



John Thomas Kuffel Jr.

January 22, 1934 - October 17, 2015

"Jack" Kuffel peacefully departed this world while asleep in his home on Saturday, October 17, 2015.

John Thomas Kuffel Jr. was born to John (Jack Sr.) and Florence (Flo) Kuffel on January 22, 1934. He had three younger siblings; Richard and Donald Kuffel and Donna (Kuffel) Shear. Jack is preceded in death by his parents and brothers. He married Melody (Shell) Kuffel in 1961 and they had two daughters, Dawn (Kuffel) Pierce and Darlinda (Kuffel) Holland.

He has one son-in-law, Matthew Pierce, and six grandchildren, Candice Latimer, Kristin (Latimer) Lackey, Tyler Pierce, Amanda Holland, Brandon Holland and Colton Holland. He also has three great granddaughters, Addison, Emerson and Mackenzie Lackey.

In his younger days, Jack was president of the Grenadiers Car Club and won several drag races in the 1934 Ford pick-up truck that he customized for racing.

He also served his country for two years in the United States Army and was an active member of the American Legion and VFW.

Jack was very passionate about flying and earned a private pilot's license.

Because of his love for flying he was a longtime EAA member and actively participated in the Young Eagles program. He attended the Oshkosh Air Show regularly, missing only three years since he began going, one of which was this past year due to illness.

He was a member of the Carpenters Union and retired after working 50yrs for them. He built a two story garage (that most thought was a home) where he spent most of his free time building things and working on cars. On the adjacent lot he built the home where he and his wife have lived for the past 54yrs. He also worked for Turner and Witt as a Construction Technologist and owned a construction business, JTK Construction, for a six years.

Jack attended Kankakee Community College and earned Associate Degrees in Construction Management, Refrigeration/Air Conditioning and Welding. He also taught a welding class at the college for a couple of years.

He was a faithful member of St Mark United Methodist church for many years where he and his wife were youth leaders. Most recently he was a very active member of the Calvary Bible church and loved serving the Awana club and helping the children with the Pine Car Derby.

Jack worked hard during his life, but would always take time to appreciate nature and the “small things” and mentioned this in every prayer he said at family gatherings. He was loved very much by his family and friends and will be greatly missed.

Visitation will be at 9:30 on Saturday, October 24th at Calvary Bible Church in Bourbonnais and a service will be held in the sanctuary from 10:30-11:30.

Cemetery Details

Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery

20953 Hoff Road
Elwood, IL 60421

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **24**. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Calvary Bible Church
2587 E. Armour Rd.
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

Funeral Service

OCT **24**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Calvary Bible Church
2587 E. Armour Rd.
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

Tribute Wall

SM

“ *Melody and family
My condolences and thoughts are with you at this time.
Sharon Mason*

sharon mason - October 28, 2015 at 02:49 PM

SH

“ *Mom (#2), Darlynda, Dawn, and Family,
You have my deepest sympathy. Mr Kuffel was a great man., with a
very loving family.
I will always have great memories of being part of the Kuffel family.
God bless,
Suzy Harwell*

Suzy Harwell - October 24, 2015 at 09:35 AM

NF

“ *Melody & Family:

Sorry for your loss, prayers and sympathy to you and yours.
God bless,*

Nat Ferrari

Nat Ferrari - October 23, 2015 at 05:11 PM

KS

“ *Melody and Family,*

Growing with all of you in Christain faith at St. Mark UMC will be a memory that no one can take away, this is a sad time for all who new him well.

May God Bless all of you during this time of loss,

Kevin Schweigert

Kevin Schweigert - October 22, 2015 at 10:20 PM

JB

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

Riverview Pharmacy

John Bourrell - October 22, 2015 at 09:58 AM

LG

“ *Melody and family,*

We send our sincerest sympathy to you all at this very tough time of loss We remember,fondly, Jack's great smile and laugh.

*Leon and Lela Gahwiler.
Bonita Sprinigs, Florida*

Lela Gahwiler - October 22, 2015 at 09:31 AM

JM

“ Melody:

Robin and I are among the many youth from St. Mark United Methodist Church who were blessed by the graciousness and love that you and Jack showed on the many occasions when the two of you opened your home to the youth of our church. We had a very special youth group at St. Marks, and you and Jack were part of what made it so. I have always been grateful for the way the two of you demonstrated Christ's love for us. Thank you.

May God bless you and comfort you during this time of sorrow.

*Jim Marth
Jacksonville, FL*

James Marth - October 21, 2015 at 10:11 PM

BR

Melody,

I am so sorry to hear of Jack's passing. Please accept my sincere condolences. Prayers and good thoughts coming your way. Always remember the good times.

*Bob Reinhard
Weeki Wachee, FL*

Bob Reinhard - October 22, 2015 at 06:29 AM

JW

Melody,

I am so sorry to hear about Jack! My prayers and thoughts are with you! I remember the fun times in youth group at St. Mark.

JewelAnn Wiltfang

Jewel Ann Wiltfang - November 04, 2015 at 04:55 PM