



Jack R. Beaupre

July 21, 1936 - September 24, 2019

Kankakee area Lawyer and former State Representative, Jack Beaupre, passed away Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at his home following a lingering illness. He was born July 21, 1936 in Kankakee, the son of Sylvester & Mardell (Wools) Beaupre. Jack is survived by his wife, Sandra (Johnson) Beaupre, whom he married in 2011; two daughters, Susan Beaupre Lindholm of West Palm Beach, FL and Nancy (Fred) Beaupre Waldschmidt of Bourbonnais; three grandsons, Thomas Waldschmidt, Jack Waldschmidt, and Harrison Lindholm; and one sister, Lana (Randy) Beaupre Waselewski of Bourbonnais. Jack is preceded in death by his parents.

Jack was a 1954 graduate of Bradley Bourbonnais Community High School. He was a first generation 1958 graduate of the University of Illinois, and a 1966 graduate of the John Marshall Law School in Chicago.

Jack served as clerk of the Circuit Court from 1964-1972. At the time he was the youngest elected official in Kankakee County. During his two terms in the legislature from 1972-1976, he served on the House Higher Education Committee, Revenue Committee, the Insurance Standing Committee, and was chairman of the special committee on Women's athletics, which oversaw the implementation of Title IX in high school and collegiate sports in Illinois. Jack was an Illinois representative to the National Association of State Legislators, served on the Illinois Medical Malpractice Commission, and the Joint House-Senate Revenue Committee, acting as chief house sponsor of the committee's successful legislation (House bill 990). Jack was coveted as a

chief sponsor of legislation and had a 92% passage rate during his second term. While Jack handled numerous significant bills, he is probably mostly remembered by local voters for restoring the original French pronunciation of the Village of Bourbonnais during the Centennial celebration. Jack was named "Outstanding Legislator" by the Independent Colleges and Universities of Illinois in 1976. Jack served in all three branches of state government during his career.

Jack served his country in the United States Army active reserves for over ten years. Upon graduation from the University of Illinois, he was commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant in the United States Army Reserves, and eventually graduated from the US Field Artillery School, the Army's Air Defense Artillery school, and the Army's Command and Staff school. Jack was the company commander of the Kankakee National Guard until it was deployed as a first respondent to the Chicago riots following the Martin Luther King assassination.

Locally, Jack, an avid fisherman, and his longtime friend, Gordon Graves, founded the Northern Illinois Anglers Association, a local environmental group, and the Alliance to Restore the Kankakee River. He was also a co-founder of the Kankakee Legal Aid Society, a member of the Board for the Kankakee Training Center for the disabled, and a member of the St. Mary's Hospital Advisory Board.

Jack was a trustee of Governor's State University for 16 years and served as Chairman of the Board during the University transition to a four-year residential University.

In 1976, Jack was named a distinguished Illinois Counselor by the Board of Directors of the Illinois State Bar Association, of which he was a member of as well as the Kankakee County Bar Association.

A visitation will be held from 4-8 p.m. Friday, September 27, 2019 at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais. A funeral mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday, September 28, 2019 at Maternity B.V.M. Catholic Church in Bourbonnais. Interment will follow at Maternity B.V.M. Cemetery in

Bourbonnais.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Kankakee Valley, Maternity B.V.M. Catholic Church, or the family wishes.

Cemetery Details

Maternity Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **27**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Mass

SEP **28**. 10:00 AM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

MB

“ My deepest condolences to Jack and his family. He help me out of some difficult situations. May this wonderful man Rest In Peace 🙏

Michel K. Borders, M.D. - July 14, 2020 at 05:02 PM

KB

“ My deepest sympathy to his family. Jack was a well respected public servant and a positive role model. Wishing that God blesses his family and friends at this time to help them find comfort.

Kathe Brunnick - September 30, 2019 at 03:03 PM

MC

“ My sincere condolences to Susan, Harrison, Nancy and all the Walschmidt men. Jack was a positive role model and impressive public servant. Wishing you much peace as you grieve and remember this special man.

Mary Cooper

Mary Cooper - September 28, 2019 at 06:25 PM

AS

“ My deepest sympathy to Susan and Nancy, and their families, at this time. I'm so sorry I am unable to attend either service on Friday or Saturday.

I continue to have great respect for Jack.

Please know that I am thinking of all of you.

Anna M. Swinford

Anna M. Swinford - September 27, 2019 at 06:01 PM

SR

“ Jack was a devoted family man, outstanding lawyer, and loyal public servant. Always professional, honest and caring, he will missed. May God bless and comfort his family and friends.

Steve Randazzo and family

Steve Randazzo - September 27, 2019 at 05:09 PM

MR

“ My deepest sympathy and prayers to the family. I always respected Jack as a good father and provider of his family. He was a very honest and trusting man. He always treated me like anyone else and I respected and admired that.

I remember a story Susan told of him when he was a State Rep. he would go fishing and had to bring his security detail with him on the trips. Thank you for your service to our country and our state. We need more men like him.

Mike Ratcliff - September 27, 2019 at 02:01 PM

JS

“ Always a man of honor who kept his word and believed in honesty in all things.

James Taylor Sr.

James Taylor Sr. - September 27, 2019 at 11:03 AM

RG

“ *Ray & Christine Genis lit a candle in memory of Jack R. Beaupre*



Ray & Christine Genis - September 26, 2019 at 03:12 PM

PB

“ *Pat Beaupre lit a candle in memory of Jack R. Beaupre*



Pat Beaupre - September 26, 2019 at 12:36 PM

PB

Jack was such a wonderful friend to my late husband Guy! They spent many great times together fishing in Canada. Prayers and condolences to the family. Rest In Peace Jack.

Pat Beaupre - September 26, 2019 at 12:42 PM

KK

“ *Susan, Harrison, Faith, Nancy and all Waldschmidts, we are saddened to hear of Jack's passing. He was many things to many people: great father, proud grandfather and family man. Add civic leader and rugged outdoorsman. And a bright lawyer. We will miss him and send our prayers along for your loss. We would be with you this weekend; but are up North starting today. With love, Kit and Laura Kreid and the Kreid family.*

Kit Kreid - September 26, 2019 at 11:43 AM

TE

“ *Tim And Connie Eaker lit a candle in memory of Jack R. Beaupre*



Tim and Connie Eaker - September 25, 2019 at 06:57 PM