



## Joseph K. Russell

September 10, 1930 - August 24, 2021

Joseph K. "Joe" Russell, age 90, of Kankakee, passed away Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at his home.

Joe was born September 10, 1930 in Chicago, the son of Joseph & Camille Kvitek Russell.

He married Iola Lehnig on October 31, 1980 in Kankakee.

Joe was a pilot, crop duster, and flight instructor.

He was a member of the VFW. Joe was a quiet birdman. He had a lifetime pass to airshows in Osh Kosh, WI. He loved airplanes and was an excellent carpenter.

Joe was a veteran of the U.S. Army, having served in Korea.

Surviving are his wife, Iola Russell of Kankakee; two sons, Joseph & Connie Russell of Park City, UT and Christopher Russell of Texas; four step-sons, Carlo & Tracy Armenise of Las Vegas, NV, Samuel & Barbara Armenise of Fall Brook, CA, Patrick & Linda Armenise of Menifee, CA, and William Armenise of Fort Worth, TX; one brother, Robert & Roberta Russell of Beaverville; one grandson, Joseph "Tray" Russell; four step-grandchildren, Cassandra Armenise, Kristina Holfler, Tony Armenise, and Jason Armenise; nine step-great-grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. Joe is preceded in death by his parents; one son, Michael Russell; and one step-son, Michael Armenise.

Visitation will be held from 12:00 Noon – 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 29, 2021 at Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home in Kankakee. Funeral services

will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, August 30, 2021, also at the funeral home.

Interment will follow at St. Mary's Cemetery in Beaverville.

Memorials may be made to St. Mary's Church in Beaverville.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Mary's Cemetery

Beaverville, IL 60912  
(815) 435-2006

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**AUG 29.** 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

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

## Funeral Service

**AUG 30.** 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

MH

“ *Iola and Family,  
Vern and I would just like to extend our sympathy to you. Joe flew over our subdivision several times to rid us of the pesky mosquitoes which was very much appreciated.*

*Iola, we worked together for many years and I just want to tell you how sorry I am for your loss. I do remember you and Cheryl missing from the office one October 31st and that was the day you married Joe. Again, so sorry for your loss*

---

**Myrna Hoffman** - September 03, 2021 at 12:14 PM

KG

“ *Lost one of my oldest and best friends My deepest condolences and sympathy to Iola, all the boys and their families*

---

**Ken Giroux** - August 27, 2021 at 04:43 PM

SJ

“ *Sweet Iola,  
You are in my prayers. The love you two shared was such a match made in heaven. Visiting you and Joe was always entertaining. Joe's humor and smile were always there, Actually makes me smile because of the love he had for you. I pray God wraps his arms around you and gives you peace in knowing Jesus himself watched and knows the love and care you gave Joe. You have my deepest sympathy Iola, (Mike, Chris, and Little Joe) Too.*



---

**Sue Jensen** - August 27, 2021 at 04:17 PM

KG

*Lost one of my oldest and best friends My deepest condolences and sympathy to lola, all the boys and their families*

Ken Giroux - August 27, 2021 at 04:30 PM



“ 61 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes - August 27, 2021 at 10:22 AM

JP

*Joe was more than "one of the good guys", he was a institution. My deepest sympathies to the Russell family.*

Jim Puswaskis - August 27, 2021 at 12:33 PM

JP

“ *Boys, I am sorry for the loss of your father. Sending my sympathy.. We all go back many years. Janis Peck*



Janis Peck - August 27, 2021 at 06:38 AM

MH

“ Mike Hanson lit a candle in memory of Joseph K. Russell



---

**mike hanson** - August 26, 2021 at 08:46 PM

RH

“ Rick Hanson lit a candle in memory of Joseph K. Russell



---

**Rick Hanson** - August 26, 2021 at 03:29 PM