



Jesse "Vic" Hopper

November 10, 1916 - February 15, 2012

Visitation for Jesse Victor "Vic" Hopper, 95, of Kankakee, will be from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday at the Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home, west Kankakee, where funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday. The Rev. Kathy Sweet and John A. Snider will officiate. Following the services, cremation rites will be accorded.

Inurnment will be held at a later date in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Dr. Victor Hopper Scholarship at Kankakee Community College. He died Wednesday (Feb. 15, 2012) at Riverside Medical Center, Kankakee.

He was born Nov. 10, 1916, in Abington, the son of Amos and Ida Calvin Hopper. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, serving as a naval officer during World War II. He received a Bachelor of Education degree from Western Illinois University, a Master of Arts degree from Stanford University and a doctorate in education degree from Harvard University.

Vic had a long and illustrious career which included such roles as teacher, principal, chairman, Department of Education at Colorado College; president, Southern Colorado State College; dean and interim president, John Wood Community College; and superintendent, Brown County schools.

His professional affiliations were numerous and varied. He was a charter life member of the American Association for Higher Education and had a lifetime teaching certificate. At one time he was adviser to more than 100 master's candidates.

He received many honors and awards throughout his distinguished career and served on many national and state boards. For more than 70 years, students from all walks of life have benefited from his work. Recognized and respected by students, community leaders and constituents of the institutions he served, his life exemplified leadership, humanism and kindness.

Of great joy to Vic were his many friends and their children. Vic was a talented craftsman who crafted beautiful things from wood. He was an avid churchman and served the United Methodist Church in many roles.

Vic was intelligent, witty and a gentle spirit. He loved his family without reservation. He loved his God and his country. His life is a celebration of all that is good and honorable.

Surviving are his wife, the former Ruth Snider, of Kankakee, whom he married Dec. 17, 1994; one son, Carl Hopper, of Quincy; one daughter, Becky (Dr. Richard Kraut) Clarke Kraut, of Scarsdale, N.Y.; two grandchildren, Michael Robert Clarke, of Lawrence, Kan., and Nicholas Hopper, of Quincy; four great-grandchildren, Daniel, Natalie, Shannon and Peyton Clarke, all of Lawrence; and numerous nieces and nephews, including Calvin (Fran) Hopper, and Ida-Ann (Robert) Clarke.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Grace; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Ivan and Esther, and Everett and Margaret; and one nephew, Es Hopper.

in lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the Dr. Victor Hopper Scholarship

at Kankakee Community College -

Cemetery Details

Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery

20953 Hoff Road
Elwood, IL 60421

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 17. 5:00 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 Service

FEB 18. 10:00 AM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

CD

“ *To the Hopper Family:
I'm Chaplain Carole R. DiZeo from Provena Heritage Village in Kankakee. I want to express my sympathy to the family and friends of the Hopper family. I didn't know Mr. Hopper, but just reading Mr. Hopper's obituary moved me with his love for his family, friends, and life itself. What major accomplishments Mr. Hopper attained throughout his life. Thank you Mr. Hopper for your service to our country while serving in the U.S. Navy. May you rest in peace and rejoice in our heavenly kingdom.
Blessings of peace, strength, courage and all wondrous memories of a loving and caring man who was a friend to all in his midst.
Sincerely, Chaplain Carole R. DiZeo
Director of Pastoral Care At Provena Heritage Village*

Chaplain Carole R. DiZeo - February 26, 2012 at 01:47 PM

CD

“ *Chaplain Carole R. DiZeo lit a candle in memory of Jesse "Vic" Hopper*



Chaplain Carole R. DiZeo - February 26, 2012 at 01:39 PM

JF

“ Our thoughts and prayers to 'Miss Ruth' and the entire family. Our family will miss him very much as he and 'Miss Ruth' are considered part of our family. What a joy it has been knowing him all these years.

*The Hinklemans
Jon, Page, Kiley, Connor*

Jon & Page Hinkleman and family - February 16, 2012 at 04:50 PM

KH

“ 'Mr. Bic', the nicest man on earth. I loved him very dearly. I will miss him very very much. We had so many good memories. With him we always had so much fun. You will be missed.

*Love,
Kiley Hinkleman*

Kiley Soleil Hinkleman - February 16, 2012 at 04:43 PM

CC

“ What a wonderful man, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Sympathies to all the family~

Chris, Daniel, Natalie, Shannon Clarke (Lawrence, KS)

chris clarke - February 16, 2012 at 04:23 PM



our thoughts and prayers are with this family..we know what you feel..love you all Dennis and Jan Cooper

Dennis Jan Cooper - February 17, 2012 at 07:05 PM



What a wonderful mom you are. Uncle Victor was very proud of you and your dear family. Blessings. Ida-Anne Hopper Clarke

Ida-Anne Hopper Clarke - February 27, 2012 at 09:18 AM