



John Carl "Jack" Dornburg

November 10, 1929 - February 28, 2017

John Carl ("Jack") Dornburg, 87, a long time Kankakee resident and business owner, passed away February 28, 2017.

Jack was born in Union Hill, IL on November 10, 1929 and graduated from Reddick High School. In 1951 he married Carmela Armenise and the two moved to Newport, Virginia where they resided at Fort Eustis while Jack served his country during the Korean conflict. Following his service in the U.S. Army, the couple returned to Kankakee and joined the family business owned by Carmela's father, Carlo's Restaurant. After many years of co-ownership, the Dornburgs become sole owners of Carlo's restaurant until their retirement in 1993.

During Jack's retirement, he pursued many interests, including becoming a realtor, working as a golf ranger at Bon Vivant Country Club in Bourbonnais, and eventually taking a position in security at CSL Bering in Bradley, where he worked full time until his last retirement at the age of 83.

Jack is survived by his three daughters, Jacqueline (Jerry) Robinson of Kankakee, Jodie (Bernie) Carey of Grand Rapids, MN, and Julie (Jon) Bartelt of Geneva, IL. In addition, Jack leaves twelve grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He has several nieces and nephews. Jack's wife of 66 years, Carmela, passed away in 2016. He is also preceded in death by his parents,

Carl and Mildred Dornburg, a brother, Dale, and sister, Helen Conley.

In addition to family members Jack leaves behind, the family wishes to acknowledge Dr. Holly Kramer, a special person and dedicated physician who lovingly cared and advocated for Jack over the course of many years, going above and beyond. His daughters would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Ellen Tierney, Director of Riverside Senior Living for her compassion and support of Jack and his family following his wife's recent death.

Jack left an impression on and fond memories for countless people. It was rare to go anywhere in public and not encounter those who remembered him as their first boss at Carlo's when they were teenagers, other families and farmers from the Union Hill area, or those who knew him through many social organizers. He was a longtime member of St. Rose of Lima Church, Quadrille Dance Club, an avid Cubs fan, and a lover of golf. Mostly, he was a lover of people who made friends wherever he went.

Visitation will be at Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home in Kankakee on Friday, March 3, from 2:00-6:00 p.m. and Saturday, March 4 from 10:00-11:00 a.m. with a memorial service following at 11:00 at the funeral home.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, any memorials in Jack's honor please be made directly to Illinois Veterans Home of Manteno (IVHM) ATN: Volunteer office, 1 Veterans Drive Manteno IL 60950.

Cemetery Details

Mount Calvary Cemetery

2000 E. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 3. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

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

Visitation

MAR 4. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

MAR 4. 11:00 AM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

FM

“ Our deepest sympathy for your loss of your dear father Jack. We are in Florida and just heard of his passing, otherwise we would have been there for his funeral. We had so much fun with him over the years and will miss him and his friendship. Keeping you girls and family in our thoughts and prayers, God Bless,,,Freeman & Nancy Mietzner

Freeman & Nancy Mietzner - March 09, 2017 at 07:55 AM

RA

“ I worked with Jack at his restaurant in high school and in college i used to love to play racket ball with him you will be missed i also worked with Jackie and Julie it was a pleasure working with such a nice family God Bless



Ralph Anderson - March 05, 2017 at 12:33 AM

RL

“ thinking of you all during this sad time ,wish i could have been at the services to show my respect . LOVE TO YOU ALL



Ronda Long - March 04, 2017 at 08:49 AM

VD

“ Virginia R Dominick lit a candle in memory of John Carl "Jack" Dornburg



Virginia R Dominick - March 03, 2017 at 10:30 AM

HL

“ Helen Lee lit a candle in memory of John Carl "Jack" Dornburg



Helen Lee - March 02, 2017 at 11:33 PM



On A sunny afternoon in Lent just last year, Jack was getting Fish sandwich for he and Carmella . Jack never knew a stranger but he made people feel special. He said" I know you", "sure do" I replied, And we enjoyed catching up on old times, while waiting on our order. How people LOVE your amazing family because of your parents their civility and kindness touched many. No matter how old you are when you lose your parents we finally find ourselves like sacred little children. Jackie, Jodi, and Julie, may we share your heartfelt sorrow. God Bless and may your parents together Rest in Peace, where there is no pain and sorrow.

Helen Irene Lee - March 02, 2017 at 11:50 PM

JH

“ Jack has left a huge impact on all who have ever met him. He had a charisma and wit that never ended and at times some brutal honesty. Will never forget you Jack! Now go have fun with the love of your life.



Janet Hafke - March 02, 2017 at 10:24 PM

DK

“ *Dewey Kilbride lit a candle in memory of John Carl "Jack" Dornburg*



Dewey Kilbride - March 02, 2017 at 08:58 PM

DK

My deepest sympathies to Jack's extended family. He was a great person and a lot of fun to be around. We used to go to Chicago for an evening dinner, a night at the races, and a nice breakfast on Sunday morning. Also, many nights dancing at Sully's restaurant. May the good lord be with all those who knew and loved him.

Dewey Kilbride - March 02, 2017 at 09:00 PM

MA

“ *I have wonderful memories of Jack, he and my Uncle Donnie were the best of friends. So because we lived so close I saw him often and they were so funny, one playing off of each other. I was seven years younger than the both of them , but being around them was great as a young person they were the apple of my eye. He was a great person, always a smile and always stopped and talked. Our sympathy to your family.*

Mose and Dolores Arseneau

Mose and Dolores Arseneau - March 02, 2017 at 07:47 PM

DR

“ Ever since I've met jack I saw just how sweet and caring he was. He's going to be really missed by everyone who knew him. I'll never forget back in his realtor days that in 1997 after Dave and I got married he drove down to our apartment in Watseka and showed us all kinds of houses all day long all over Iroquois county. Not many realtors go out of their way like he did. Every time we ever saw him he was just so sweet and caring to all. We will all miss him dearly. May god be with all of you to help you this trying time. Love you all more than you'll ever know.



David & Christine Robinson - March 02, 2017 at 07:38 PM

BB

“ You have our sympathy. Jack was a great guy. We will miss him at St. Rose.
Wayne & Brenda Boudreau8

Brenda Boudreau - March 02, 2017 at 05:10 PM

CS

“ Carla Scheppler lit a candle in memory of John Carl "Jack" Dornburg



carla scheppler - March 02, 2017 at 04:24 PM



“ *Such fond memories of a very special man. So sorry for your loss. Keeping you in my prayers.*

Cathy (Shonkwiler) Unger

Cathy Shonkwiler Unger - March 02, 2017 at 04:41 AM

DS

“ *We have many great memories of dining and dancing with Jack and Carmella when we lived in Kankakee. Playing golf with Jack and the alderman who hit cross handed. He will be missed!*

Darrell and Joanne Shonkwiler, Apopka,FL

Darrell and Joanne Shonkwiler - March 01, 2017 at 03:39 PM

PF

“ *So sorry to hear of your father's passing, Jackie. Jim and I enjoyed many meals at Carlo's for decades. I still remember when we could have drive-up service and have our meals delivered to our car. My deepest sympathy to you and to your entire family. May God comfort you and give you His strength and peace.*

Patricia Boyd Fisher - March 01, 2017 at 03:23 PM

MW

“ Jackie and family--My heart aches knowing the pain that you all are going through. So much has happened these last months and sometimes we feel like how much more can we take. All I can tell you is God is in charge and He said that it was time for your wonderful dad to come to his heavenly home where there is no more sickness or pain. I know it is difficult right now and will be for a while, but God will give you comfort and peace. Keep your faith in God and know that we are praying for you all as all your many wonderful friends and precious family. Love to you and your family. Martha Williams and Aunt Eloise



Martha Williams - March 01, 2017 at 02:39 PM

AD

“ Jack was always at the counter when I and my friends went to Carlos on Fifth Avenue for cherry cokes. He knew me as a "Martel Girl" as my mom was a frequent shopper in the grocery store as we were a big family and she made several trips a week. He was always glad to see us and treated us like special customers. He was a really nice man that I will never forget.

AMY MARTEL DEMARAH - March 01, 2017 at 02:19 PM