



## Arthur Paul Bertrand

July 3, 1932 - June 23, 2014

A funeral Mass for Arthur Paul Bertrand, 81, of Bourbonnais, will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Thursday at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Kankakee. Burial will be in Mount Calvary Cemetery, Kankakee. There will be no visitation. Mr. Bertrand passed away Monday (June 23, 2014) at Presence Our Lady of Victory in Bourbonnais. Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home, Bourbonnais, is in charge of arrangements.

He was born July 3, 1932, in Kankakee, the son of Hector A. and Rose E. Blessing Bertrand. He went to St. Joseph Boys School in Kankakee. He left Kankakee in 1960 and lived in San Diego, Calif. for 36 years. He returned to Kankakee in 1996 and lived in Aroma Park, and currently in Bourbonnais. He had published: The Bertrand Family History, 51 volumes; The Merillat Family History, nine volumes; The Girard Family History, 15 volumes; The Ball Family History, nine volumes; The Scarberry Family History, four volumes; The Blessing Family History, five volumes; and The Perreault Family Line. (All these books are at the Kankakee Valley Genealogical Society, Kankakee Public Library).

His great-grandparents, Leon and Marie-Aglae (Perreault) Bertrand, and their six children came from Saint-Jacques de Montcalm, Canada in 1852. Leon and family were the second settlers in Pilot Township, Kankakee County, in 1852, and 11 more children were born. Today there is still land he purchased

in the Bertrand Family.

His grandparents, Leon-Napoleon and Mary Ellen (Merillat) Bertrand had 14 children, lived at 304 North 7th Avenue (changed to 100 now 210 (White City). This house was one of the houses that Powell & Snow moved here (1900) from Coal City (coal miner homes) and restored and moved to lots on 7th Avenue and Bridge street. The houses were all painted white, so the area became known as White City.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Rose Ellen Blessing Bertrand Gusak (died in 1978, San Diego, Calif.); father, Hector Abel Bertrand (died in 1939, Kankakee); stepfather, Joseph Adam Gusak (died in 1982, San Diego); and brother, Robert Hector Bertrand (died in 1969 in explosion at R.R. Donnelleys, Chicago).

Surviving are two nieces and nephews, Terri Rose (Bertrand) and Richard Y. Fong, of Florida, and Sherie Lee (Bertrand) and Wolf Haunzwickl, of Germany; three great-nieces, Carrie Lynn Fong, Lori Ann (Fong) Folden, and Tabitha Bruinsma, of Florida; two great-great-nieces, Ashlyn Fong and Abby Folden; great-great-nephew, Shane Folden, of Florida; many cousins; his daughter, Sharon Hanson and her husband, Jerry, of Aroma Park; and special friend, Semyon Hall, of Arizona.

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Calvary

2000 E. Court St.  
Kankakee, IL

# Tribute Wall

BL

“ I met Art in San Diego when I did some work on his home. We had great conversations and kept in touch thru email when he moved to Il. And we moved to FL. I will keep him in my prayers. Brian Layne

brian layne - July 01, 2014 at 06:11 PM

YR

“ Art was a special friend to my Dad, Harold Yochim, at Presence Our Lady of Victory. He watched over him like a brother, for which I am forever grateful. I enjoyed getting to know Art during the times I was there. He was a special person, and I know he will be greatly missed.

Yvonne Readman - June 25, 2014 at 07:54 PM

BN

Yes, he was always helpful to our Dad, a good friend. We truly appreciated his being there. May his memory bless those at the Presence.home.

Brenda Newman - June 25, 2014 at 09:06 PM

RR

“ My Mom was originally a Bertrand: Geraldine Prairie, daughter of Leo and Carolyn (Straus) Bertrand. She died this past year at Our Lady of Victory and talked a few times with Arthur before she completely succumbed to dementia. She loved the family history talks she had with him in years past. Arthur was an interesting person to talk with. God's blessings on him as he is welcomed home by loved ones once again. It's difficult to see all of the older generation go. Wishing you peace Arthur. Now I hope you get to see all of the relatives you only knew on paper.

Reisha (Prairie) Raymond - June 25, 2014 at 08:08 AM

KW

“ *Mr. Bertrand always knew how to put a smile on my face. I will forever miss him and his big bags of candy.*

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**Katie Wages** - June 24, 2014 at 06:29 PM

BR

“ *I have fond memories of Art during his stay at Presence. He was charming and had such a fun, quirky sense of humor. What a great written history he has left for his family to cherish in years to come. Rest in peace, Art...*

*Bonnie Ross (aka Elizabeth Taylor - an inside joke with Art on our first meeting)*

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**Bonnie Ross** - June 24, 2014 at 08:44 AM

SH

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



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**Sharon Hanson** - June 23, 2014 at 02:28 PM