



Gerald "Jiggs" O'Connor

January 5, 1923 - August 1, 2017

Gerald P. "Jiggs" O'Connor, age 94, of Bradley, passed away Tuesday, August 1, 2017 at Presence Heritage Village Lodge in Kankakee.

Jiggs was born January 5, 1923 in Irwin, the son of William M. & Catherine Donovan O'Connor.

He married Arzella Ball in 1947 at St. Patrick Catholic Church. She preceded him in death in February of 1948.

In November of 1949, Jiggs married Rose Marie Beauchamp. She preceded him in death on May 28, 2005.

He retired from A.O. Smith after 38 years of service. He was a graduate of Herscher High School, where he had played football, basketball, and ran track.

Jiggs was a veteran of the United States Army; having served in the European Theatre of WWII, where he earned a Bronze Star.

He was a parishioner of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bradley.

Surviving are one son and daughter-in-law, Patrick & Christa O'Connor of Bollingbrook; one daughter and son-in-law, Roxanne & William Craig of

Kennebunk, Maine; four grandchildren, Michael & Lori O'Connor, Jeffery & Kim O'Connor, William Craig, and Colleen Craig; five great-grandchildren, Michael O'Connor, Grace O'Connor, Aidan O'Connor, Caris Craig, and Aliena Craig; and one great-great-grandson, Gavin O'Connor.

In addition to his wives, he is preceded in death by his parents; six brothers, James, Bernard, William, Alex, Frank, and Paul; and one sister, Mary Ducat.

Visitation will be held 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 10, 2017 at Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home in Kankakee. Funeral Mass will be celebrated 10:00 a.m. Friday, August 11, 2017 at St. James Catholic Church in Irwin.

Interment will follow at St. James Catholic Cemetery in Irwin.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Kankakee Valley.

Cemetery Details

St. James Cemetery in Irwin

Irwin, IL 60901

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **10**. 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

AUG **11**. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. James the Apostle Catholic Church in Irwin
4372 Main St.
Irwin, IL 60901

Tribute Wall

CO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Cindy Marie O'Connor - August 11, 2017 at 06:45 AM

CO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Cindy Marie O'Connor - August 11, 2017 at 06:44 AM

CO

“ I met Jigs at the Perry Farm years ago when the visiting Wall That Heals was there. Ashley and Rob were with me. We were waiting to go up in the hot air balloon. That's where we met Jigs. We started taking only to realize we were both O'Connors. Rose Marie was perfectly content to stay on the ground when Jigs, the kids, and I went up in the balloon together. From that moment on the connection was made and embraced. We would visit the nursing home often when Rose Marie was there. Ashley would even play her violin for her and the others. We'd visit Jigs at home from time to time. He was always at the nursing home with his dear Rose. I've never since seen such love and devotion. A true gentleman. He was always quick with a smile and ready for a hug. I'm so glad for all the many years we shared companionship and love and he will truly be missed. My hugs and prayers for Roseanne, Bill, and family. My life is better because he was in it.



Cindy Marie O'Connor - August 11, 2017 at 05:51 AM

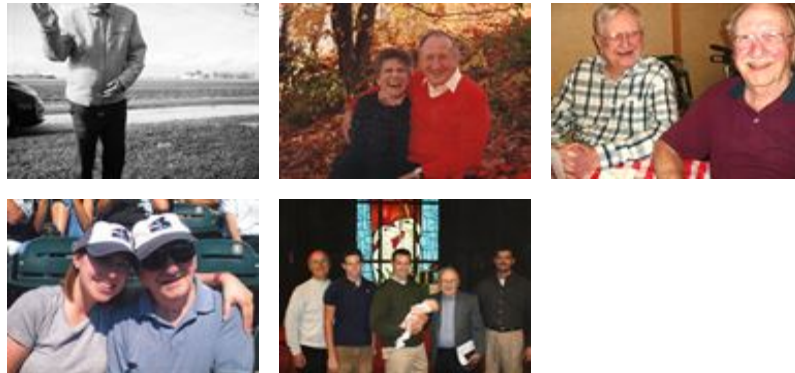
CO

Typo. Roxanne. Sorry honey.

Cindy Marie O'Connor - August 11, 2017 at 05:57 AM



“ 77 files added to the album LifeTributes



Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes - August 08, 2017 at 03:02 PM

VD

“ Virginia R Dominick lit a candle in memory of Gerald "Jiggs" O'Connor



Virginia R Dominick - August 05, 2017 at 09:43 AM

LC

“ My name is Laurie. I work at the nursing home. I met Jiggs when he was visiting his brother Alex at the dinning table. He asked where I was from and from that day forward we became very good friends. I have since met his daughter and son-in-law and also his son. Jiggs has wonderful children. I LOVED my buddy Jiggs, He always made me feel very special. He always had a smile on his beautiful face. He was always very glad to see me and we use to talk about his high school buddy (my Uncle Bob) together. I will Miss my Friend for a long, long time. All my Sympathy to his loved ones.



Laura Sadler Clausen - August 04, 2017 at 10:19 AM

DE

“ Gerald was such a nice guy. When i worked at Irwin he would come in and was always so friendly.

Debbie - August 03, 2017 at 08:31 PM

DN

Debbie and Dale

Jerry will be missed!! He was our neighbor, I will never forget how sweet and kind he was to us so friendly!! God Bless him and his family!!

Debbie Neal - August 06, 2017 at 04:45 PM

BA

“ Our family got to know Jiggs during visits to our parents. He was a kind soul and will be missed. Please accept our condolences at this difficult time.

Phyllis Carson Family

Barb - August 03, 2017 at 01:27 PM



SS

“ Jiggs was truly a gentle soul that made my heart smile. I will miss him beyond words. My prayers and sympathies to his families

sally scott - August 03, 2017 at 11:25 AM

JC

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Jill O'Connor Coplea - August 03, 2017 at 01:42 AM

JC

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Jill O'Connor Coplea - August 03, 2017 at 01:40 AM

JC

“ 4 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Jill O'Connor Coplea - August 03, 2017 at 01:31 AM

JC

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Jill O'Connor Coplea - August 03, 2017 at 01:26 AM

MN

“ *I always enjoyed seeing Jiggs whenever I came home for a visit and had a chance to see him. A friendly, happy and upbeat man. You will be missed Jiggs.our loss is heavens gain. Our Lord bless and comfort his family during this time.*

Michael O'Connor Niesen - August 02, 2017 at 10:55 PM

JB

“ *Jiggs was a kind, encouraging man. Condolences to his family. He will be missed.*

Jim Brandt - August 02, 2017 at 07:21 PM

CH

“ *What a great guy, never saw him without a smile. He lived next door to our Grandparents & he was always so friendly when we went to visit. Condolences to the family.*

Cheryl - August 02, 2017 at 10:48 AM

AL

“ I am so thankful Colleen brought "grandpa" into my life. When he help my hand while talking to me, I could feel his happiness spread to me. He was always so positive and such a pleasure to be around. He will truly be missed by so many

April Lopez - August 01, 2017 at 06:30 PM



“ What a great guy. Always a smile. Will be missed.

Ronald Heck - August 01, 2017 at 06:07 PM