



## Gerald E. Kuntz Sr.

June 25, 1929 - January 12, 2013

Gerald Kuntz Sr., 83, of Kankakee, passed away Saturday morning (Jan. 12, 2013) at the Miller Center in Kankakee. Gerald was born June 25, 1929, in Kankakee, the son of Frank and Irma (Burgess) Kuntz. He graduated from Herscher High School and served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War era. He was employed by Commonwealth Edison for 44 years, where he retired from in 1993. Gerald also operated Kuntz Brothers Antenna Service for 40 years with his brothers, Laverne and Wayne, and with the help of his nine sons.

On Feb. 14, 1953, Gerald was joined in marriage to the former Mildred Eleanor Russell of Houston, Texas. They fell in love after being introduced by Leon Pommier at a USO dance while stationed at Ellington Air Force Base. Gerald and Eleanor were devout members of St. Teresa Catholic Church for 57 years, first joining the parish in 1956.

Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday at the Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home, west Kankakee. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Friday at St. Teresa Catholic Church. Burial will be in Mount Calvary Cemetery, Kankakee. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Teresa Catholic Church Council of Catholic Women.

Gerald dedicated his life to his profound belief in God, to St. Teresa Catholic

Church, his lifelong devotion to prayer and belief in his final salvation in Heaven. His days started and ended by saying the rosary, every single day of his adult life was dedicated to prayer. This daily devotion carried over into his unparalleled love of family, and extraordinary upbringing of his family of 10 children with wife, Eleanor. His nurturing ways, never-ending encouragement, capacity to love, and daily reminder that "God gives you everything," made him shine beyond his very existence. He will be thoroughly missed.

Mr. Kuntz enthusiastically supported his children through many seasons and thousands of sporting events, notably cheering enthusiastically from the front row at Kankakee Jaycees Little League, Elks PONY League, Eastside Bulldogs Midget Football, Eastridge High School and Bishop McNamara Catholic High School events. Mr. Kuntz passionately provided unparalleled encouragement and motivation to his children and teammates, to this day still clearly remembered by all.

Surviving are his nine sons and one daughter, Frank Edward and Olivia, of Las Vegas, Gerald Jr. and Marla, of Bourbonnais, John, of Poulsbo, Wash., Joseph and Renee, of San Antonio, Texas, Thomas and Maureen, of Aurora, Philip and Kathy, of Fishers, Ind., Matthew and Lisa, of Western Springs, Patrick and Renata, of Heidelberg, Germany, Michael and Sandy, of St. Anne, and Mary and Adam Lee, of Kankakee. Surviving besides his 10 children are 27 grandchildren, Brad and Tiffany, Jill and Marc Naese, Kellie, Keith, Sarah, Aaron, Sammy, Abigail, Elizabeth, Tommy, Kevin, Brian, Ryan, Clay, Rebecca, Joshua, Alexander, Austin, Matthew, Andrew, William, Jake, Ben, Camille, Graham, Landon and Adam Jr.; four great-grandchildren, Grant and Lincoln Naese, Delaney and Logan Kuntz; twin sister, Geraldine and Francis McGregor, of Bonfield; and sisters-in-law, Josephine, of Kankakee, and Maxine, of Bourbonnais.

Gerald was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Benjamin, Leo and

Doris, Russell and Marie, Laverne, and Wayne; sisters, Rita and Harold Clodi, Lorraine and Jim Blan, and Regina and Francis Goselin; daughter-in-law, Catherine F. Kuntz; and his beloved and faithful wife of 56 years, Mildred Eleanor Kuntz.

Gerald's tireless dedication to raising his family, the resulting lifetime of sacrifice and hard work, and enduring love that continued for his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, was only equaled by his continuous acts of generosity and kindness to others throughout his life. Whether it be a helping hand, an encouraging word, a motivating nudge, a celebrated photo, a brief prayer, or him just stopping by — he in his unique way inspired all around him, providing all he touched a living spiritual example to follow, a true child of God.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Teresa Church Council of Catholic Women. - <http://www.stteresacatholics.org/>

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Calvary

2000 E. Court St.  
Kankakee, IL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 17. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Kankakee - Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home  
1480 W. Court St.  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 932-1214  
cgfuneral@gmail.com

## Funeral Mass

JAN 18. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Teresa Church  
333 St. Joseph Ave.  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 933-7683  
<http://www.stteresacatholics.org/>

# Tribute Wall

DP

“ I'm so sorry to hear of the loss of your Father. You have my heartfelt sympathy.

---

**Dawn Kuffel Pierce** - January 24, 2013 at 03:43 PM

CJ

“ I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your Father and my Uncle. I always had the utmost respect for your Dad and Mom and the way they loved each other and their children. Your Mom's Christmas letters chronicling the Family's various adventures were wonderful to read. I know your grief is overwhelming but the faith your parents had and the lives they led, prepared them to share life everlasting in God's Kingdom. I pray you are comforted in the knowledge they are once again together, and they are beyond any pain or suffering. May God wrap his arms around your family and bring you peace.

*Cathy Janak, Crockett Texas*

---

**Cathy Russell Janak** - January 21, 2013 at 03:45 PM

JS

“ To the entire family, your father was the nicest man I ever met. It was always great to see him at the Saturday morning JV basketball games. It didn't matter if I was getting a ride to/from basketball practice with Joe in the station wagon, going to basketball camp with Tom, or talking football with Phil, he did an amazing job of passing is kindness to his children.

*Your father and your family are in my prayers.*

*John Stukenborg*

---

**John M. Stukenborg** - January 20, 2013 at 01:35 PM

RR

“ Sorry for your loss.

-----  
**Ron Ramsey** - January 19, 2013 at 12:08 AM

RK

“ 12 files added to the tribute wall



-----  
**Renata Kuntz** - January 18, 2013 at 12:49 PM

RK

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



-----  
**Renata Kuntz** - January 18, 2013 at 12:41 PM

RK

“ 10 files added to the album Kuntz Family Photos



---

**Renata Kuntz** - January 18, 2013 at 12:19 PM

WE

“ *Pat, Renata and all of the Kuntz family. We extend our deepest sympathy for your loss. Looking at the photos, it is obvious, he lived an amazing and blessed life.*

*Our thoughts and prayers are with you.  
Walter & Nancy Edge*

---

**Walter & Nancy Edge** - January 18, 2013 at 10:29 AM

RK

“ 10 files added to the album Kuntz Family Photos



---

**Renata Kuntz** - January 18, 2013 at 03:40 AM

VC

“ Our deepest sympathy on your loss. Uncle Gerald was a wonderful man and great uncle!. We are very sorry we are unable to travel to Illinois to attend his services. What a celebration of his life you all will be having!

*All of you are in our thoughts and prayers.*

*David & Vicki (Cale)*

---

**Vicki (Goselin) Cale** - January 17, 2013 at 07:56 PM



MG

“ Mike Golding lit a candle in memory of Gerald E. Kuntz Sr.

---

**Mike Golding** - January 17, 2013 at 07:27 PM



RB

“ I am very sorry for your loss.

*Rhonda (Ruyle) Bouchard*

---

**Rhonda (Ruyle) Bouchard** - January 17, 2013 at 02:25 PM



KP

“Michelle and I offer our sympathy to the entire Kuntz family. I will always remember your Dad at ALL sporting events growing up with you guys. He was a treasure to the community and all who knew him.

*Keith & Michelle Pollett*

---

**Keith Pollett** - January 17, 2013 at 01:49 PM

BD

“You have my sympathy. Gerald worked with my husband for many years at Commonwealth Edison.

*Betty Denault*

---

**Betty Denault** - January 17, 2013 at 11:48 AM

CR

“Isaiah 41:10  
fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed,  
for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will  
help you, I will uphold you with my righteous  
right hand.

*Chuck & Irene Raney*

*To the Kuntz family and especially to our dear friends Mike and Sandy we send our deepest condolences and our love.*

*Chuck & Irene Raney*



---

**chuck raney** - January 17, 2013 at 08:15 AM

AP

“ We met Gerry through attending Mass at St. Mary's hospital chapel. He was so kind and concerned about others. His love for Jesus, the holy Mass, and his Catholic faith were very apparent. He always asked about our family and offered prayers and support. We were very blessed to have known him. He was a remarkable man. May he rest in eternal peace with Christ.

*Pam and Alan Pickett*

---

**Alan and Pam Pickett** - January 16, 2013 at 08:48 PM

AP

“ Alan And Pam Pickett lit a candle in memory of Gerald E. Kuntz Sr.



---

**Alan and Pam Pickett** - January 16, 2013 at 08:41 PM

DC

“ Denise Camp lit a candle in memory of Gerald E. Kuntz Sr.



---

**Denise Camp** - January 16, 2013 at 06:52 PM

CS

“ *Carla Golowski Scheppler lit a candle in memory of Gerald E. Kuntz Sr.*



---

**Carla Golowski Scheppler** - January 16, 2013 at 04:25 PM

RM

“ *Your father was a blessing to anyone who knew him. From the old Hillcrest days and forever, he was always an inspiration to us all. He set the example of what a father and friend is sent here to do. You, his family, are the joy of what he lived his life. Remember God is your strength.*

*Love, Rick and Rodney Meli*

---

**Rick Meli** - January 16, 2013 at 08:57 AM

CG

“ *Christy, Jeff & Graham Giles lit a candle in memory of Gerald E. Kuntz Sr.*



---

**Christy, Jeff & Graham Giles** - January 15, 2013 at 10:25 PM

CG

*This candle lighting includes Jeff. Such a sad day for all of us...we sure loved Grandpa Kuntz and we are going to miss him. We treasure all of his cards, photo albums and visits. Please know that we are thinking and praying for you guys.*

*Love, Christy, Jeff & Graham*

---

**Christy, Jeff & Graham Giles** - January 15, 2013 at 10:33 PM

DD

“ My Grandparents lived across the street from the Kuntz family for years and I went to school with many of his sons. Never have I seen such a devoted husband and father . Many of my highschool memories include watching him cheer for not only his children but everyone else's too. Never was there less than a dozen kids outside playing basketball and all were treated like family. Even after we had left the Kankakee area for twenty years Mr Kuntz showed up at my grandfathers funeral. He was truly and outstanding man.

---

**Dawn Conwill Duckworth** - January 15, 2013 at 08:46 PM

JP

“ No time on earth is long enough to share with those we love or to prepare our hearts for good-bye. My deepest sympathy for the loss of your Dad and my warmest thoughts are with you now.

---

**Julia Denault Parker** - January 15, 2013 at 06:16 PM

JB

“ What a terrific man and a great example of loving his family and his God. I had the pleasure of meeting Mr Kuntz (and the entire family) while in College as a friend of his oldest son, Frank. I will never forget how proud he was of them all and especially how much fun he and Mrs Kuntz had at Frank's wedding in California. It was my pleasure to have know him and to witness how special of a person he was to his family. May you and Mrs Kuntz be angels for the family. My most sincere condolences to his family.

*Joe Barbera, Columbia, Maryland*

---

**Joe Barbera** - January 15, 2013 at 05:29 PM

MK

“ 81 files added to the album Kuntz Family Photos



Matthew Kuntz - January 15, 2013 at 05:20 PM

MT

“ I remember Mr. Kuntz at all of the football games. He was a great father and passionate about the game! What a wonderful legacy and what a great man.

Mandy Diel Tangeman - January 15, 2013 at 12:36 PM

SM

“ Sara Mulcahy lit a candle in memory of Gerald E. Kuntz Sr.



Sara Mulcahy - January 15, 2013 at 09:57 AM

SM

What a great person you were Mr. Kuntz!

Sara Mulcahy - January 15, 2013 at 09:58 AM

RM

“ Our sympathy to the family on the loss of Mr. Kuntz. We knew him to be a wonderful man always smiling and happy to have family and friends around him. You could always see the pride in his family shining from his eyes, and he loved to hear you talk about his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was blessed with riches when it came to his family.

*I'm thinking God called him home because he needed another angel by his side. We will always remember his smiling face., and I'm sure he will be missed each day by many whose lives he touched for the better..*

---

**Rose & Gary Mitchell** - January 15, 2013 at 08:19 AM

JC

*RIP Mr. K, you did good!*  
*Jeff Cooper*

---

**Jeff Cooper** - January 15, 2013 at 12:45 PM