



## John W. "Jack" Klasey

October 25, 1939 - November 25, 2025

John W. "Jack" Klasey, age 86 of Kankakee, passed away on Tuesday, November 25, 2025, at St. Mary's Hospital in Kankakee. He was born October 25, 1939, in Chicago, the son of John P. and Mary (Sullivan) Klasey. Jack married Glory Ryan on May 19, 1962, at the Church of the Gesu in Milwaukee, WI.

Jack was a longtime parishioner of St. Teresa Catholic Church and a current parishioner of St. John Paul II.

Jack attended Marquette University and was a graduate of Governors State University.

Jack had been a reporter for the Kankakee Daily Journal. He worked for Imperial International Learning and later became a freelance technical writer. Jack worked for Goodheart-Willcox Publishing in Tinley Park as a book editor and author.

Jack co-authored "Of The People." He wrote columns on Kankakee County History for the Kankakee Daily Journal for 8 years. Jack authored several photography textbooks.

Jack enjoyed photography and was an avid reader. He authored a book, "Prince of Wheelwrights" on the Ferris Wheel at the 1893 Columbian Exposition.

Surviving are his wife of 63 years, Glory of Kankakee; two sons and daughters-in-law, John and Sue Klasey of Forest Park, IL, Kevin and Marcia Klasey of Kankakee; two daughters and sons-in-law, Katie and Rob Gorham

of Bloomington, Anne and Mike Kimery of Bourbonnais; one sister, Kathy Lambros of Crestwood; one brother and sister-in-law, Mike and Chris Klasey of Bellevue, WA; four grandchildren, Jack and Rachel Klasey, Caroline and Isabelle Carbone-Klasey, Matt Milanese, and Jillian Gorham; three great-grandchildren, Landon Latham, Harrison Klasey, and Emmett Klasey. Jack is preceded in death by his parents; and one son, Kerry Patrick Klasey. Cremation rites have been accorded.

Memorial visitation will be from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 30, 2025, at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home, Bourbonnais. A memorial Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, December 1, 2025, at St. John Paul II, East Campus (St. Teresa Catholic Church). Inurnment will be at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Kankakee, at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the Kankakee County Historical Society, St. John Paul II, or Uplifted Care.

“Until we meet again, may God keep you in the hollow of His hand.”

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Calvary

2000 E. Court St.  
Kankakee, IL

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

NOV 30. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

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

## Memorial Mass

DEC 1. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. John Paul II- East Campus  
361 St Joseph Ave  
Kankakee, IL 60901

# Tribute Wall

MH

“ Jack was a whiz with technology, and he helped me while I was writing the Manteno book. A friendship bloomed, most of all respect for this kind, smart man. You're missed, Jack. Deep condolences to Glory.

Melanie Holmes - April 21 at 11:00 AM



“ Deepest sympathy to the family. Used to babysit Katie and Ann. Your family was always loving and kind. So sorry for your loss.

Cathy Schmidt Betourne - December 03, 2025 at 07:42 PM

SN

“ Jack wrote some truly fascinating historical articles !!! Rest in peace ...

Steven L. Norman - December 03, 2025 at 06:56 PM

RM

“ Our sincere condolences to Glory and family. Jack has made such a wonderful impression and contribution to all he met whether in person or by his writing. He will definitely be missed. ❤️❤️

Rich and Cindy McBarnes - December 01, 2025 at 11:23 AM

JW

“ My sympathies go out to Glory and the family. It was always fun to be with Jack and Glory at the Marquette J--School Class of 1961 reunions. Rest in Peace, Jack. Julie Lezotte Wu

Julianne Lezotte Wu - November 30, 2025 at 06:07 PM

CC

“ Condolences.

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**Craig Culver** - November 30, 2025 at 11:59 AM

BV

“ *My deepest condolences to the Klasey Family. I still miss his Kankakee History articles and photos,the Daily Journal was never the same without him. Rest in Peace Jack,you are missed.*

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**Bill Vandal** - November 29, 2025 at 03:35 PM

CM

“ *Anne, I am so sorry for you and your family's loss. I always enjoyed his articles. God bless you all!*

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**cheryl mancuso** - November 28, 2025 at 09:51 AM

PA

“ *He loved Kankakee County and the county loved him back. He was a great writer and a great historian. He was a great researcher, and always fair and kind in his assessment of the past. If he wrote about a subject, you saved that clip because you knew it was the best and last word on the subject.  
A sad day for the Klaseys. A sad day for the entire community.  
Phil Angelo*

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**Phil Angelo** - November 28, 2025 at 08:32 AM

MS

“ I met Jack several years ago when he was a member of the Kankakee Area Camera Club. Such a nice man, always willing to share his photography knowledge and skills with everyone.

*I always looked forward to his historical articles in the Journal. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him.*

*God Bless his family and friends as they go through this most difficult time.*



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**M. Stokes** - November 26, 2025 at 04:02 PM

BS

“ I remember him when I was kid. A very good man and great K3 historian. I've read his book two or three times.

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**Brian Snyder** - November 26, 2025 at 11:15 AM

KS

“ Condolences to the family. He was a great person. So friendly! Prayers.  
*Kathy Sullivan*

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**Kathy Sullivan** - November 26, 2025 at 10:09 AM

MB

“ Sending Condolences.  
*Mary Kay & Jim Beedle*

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**Mary Kay Beedle** - November 26, 2025 at 09:18 AM

AS

“ I remember Jack living with my mom and dad in Glen Ellyn. I believe he was working for a newspaper at the time. I loved having another cousin living with us. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

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**Alice Schiffer** - November 25, 2025 at 09:56 PM

KC

“ We met Jack and Glory through John and my niece Sue. Jack was always full of historical stories that we loved to hear. He loved his wife, children and his community. We will miss him and the conversations over dinner. Our condolences to the family.

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**Kathleen A Cordero** - November 25, 2025 at 08:51 PM

JB

Jack Klasey was one of the finest journalists I have ever known and worked with. He was bright, unassuming, creative and hardworking. I wish his wife, Glory, and the rest of their family peace and love during this difficult time.

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**John Bowman** - November 26, 2025 at 07:11 PM

SK

“ What a wonderful guy! I was always happy to see Jack at Church with Glory. He was such an interesting guy to visit with, and Jack and Glory were such a dear couple. God bless you my friend, and may you rest in peace.

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**Stephen M Kelley** - November 25, 2025 at 08:32 PM

MZ

“ Kevin, Marcia and family,  
Sorry for your loss. We will keep you and your  
family in our thoughts and prayers. Rest in  
Peace , Jack.



MaDonna (Mazzuchi) Zasada - November 25, 2025 at 08:17 PM

KM

“ Nicest, sweetest man you would have ever met. If you never had  
the chance to cross paths with him, you missed out. The community  
lost an amazing man and historian. Condolences to his family.

Kathy Massullo - November 25, 2025 at 07:35 PM

JB

“ Jack was caring, kind, talented,. wise but most of all Jack was  
humble.

Jeff Bonty - November 25, 2025 at 07:28 PM

KR

“ So sorry to hear of Jack's passing. He was such a treasure.  
Condolences to his family.

Karen Riml - November 25, 2025 at 06:51 PM



“ May his memory be a blessing.



Bob Schneider - November 25, 2025 at 06:24 PM

NM

*The world needs more people like Jack, then it would be a better place.*

**Norma Meier** - November 25, 2025 at 09:40 PM

KB

*Kevin & family -  
It has been decades, but I recall your dad as a very nice man who was always gracious and welcoming when I ran into him in the St Theresa or Daily Journal environment. Must have been that Marquette influence.*

**Kevin Boudreau** - November 26, 2025 at 07:43 AM

BG

*How many years since we were MU freshmen? In the meantime Jack lived a productive, satisfying life--a life to be treasured.*

**Brian Gray** - December 07, 2025 at 04:36 PM

PB

*Kevin and family, I an sorry for your loss. We has some good times.*

**Phil B** - December 17, 2025 at 03:42 AM