



## Ira F. Lawless

October 24, 1919 - October 7, 2021

Ira F. Lawless, age 101, of Kankakee passed away Thursday, October 7, 2021 at Riverside Senior Living in Bourbonnais. He was born October 24, 1919 in Reddick, the son of John & Mabel (Tavares) Lawless. Ira married Catherine D. Ortman on July 28, 1945 at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Kankakee. She preceded him in death on September 11, 2020.

Ira worked in Human Resources, retiring from Henkel Corporation (General Mills) after 30 years. He enjoyed golfing, hunting, woodworking, and remodeling. He attended Reddick Schools.

Ira was a veteran of the United States Army Air Corp, having served during WWII.

He was a parishioner of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Kankakee.

Surviving are one son and daughter-in-law, James & Lynne Anne Lawless of McCall, ID; one daughter, Marilyn McCall of West Newbury, MA; four grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and one sister-in-law, Marianne Lawless of Bourbonnais. In addition to his wife, Catherine Lawless, Ira is preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, Marion, Lyle, and James V.; three sisters, Lorraine, Loretta, and Elaine; and one son-in-law, Bill McCall.

Visitation will be held from 9 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. on Monday, October 11, 2021 at Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home in Kankakee. A funeral Mass will be held at 11 a.m. at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Kankakee. Rev. John Peeters will celebrate the Mass. Entombment will follow at Mt. Calvary Mausoleum in Kankakee.

Memorials may be made to Illinois Veterans Home at Manteno.

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Calvary

2000 E. Court St.  
Kankakee, IL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 11. 9:00 AM - 10:45 AM (CT)

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

## Funeral Mass

OCT 11. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Patrick Catholic Church  
428 S. Indiana  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 932-6716

# Tribute Wall

NS

“ *Ira's family*

*Sorry to hear of your loss. Your Dad was a great guy, worked with him at General Mills for many years. He had a neatness about him, always looked good. Prayers and sympathy. God Bless*

*Natalene Ferrari Schultz*

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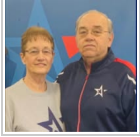
**Natalene Ferrari Schultz** - October 11, 2021 at 11:06 AM

MM

*Thanks, Natalene! You are so right, my parents both always looked great! It was their upbringing 🙏*

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**Marilyn McCall** - October 11, 2021 at 08:33 PM



“ Our deepest sympathies to the Lawless family. We are saddened by the loss of our dear friend.

*I have known Ira for 55 years. He hired me at the Kankakee plant in 1966. He also hired my future wife in 1972.*

*I will always remember our time spent together, especially at the Tuesday Retiree breakfast. He would always have his two blueberry pancakes. I was fascinated listening to him talk about his childhood and WW II. He truly loved his family and became emotional at times talking about them.*

*He wrote a story of his life which he gave me my own copy. He is now back with the Love of his Life Catherine.*

*Rest In Peace my friend. 🙏*

*Ted & Laurie Munsinger*



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**Ted Munsinger** - October 10, 2021 at 05:26 PM

MM

*Dad always spoke of you and your close friendship! I know he enjoyed those breakfasts with his gang. He will be missed by all, particularly his close friends!*

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**Marilyn McCall** - October 11, 2021 at 08:29 PM

KP

“ *Ira was a really nice guy. We always talked about his life and all the history he went through. I'll really miss our routine in the cafe during lunch & dinner. He laughed with the guys while sitting at a different table, had a resting grumpy face but was never mean. I know he missed Cathrine & I'm happy he's back reunited with her. They are so cute together. Rest In Peace, Ira*

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**Kelsey Puffer** - October 09, 2021 at 12:52 PM

NB

“ *My sincere condolences to the family of Ira Lawless. I worked, oh so long ago, with him at General Mills. He was such a caring man and a real gentleman.*

*Norma Herscher Boyd*

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**Norma Herscher Boyd** - October 09, 2021 at 07:13 AM

MM

*Thank you, Norma! Dad enjoyed all his friends at General Mills and talked often of his days there. You described him perfectly!*

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**Marilyn McCall** - October 09, 2021 at 02:05 PM

AT

“ *My deepest condolences to all the family. Growing up two houses away, I've known Mr. Lawless my entire life. I always loved Halloween, when both Mr. and Mrs. Lawless would keep back a popcorn ball for me along with the pennies given out to the “regular” trick or treaters. He and Mrs. Lawless made a point to console me (in addition to my family) when my grandparents passed in 2015 and 2017 respectively, and I appreciated it more than words can express. Truly a member of the greatest generation. May God Bless you and hold you in His peace.*

*Audra Taylor, granddaughter of Dick and Lil Wischnowski*

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**Audra Taylor** - October 08, 2021 at 10:31 PM

MM

*Thanks, Audra. I know my parents have told us what good neighbors your grandparents were. I remember your grandmother made fudge at Christmas and dad always looked forward to it. I loved the Halloween story, it was so like them to save you something special!*

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**Marilyn McCall** - October 09, 2021 at 02:11 PM

DK

“ my deepest sympathies to the family of Ira. I was his neighbor for a few years and he was a very kind and wonderful man. Also used to see him in church with his lovely bride. He was a credit to the human race and will be dearly missed by all who knew him. May the good lord be with you at this most difficult time. May he rest in peace.

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**Dewey Kilbride** - October 08, 2021 at 06:53 AM

MM

Thank you for your beautiful memories of Dad! He will be missed by all who knew him ❤️

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**Marilyn McCall** - October 08, 2021 at 08:18 PM