere condolences to Gordy and Sara and the whole Boudreau family for your loss. Our thoughts are with you.

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**Mike & Karen De Lucia** - November 23, 2020 at 03:08 PM

JD

“ Grateful to Gordon for his lovely daughter Maura. Peace to him and his family

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**James Daigler** - November 23, 2020 at 03:08 PM

ES

“ So, from a slightly different faith background, and knowing only his daughter, Maura and son in law, Pete, I can see that what Gordon left us with last for a long time. We call it Idor vador (from generation to generation) and we know that the ripples from a life well lived can continue to have an effect on us all even after the life on earth ends. Beyond Maura and Pete and the rest of his direct offspring, surely his students will keep him alive in our hearts. Mine goes out to you and I will surely try to stream in on Wednesday.

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**Ed Saslaw** - November 23, 2020 at 03:08 PM

GS

“ With the loss of Uncle Gordon I am sending all my cousins and their families love and prayers in this time of sorrow. You all were such a great help to us over the last few years with our losses that it gives me great sadness we are unable to be there in person to share this time with you. Looking forward to when we can be together to share the stories of your wonderful father and those he is now reunited with.

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**Grace & Brian Spicer** - November 23, 2020 at 03:08 PM

NP

“ My deepest condolences to the family on the passing of your loved one, Gordon. May the God of peace and comfort strengthen the family during this difficult time.

no name provided - November 23, 2020 at 03:08 PM

JB

“ Please accept our condolences.  
What a dear family we've gotten to know through at least three of you.

John & Sondra Bromka - November 23, 2020 at 03:07 PM

GR

“ Oh Maura, I am sorry for your loss. What a blessing to have a kind and giving and influential father. Along with your own verses, maybe these words from Siegfried Sassoon can accompany him back to the stars: “My heart was shaken with tears but Everyone was a bird; and the song was wordless; the singing will never be done.” Peace and comfort to you and Pete and your family.

Gretta - November 23, 2020 at 03:07 PM

LF

“ My condolences to the family on your loss. Growing up just around the corner and going to school with Vince and Joe and Maura I was impacted by his presence and always greatly admired Dr. Boudreau. May his memory be a blessing.

Lisa Farnett - November 23, 2020 at 03:07 PM

KK

“ Sending your whole family love and healing Gordy and Sara. You're in our thoughts and prayers.

Kevin & Jamie Keller - November 23, 2020 at 03:07 PM

LS

“ Maura & Pete , although I never met your father, I am well aware of his considerable impact on your lives! It is clear you both shared a passion for words and yours is translated into lyrics and your beautiful music. I am so sorry for your loss and I'm sure he will be so sorely missed by you, the family and every student who was fortunate enough to have been touched by his wisdom.  
Our sincerest condolences,  
Linda Sinofsky, Daniel DiTolla, Jake, Emily, Gianna & Wari!❤️

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**Linda Sinofsky** - November 23, 2020 at 03:07 PM

J1

“ My first year in college was also Dr. Boudreau's first year at LeMoyne. How fortunate I was to have a professor that was so intelligent and such a great teacher. He made me realize that I had much to learn about the subject of English but he did so in a very supportive and encouraging manner. He was a model professor and even though nearly 60 years have passed I remember sitting in his classroom and trying to absorb all he had to offer nervous and somewhat intimidated students. His love of teaching touched thousands of students; the world of academia will miss him.

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**John Penrose/class of 1967** - November 23, 2020 at 03:06 PM

BC

“ My close friend and colleague for fifteen years at Le Moyne and more.  
A most able and conscientious teacher and scholar, one of the best of a great faculty. God Bless Gordon, his amazing Grace, and a beautiful family. Bill Cunningham

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**Bill Cunningham** - November 23, 2020 at 03:06 PM

MB

“ I enjoyed a class from Dr. Boudreau in 1966. He was a fine teacher. My condolences to his family.

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**Michael Bergan** - November 23, 2020 at 03:06 PM

JL

“ I mourn the death of my teacher, mentor, colleague and true friend. Gordon Boudreau's soft-spoken, gentle, persistently challenging teaching inspired me and many other Le Moyne students for more than three decades. He taught me so much about writing well that with every chapter I write, I feel him looking over my shoulder and advising me. I feel profoundly privileged to have known him.

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**John W Langdon** - November 23, 2020 at 03:06 PM

LM

“ We are so sorry for your loss. We were lucky to know Gordon both as a colleague at LeMoyne and as the (affectionately named "Daddy Boo") father of our dear friends. He was the kindest and gentlest of men. A top scholar and a true gentleman. We wish you comfort during this hard time.  
- Bill Morris and Leslie Noble

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**Leslie Noble & Bill Morris** - November 23, 2020 at 03:05 PM

LC

“ Please accept the most heartfelt sympathies of Le Moyne College. We hope the love and memories you will forever hold in your heart bring you peace and comfort during this difficult time.

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**Le Moyne College** - November 23, 2020 at 03:05 PM

TF

“ Offering our deepest condolences during this time.

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**The Fergerson Family** - November 23, 2020 at 03:05 PM