



Donald A. Thompson

November 28, 1926 - January 28, 2016

Donald A. Thompson, age 89, of Bradley, passed away Thursday, January 28, 2016 at Joliet Area Community Hospice.

He was born November 28, 1926 in Kankakee, the son of Clarence & Dott Jay Thompson.

Donald married Ruth Ann Blanford September 6, 1950 in Decatur and they celebrated close to 55 years together; she preceded him in death July 19, 2005.

Donald was a 1944 graduate of Blue Island High School. He studied at the Illinois Institute of Technology and graduated from University of Illinois in 1948 with a BSME. He was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity during his time at U of I and also worked in the "stacks" of the undergrad library.

Donald began his career as a civil engineer in Paris, IL with the Illinois Highway Department. Over his career, he also held positions as an equipment safety and facility engineer for several manufacturing companies including DuPont Chemical in Dana, IN, Cabot Inc. in Tuscola, IL, and Hercules Powder in Bacchus, UT. Additionally, he worked and supported Hill Air Force Base in Sandy, UT.

Over his life he enjoyed playing handball, tennis, and ping pong - with a

wicked, left-handed top spin. He had a passion for playing golf and passed his skills and interests down to his son and grandsons. Off the golf course, he was a skilled and gregarious dancer. Known for his ability to swing dance, he taught each of his daughters and he and Ruth would often time "put on a show" at family celebrations. In his retirement he was active in supporting the Fraternal Order of Police. He and Ruth enjoyed traveling and meeting new people, with two favorite vacation locations of Branson, MO and FairField Bay, AR. He was a proud father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He very much enjoyed spending time with his family, talking about news and current events, watching the Bears and Cubs on TV, laughing, eating, and of course, dancing - teaching some skills to his great-grandkids too!

Surviving are one son and daughter-in-law, David & Patricia Thompson of Naperville; three daughters and two sons-in-law, Donna Tellez of Peoria, Alice & Michael Dehm of Plainfield, Tricia & Erich Hertz of Albany, NY; ten grandchildren: Sarah, Allison, Edward, Emily, Charles, Joel, Katherine, Mitchell, Amelia and Greta; and six great-grandchildren: Garrin, Grayson, Kellen, Elena, Sadie, and Althea.

He is preceded in death by his wife; his parents; his step-mother, Edith (Milk) Thompson; three sisters, Ruth Heath, Marie Hancock, and Lucille Grasser; and two brothers, Walter Thompson and Warren Thompson.

Visitation will be held 2:00 p.m. until the 4:00 p.m., with a 4:00pm service on Sunday, January 31, 2016 at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais. Rev. Barbara Lohrbach will officiate the service. Cremation Rites will be accorded following the services.

Private family interment will be held at a later date. Memorials may be made to Joliet Area Community Hospice (www.joliethospice.org).

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 31. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

JAN 31. 4:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

PC

“ God will definitely show you the way to smiling again. I know this experience will change you forever. I hope in the days to come you can remember all the good times you shared with your father and all the love he gave you throughout the years. He is not gone. I know he will be watching over you forever. With caring thoughts for you, Tricia, and your family and friends of your dad.

Patti & Joe Conroy

Patti Conroy - February 01, 2016 at 10:04 AM

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“ Although there is little one can say or do to comfort you during this sad time, we hope you can find some happiness knowing that your dad had a very long and productive life. May you find strength in the love of family, the warm embrace of friends, and the wonderful memories you all shared together. Our Love and deepest condolences to all. Linda and Matt Linn

Linda - January 30, 2016 at 06:54 PM

SD

“ Wishing you peace to bring comfort, courage to face the day ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts.

*Love ,
Sucharski, Dowd Family*

Sucharski, Dowd - January 29, 2016 at 10:34 AM