

10-09-1969 Algoma WI – Ronald E Leist – LEO Surf Rescue Attempt



OFFICER DOWN MEMORIAL PAGE



REMEMBERING ALL OF LAW ENFORCEMENT'S HEROES

<https://www.odmp.org/officer/8046-patrolman-ronald-lee-leist>



Bio & Incident Details

Age: 30

Tour: Not available

Badge # Not available

Cause: Drowned

Patrolman

Ronald Lee Leist

Algoma Police Department, Wisconsin

End of Watch: Thursday, October 9, 1969

Patrolman Ronald Leist drowned while attempting to rescue two fishermen who fell into water off of the south pier.



National Law Enforcement Officers

MEMORIAL FUND

RESPECT. HONOR. REMEMBER.

<http://www.nleomf.org/officers/search/search-results/ronald-e-leist.html?referrer=https://www.google.com/>

RONALD E LEIST

Rank: Patrolman

Panel: 39-W: 2

Department: Algoma, Wisconsin, P.D.

End of Watch: October 9, 1969

Cause: Drowning

Age: 30

Years of Service: 3

Description: Drowning. Drowned during rescue attempt.

Regarding Officer Ronald L. Leist

<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=69947604>

October 10 & 27, 1969 The Manitowoc Herald Times

Two men were presumed drowned late Thursday afternoon after they were swept off a pier into Lake Michigan while attempting to rescue another man. Authorities said 12-foot high waves crashed against the pier sweeping Frank Pletcher, 22, of Milwaukee, who was fishing at the time, into the lake.

His fishing companion, Wallace Schulist, 32, also of Milwaukee, managed to remain on the pier and was joined by Algoma patrolman Ronald Leist, 30, in an attempt to rescue him. The Algoma patrolman rushed to the scene and attempted to pull Pletcher back onto the pier when another wave threw all three into the water.

Pletcher had previously grabbed onto a life preserver tossed into the water by Schulist. Bystanders, including Mayor Arthur Dettman, attempted to rescue the trio.

Dettman, who rowed a boat to the end of the pier, got Pletcher to shore while the other two men disappeared in the pounding waves.