



Jerome L. Klonowski

November 12, 1927 - July 4, 2025

Jerome L. Klonowski, age 97, of Kankakee passed away Friday, July 4, 2025 at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee. He was born November 12, 1927 in Kankakee, the son of Bruno & Caroline (Peicha) Klonowski. Jerome married Patricia Hastings on February 7, 1953 at St. Stanislaus Church.

Jerome worked for Kroehler's for 36 years and Kankakee School District 111 for 11 years. He was an avid baseball fan and loved the Chicago White Sox. Jerome was very patriotic. He was a good husband and good father and loved his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Jerome was a veteran of the United States Army having served during WWII in the Pacific.

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

Surviving are his wife of 72 years, Patricia Klonowski of Kankakee; three daughters, Debbie (Donald) Spaulding of Kankakee, Kathy (Larry) Bonvallet of Tinley Park, and Chris (Rick) Slegr of Bradley; six grandchildren, Dawn (Art) Manzke of Kankakee, Lauren Bonvallet of Tinley Park, Nick (Courtney) Slegr of Bourbonnais, Dana (Matt) Duval of Bourbonnais, Derek Slegr of Bradley, and Keegan (Andrew) West of Bourbonnais; and six great-grandchildren, Grayson, Gavin, Henry, Hannah, Lincoln, and Emerysen. Jerome is preceded in death by his parents and four brothers, Edward, Lee, Philip, and Joseph. Visitation will be held from 9-10:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 10, 2025 at Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home in Kankakee. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m., also on Thursday, at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Kankakee. Rev.

John Peeters will officiate the Mass. Interment will follow at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Kankakee.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Cemetery Details

Mount Calvary

2000 E. Court St.
Kankakee, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 10. 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

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

Funeral Mass

JUL 10. 11:00 AM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

DB

“ Dear Pat, Debbie, Kathy and Chris
What a gift to have Jerome for 97 years! I know it's always hard to say goodbye but he definitely had a long full life.
As a kid, I remember his new Chevrolets and when he took all of you out to Disneyland (I was jealous). I also remember when he and some of his brothers (I think) built the garage behind your house.
I wish you all the best.
Peace
Your old neighbor
Dennis Benoit

Dennis Benoit - July 10, 2025 at 06:41 PM



“ Garden Accent Stone - "Wherever a Beautiful Soul..." was purchased for the family of Jerome L. Klonowski.



July 09, 2025 at 10:42 AM

GF

“ Goselin Family lit a candle in memory of Jerome L. Klonowski



Goselin Family - July 09, 2025 at 12:53 AM

DT

“ Many a Sunday after church, the Hastings and Klonowski families got together for dinner or lunch. One of my favorite memories was when Uncle Jerome would play the accordion and all the cousins would laugh and jump around him doing the "polka". I hope the angels have accordions ☐ in heaven and I'll polka when we meet again. Diann Hastings

Dian Tautfest - July 08, 2025 at 04:14 PM

SF

“ Susie, Rex, Debbie & Family purchased the Garden Accent Stone - "Your memory is..." for the family of Jerome L. Klonowski.



Susie, Rex, Debbie & Family - July 08, 2025 at 01:50 PM

CS

“ Pat, Debbie and family,
So sorry to hear of Jerome's passing.
Sending love and prayers.
Carla Scheppler



Carla Scheppler - July 08, 2025 at 12:38 PM

LA

“ While gathering my thoughts searching for memories of Jerome, I wanted to find an old dictionary. But in the age of the internet, dictionaries are hard to find, let alone an old one. I’m certain however that if I did find an old one and looked up ‘integrity’ I would have found a picture of Jerome following the definition.

We shared our love of baseball. Jerome was a White Sox fan and I’m a Cubs fan. In the years that the Cubs weren’t doing very well, he would ask “What’s the matter with them Cubs”. And of course, during the years the White Sox weren’t doing very well, I would return the jab and ask “What’s the matter with them White Sox”. And we would have a good laugh.

I first met Jerome nearly 48 years ago. And as I shook his hand, I knew that he was someone I needed to know. Jerome and I are both introverts and because of that, we created a special bond. A bond that would never be broken. A bond that extroverts could never understand. Yes, our friendship will endure forever.

So now, we will gather on a beautiful July morning surrounded by friends and family to honor a man well lived. But there’s only one question that remains unanswered: “WHAT’S THE MATTER WITH THEM WHITE SOX”?

Larry - July 08, 2025 at 12:15 PM

JS

“ Judy Steele lit a candle in memory of Jerome L. Klonowski



Judy Steele - July 08, 2025 at 08:57 AM