



Birdie St. John

May 7, 1928 - January 25, 2013

Visitation for Harlan R. "Birdie" St. John, 84, of Kankakee, will be from 9 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 2, until the 11 a.m. funeral service at the Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home, Bourbonnais. Inurnment will be at Kankakee Memorial Gardens, Aroma Township, at a later date. Memorials may be made to Hospice of Kankakee Valley. He died Friday (Jan. 25, 2013) at Bickford House in Bourbonnais.

Mr. St. John was a retired truck driver from Rudolf Express. He was born May 7, 1928, in Manteno, the son of Robert and Alice Grimes St. John. His wife, the former Joan F. Oesterle, whom he married Jan. 28, 1951, passed away July 3, 2011. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in Korea. He enjoyed golfing and bowling, and belonged to a league.

Surviving are one son and daughter-in-law, Steve and Jan St. John, of Bourbonnais; five grandsons, Mike (Rachel) Kreft, Matt Kreft, Mark Kreft, Jason St. John and Jared St. John; one great-grandson, Vincent Kreft; and two brothers and three sisters-in-law, Wendell and Shirley St. John, of Bloomington, Ind., Marvin and Nancy St. John, of Louisville, Ky., and Darlene St. John, of Kankakee.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one daughter, Vicki Kreft; and one brother, Gerald St. John.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

FEB 2. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.
295 Main St., NW
Bourbonnais, IL 60914
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Memorial Service

FEB 2. 11:00 AM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Birdie St. John



Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes - January 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ Pamela Siefert sent a virtual gift in memory of Birdie St. John



Pamela Siefert - February 02, 2013 at 06:37 AM

PS

I had the pleasure of meeting Birdie because of my daughter's great choice of a wonderful man Mike Kreft. Not only Birdie, but Matt & Mark have been a wonderful addition with our families thru their marriage. Birdie was not only dedicated to his wife & family but his grandsons was the pride & joy of his heart.

The loss of his daughter Vicki was a tremendous burden to his heart, but as would any father would do, was there for her three sons Mike, Matt & Mark ,his grandsons. A wonderful living example that life can go on after such a devastating loss, although life never stays the same. I could see the dedication Birdie had to his wife & grandchildren. Such a strong good hearted person. I am the lucky person to have such a brief meeting of such a wonderful man.

My prayers are for his Son & family, & his Grandsons Mike, Matt & Mark & his great grandson Vincent.

Pamela Siefert - February 02, 2013 at 06:54 AM

DK

“ *Dewey Kilbride lit a candle in memory of Birdie St. John*



Dewey Kilbride - February 01, 2013 at 10:36 AM

LM

“ *I had the pleasure of working with both Birdie and Jerry at Rudolf Express. Birdie was always a comedian joking and picking on someone in good fun. He never seemed to have a bad day. I learned a lot from both of them. They were old school and worked very hard every day. May God Bless and comfort you.*

Larry McIntyre - January 31, 2013 at 08:52 PM

JG

“ *I did not know Harlan personally but Aunt Alice always spoke very highly of all her sons. He will be greatly missed in the family and friends he made.*



Judy Grimes

Judy Grimes - January 31, 2013 at 09:49 AM

GM

“ *We'll all be missing some laughter in our lives with the loss of Birdie St. John. Cheers to a man who had the strength of character to always speak his mind and live his life on his terms with honor and a devotedness to his wife, Joan, his children and grandchildren. He will be missed by many.*

Our prayers to the family and condolences in this time of your loss.

Gary & Rose Mitchell - January 29, 2013 at 09:33 AM

VB

“ Vicki Tousignant, CNA Bickford lit a candle in memory of Birdie St. John



Vicki Tousignant, CNA Bickford - January 28, 2013 at 09:30 PM

VB

We will miss you Birdie.

Vicki Tousignant, CNA Bickford - January 28, 2013 at 09:31 PM

KD

“ Birdie worked as a carpenter for my dad in the 1950's. I was a little boy then, but I can remember my dad saying that he liked Birdie.

Kim DesLauriers - January 28, 2013 at 04:15 PM