



Edward C. "Charlie" Sullivan

November 13, 1918 - October 26, 2016

E. Charles Sullivan, 97, of Manteno, passed away on Oct. 26, 2016.

Edward Charles Sullivan, affectionately known as "Charlie," was born on Nov. 13, 1918, in Kansas City, Mo. His parents were Anna "Nancy" (Duncan Kemp) and John Sullivan, and stepfather, William Laird. He was a brother to Nina, Francis and Audrey. One brother, John, died in infancy.

He attended Villa Grove schools and received a scholarship to play football at Eastern Illinois University, but his education was interrupted by World War II. Charles served in the 11th U.S. Air Force and, after a year of service at Rantoul Air Force Base, he served as a sergeant in the Aleutian Islands, including Attu and Shemya. He was honorably discharged in 1945.

Charles married Jeanette L. Farner on Oct. 16, 1944, at the Methodist Parsonage in Villa Grove, while he was on furlough during World War II. Jeanette and Charlie were married for nearly 72 years.

After the war, he became a teacher, coach and a high school principal. Sullivan was a charter member of the Illinois Principals Association and served in leadership roles in the Illinois Officials Association, the former Kankakee Valley Conference, Optimist Club, and was the first person named

to the newly-formed Villa Grove Alumni Association Hall of Fame. He retired from Manteno High School in 1980. Mr. Sullivan loved his students and enjoyed sharing memories of his years in education.

Surviving are one son, Charles M. Sullivan; son-in-law, George Barten; grandchildren, Katie (Pete) Bretzlaff, Kari Barten, Anna (Todd) Tanis, Lindsay Barten (James Skidmore), Jason (Stephanie) Barten; and several great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were his wife; and daughter, Connie Barten.

A private memorial service will be held with his family; he will be laid to rest in Villa Grove Cemetery in Villa Grove.

Former students or friends of Mr. Sullivan who would like to share memories or stories with the family, please e-mail them to sullivanmemories16@gmail.com.

Memorials may be made directly to Manteno High School, 443 N. Maple, Manteno, IL 60950.

Charlie Sullivan lived a full life by serving his country, caring for his students and loving his family.

In his own words, "Enough said."

Tribute Wall

JH

“ *Joelene Hays lit a candle in memory of Edward C. "Charlie" Sullivan*



Joelene Hays - November 02, 2016 at 01:51 PM

JB

“ *Charlie & his wife would visit & help his daughter, Connie, with her family & kids every afternoon & I would often see him at the mailbox while delivering mail to their house for many years. He had a folksy & friendly personality and always greeted me with a smile, he was a true gentleman. Jerry the Mailman*

jerry bjick - November 02, 2016 at 11:01 AM