



## Francis "Foo" Chamness

June 7, 1927 - July 6, 2011

Visitation for Francis "Foo" Chamness, 84, of Bourbonnais, will be from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday at the Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home, Bourbonnais. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Monday at Maternity BVM Catholic Church. Father Richard Pighini will officiate.

Burial will be in Maternity BVM Cemetery, Bourbonnais. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Bourbonnais Fire Protection District, Provena Our Lady of Victory, Bourbonnais Terrace or to Maternity BVM Grade School. He died Wednesday (July 6, 2011) at his home.

Mr. Chamness was the retired owner of Tri-City Meats in Kankakee. He was born June 7, 1927, in Bradley, the son of Perry and Anna Skube Chamness. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and a lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force Civil Air Patrol. He was a graduate of Bradley High School, class of 1945. He was a deacon at Maternity BVM Catholic Church and a graduate of the Joliet Diocese Deaconate program. He did communion services at Provena Our Lady of Victory and Bourbonnais Terrace for many years. He hosted annual backyard picnics for a group of residents from Provena Our Lady of Victory and dressed as Santa Claus for Christmas. He had his pilot's license and enjoyed flying with his airplane partner, Paul Dionne.

Mr. Chamness was a 4th degree member of the Knights of Columbus and was

involved with restoring bicycles with the K of C bicycle program that donated bikes locally, and to Belize and other countries. He was one of the founding members of United Parents for Exceptional Children. The group home, Chamness Square, in Bourbonnais is named in his honor. He was a board member of the Kankakee County Victim's Assistance Center. He was an avid woodworker and enjoyed traveling and fishing with his grandchildren.

Surviving are his wife, the former Henrietta M. Marcotte, of Bourbonnais, whom he married Oct. 9, 1948, at Maternity BVM Catholic Church; three sons and daughters-in-law, Michael and Linda Chamness, of Bourbonnais, Randy and Ruth Chamness, of Clifton and Jerry and Gloria Chamness, of Kuwait City, Kuwait; four daughters and three sons-in-law, Sandra Hernandez, of Albuquerque, N.M., Roseann and Nick Eldred, of Bourbonnais, Eymarde "Amy" and Patrick Lawler, of Peoria, and Margaret and Bob Wehrle, of Kankakee; nine grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren; one sister, Maxine Cassidy, of Kankakee; one brother and sister-in-law, Gerald and Freida Chamness, of Bourbonnais; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Kenneth and Esther Marcotte, of Bonfield, Ambrose and Pat Perrault, of Irwin, Mush Marcotte and Mary Marcotte, both of Bourbonnais, Roland and Eleanor Marcotte, of Dugger, Ind., Rose Longtin, of Bourbonnais, and Oletha Chamness, of Iowa City, Iowa; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Perry and Delbert; brother-in-law and former business partner, Ralph "Red" Marcotte; and two sisters-in-law and two brothers-in-law, Yvonne Marcotte, Jim and Phoebe Ealy and Harold Longtin.

# Cemetery Details

## Maternity Cemetery

Corner of Canterbury Lane & William Latham  
Dr.  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 10. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

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

## Funeral Mass

JUL 11. 11:00 AM (CT)

Maternity B.V.M. Catholic Church  
308 E. Marsile  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914  
(815) 933-8285  
<http://www.mbvmchurch.org/>

# Tribute Wall

CD

“ *To the family of Deacon Francis and Henrietta:  
My heartfelt sympathy goes out to you, Henrietta, and all of your loved ones. What a beautiful tribute and testimony to Deacon Francis that was printed in The Daily Journal. Deacon Francis was a man of many interests and various activities. I remember when I first came into town and called Deacon Francis to ask if he could conduct a Sunday Worship Service at Provena Heritage Village. Deacon Francis was so kind and thoughtful when he told me that he was unable to, because of an upcoming surgery. Deacon Francis's spirit was uplifting as he indicated that he would be interested once he began to feel better. May you and your loved ones remember all the fond and loving memories of a very special man. Blessings of peace, comfort and healing to all.  
Sincerely, Chaplain Carole R. DiZeo  
Director of Pastoral Care  
Provena Heritage Village*

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**Chaplain Carole R. DiZeo** - July 11, 2011 at 08:08 AM

RB

“ *with deepest sympathy..... Roy and Joanne Bowling*

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**roy bowling** - July 10, 2011 at 06:06 PM

SB

“ *Thoughts and prayers go out to Henrietta and her daughter Roseann. Also to Kenneth and Esther Marcotte and their families. My sincere condolences.*

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**Sharon Beegle** - July 10, 2011 at 05:11 PM

MB

“ *Sympathy and Prayers to Henrietta and the Marcotte and Chamness families. Your dedication to your faith, your marriage and to the Viatorians has been inspiring. Foo now walks in the light of Christ.*

*In Viator --- Mike and Susan Bourgeois*

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**Michael and Susan Bourgeois** - July 09, 2011 at 02:14 PM

MB

“ *Thoughts and prayers to all the Marcottes today.*

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**Mary Baldwin** - July 09, 2011 at 10:19 AM

BC

“ *To Uncle Foo, a man that was loved by many and will be truly missed. A role model for all men to follow. Your legacy will live on. One day we will have a family reunion again and eat your chili.*

*Bob Chamness*

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**Bob Chamness** - July 09, 2011 at 09:18 AM

EG

“ *To the man that was always there for fishing, flying, and fun. You are already sorely missed. My love to Aunt Henrietta and family.*

*Erick Gereaux*

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**Erick Gereaux** - July 09, 2011 at 07:28 AM

MB

“ Our sympathy to Aunt Henrietta and her children, their spouses, and their children. Know that our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult and challenging time. We love you.

*Pat and Michelle Baldwin and family*

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**Michelle Baldwin** - July 08, 2011 at 10:40 PM

DM

“ Mr. Chamness will be missed by all who knew him. My heartfelt sympathies to Sandy and all of the famiy. The pride he had for his family showed in the smile he wore daily.



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**Diana Mecila** - July 08, 2011 at 08:04 PM