



## Edwin Finney

May 22, 1927 - November 19, 2007

Edwin Finney -- St. Anne Edwin Lee Finney, 80, of rural St. Anne, passed away peacefully on Monday (Nov. 19, 2007) at 4:30 a.m. at his home, with his wife and daughter at his side. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. Saturday until the 11 a.m. celebration of the funeral Mass at St. Anne Catholic Church. Rev. James Fanale will officiate. Cremation will be accorded and cremains will be interred at St. Anne Catholic Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Hospice of Kankakee Valley, St. Anne Catholic Church, or to the athletic department of St. Anne Community High School. Clancy-Gernon-Houk Funeral Home, St. Anne, is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Finney was born in Middletown, N.Y., May 22, 1927, to Edwin C. and Elma Lee Finney. He graduated early from Henry Hudson High School in Hudson, N.Y., and joined the U.S. Merchant Marine. He served for two years as a lieutenant commander on ships returning troops and war brides from the European Theatre. He attended Alfred University in Alfred, N.Y., where he earned a degree in ceramic engineering. He was in management his entire life, building and managing brickyards in Ohio, Iowa and Indiana, before moving to St. Anne in 1968, where he was summoned to manage St. Anne Brick. He retired from Crown Cork and Seal of Bradley in 2000, with 22 years of employment after serving as a superintendent and plant manager. He served as Papineau Township Supervisor for 24 years. He also served St. Anne Community High School as a board member for 24 years, to the present time. He was at different times board secretary, vice president and had two terms as president. He was the

first recipient of the Dorothea Lowe Board Member Recognition Award, established by Lura Lynn Lowe Ryan, in 2001, in her mother's memory. The recognition noted his "unfailing commitment to the youth of the St. Anne area." He was a 32nd degree Mason, with degrees in both the Scottish and York rites. At one time, while living in Ohio and Indiana, he served as lay pastor to several small rural churches. He converted to Catholicism and was a member of St. Anne Catholic Church. He was married to Margaret Ellen Girdler on April 6, 1950. She died in January of 1976. They were the parents of one daughter, Lee-Ellen Finney Blanton; and two sons who died in infancy, Edwin Lee and Charles Arthur. He married the former Patricia Cohan on Sept. 24, 1977. She survives. In addition to his daughter and wife, he is survived by a sister, Elma Judith Cary (Carl) of Coxsackie, N.Y., and granddaughters, Elizabeth Blanton White (Robert) and Angela Lee Blanton Coulter (Jim), and great-grandchildren, Joseph Dylan White and Hannah Grace Coulter, all of Texas. He is also survived by five stepchildren, Michael, Marsha, Marc, Mitchal and Monica Willey, 11 stepgrandchildren, a special embraced daughter, Minnetta Davison of Chicago, and several nieces and nephews. The Finneys also hosted 20 exchange "sons and daughters," from 1981 until 2004, all of whom attended St. Anne Community High School. He was preceded in death by a sister and brother-in-law, Rose Finney Kajawski (Jim); son-in-law, Billy Joe Blanton Jr.; his parents; and his mother-in-law, Jane Cohan. He was a loyal Chicago Cubs, Bears and Bulls fan, and an unfailing supporter of St. Anne Community High School and its fighting Cardinals.

# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Album*



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**Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes** - December 07, 2010 at 02:12 PM



“ Farewell Lee! Rest in peace. *ï¿½ï¿½ï¿½###imported-begin###Leon Adams###imported-end###*

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November 20, 2007 at 12:07 PM



“ *God Bless everyone there at this sad time. I remember the fun times that I had at the Finney house during and post high school. I met some wonderful people and look back fondly on those days. It was always a warm and inviting place to go. Though most of the time Mr. Finney was watching television in the other room, there were times that he would come into where we were and talk to us. He was always so nice. If there is anything that I can do please don't hesitate to contact me.<br><br>Jon Adams###imported-begin###Jon Adams###imported-end###*

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November 20, 2007 at 12:07 PM



“ We will miss you Grandpa and Great-Grandpa. ĩ½We love you very much and we know that you are in a much better place now. ĩ½You truly are, our hero and we will miss you very much. ĩ½We know that one day we will meet again, until then you and Grandmother Pat will be in our thoughts and prayers everyday. ĩ½We love you very much, Robert, Beth, and Dylan White##imported-begin##Beth White##imported-end##

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November 20, 2007 at 12:07 PM



“ Always seemingly gruff on the outside but you had a heart of gold on the inside. ĩ½Thank you for your kindness shown to me when I first starting teaching at St. Anne High School. ĩ½Your wife became a dear friend and co-worker. ĩ½There wasn't a day that went by that I didn't think of your family. ĩ½You will always be remembered.##imported-begin##Sheila Henson##imported-end##

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November 20, 2007 at 12:07 PM



“ Pat and family,<br><br>We send our prayers and thoughts your way. We are sure you are feeling a great loss at this time. Hopefully you will have many wonderful memories to sustain you.<br><br>Hope you remember us!<br><br>Wayne, Cheryl and Susie Segneri##imported-begin##Wayne, Cheryl and Susie Segneri##imported-end##

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November 20, 2007 at 12:07 PM



“Grandpa Lee” was the epitome example of moral values, and self control. ½Grandpa Lee was a role model to his community, and lived by his committments.<br><br>Lee was unabashedly a gentlemen who always felt comfotable in his own skin. ½His life and accomplishments were reflective of his personal best.<br><br>Love you and will never forget the “Lessons”,<br><br><br><br>Marsha##imported-begin##Marsha J. Willey##imported-end##

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November 20, 2007 at 12:07 PM



“ He was a wonderful, considerate person who was kind to all of those around him. Quiet and thoughtful, always leaving a powerful impression on those he came in contact with. He was loved enormously by his family , and I am so happy that he made my Granny Pat such a happy person. I thank Grandpa Lee for his greatful attitude, and for making my Granny Pats life so comfortable.##imported-begin##Ariel Patrice Sullivan##imported-end##

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November 20, 2007 at 12:07 PM



“ A wise man leaving a everlasting impression on who ever he came across, no dbout in my mind that he will be missed.I love him very much. Now,<br><br> he is in a much better place.<br><br>RIP<br><br>Much love, your Grandson,<br><br><br><br> Colin York Sullivan.##imported-begin##Colin Sullivan##imported-end##

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November 20, 2007 at 12:07 PM



“ Lee's quiet strength seemed to lie in his ability to bring sobering calm to the extremes of life. He appeared unshaken in his ability to endure adversity and help bring stressful situations to resolution. This calm and strength will be missed by his family, friends, and community. His memory will endure. <br><br><br><br>David<br><br>##imported-begin##David Sullivan##imported-end##

November 20, 2007 at 12:07 PM



“ Pat, <br><br>I am so sorry for your loss. You and your family will be in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Robbi Shaffer##imported-end##

November 20, 2007 at 12:07 PM



“ To Mr Finney's wife, Pat and family:<br><br><br><br>My deepest sympathy on your loss. What an honorable man, outstanding community leader and St. Anne High School supporter Ed Finney was; he's a community icon. I remember talking with Mr Finney for news purposes in his role as Township Supervisor. ĩ½He was always so caring; a trustworthy individual. ĩ½My prayers go out to all you.<br><br>-Carl Gerdovich ĩ½ĩ½##imported-begin##Carl Gerdovich##imported-end##

November 20, 2007 at 12:07 PM



“ Pat, We just wanted you to know that you and your family have been in our prayers. ĩ½Ed will be missed by all those he has touched over the years. Karen and Dan##imported-begin##Karen Beatty##imported-end##

November 20, 2007 at 12:07 PM



“ Lee, <br><br>You came into my life when I was eleven years old and became the Father I never had. I am extremely grateful for everything you've ever done for me. I will always have so many fond memories of you but I think what I will remember the most is how deeply you loved Mom and how happy you made her. My children loved their Grandpa Lee very much and I know you will always be in their hearts. You will forever be remembered as a loving husband, Father and Grandpa. I love and miss you Dad!##imported-begin##Monica Adams##imported-end##

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November 20, 2007 at 12:07 PM



“ Dear Granny Pat, I am very sorry about Grandpa Lee. I loved him very much and I will miss him. He will be in my prayers each and everyday. I'm sure the cats miss him too.<br><br><br><br>Sincerely,<br><br>Sydney##imported-begin##Sydney Adams##imported-end##

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November 20, 2007 at 12:07 PM