



Keith Oakes

October 16, 1918 - May 16, 2010

Keith W. Oakes, 91, of Kankakee, died Sunday (May 16, 2010) at the Illinois Veterans Home at Manteno. Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Maternity BVM Catholic Church, Bourbonnais, where he was a member. Father Richard Pighini will officiate. Entombment will be in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Illinois Veterans Home at Manteno or to Maternity BVM Catholic Church. Mr. Oakes retired after 28 years in the U.S. Army (1943-1970), where he was a lieutenant colonel. He served two tours in Germany during World War II, served in the Korean War and served two tours of duty in Vietnam, where he served with his son. He was a member of the Vintage Squadron and a member of the Army Otter-Caribou Association. He received three Bronze Stars and six Air Medals, including the Army of Occupation Medal (Germany and Japan), Air Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Korean Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal, National Defense Service Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Armed Forces Medal with 10 year device, United National Service Medal, Senior Army Aviator Badge, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Master Army Aviator Badge and four Overseas Bars. Like many other pilots in this area, Lt. Col. Oakes began his successful career by training with aviation pioneer Delbert Koerner in 1938 at Koerner Airport in Kankakee. He was retired from Roper Corporation, Bradley Division. He was born Oct. 16, 1918, in Kankakee, the son of Clyde and

Bertha Weaver Oakes. Surviving are his wife, the former Margaret "Peggy" Brouillette, whom he married June 30, 1940, at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, in Kankakee; one son and daughter-in-law, John and Lorraine Oakes of Chicago; one daughter, Linda Oakes of Kankakee; and one granddaughter, Faye Justine and Brandon Smith of Bradley. He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Ralph; and one sister, Faye.

Tribute Wall



“ *What a great guy, R I P Col. Ron/Fla.*

Ron - February 03, 2011 at 06:39 PM



“ *Peggy, Linda and Faye,

My sincerest sympathy to all of you. I enjoyed knowing and talking to Keith and to all of you and your family. All my love and sympathy, Alice Hagenow*

May 17, 2010 at 11:29 AM



“ *Keith was an exceptionally nice person,

very easy to work with. i am sure is is sorely missed by friends and family*

May 17, 2010 at 11:29 AM



“ *Dear Aunt Peggy:

We will miss Uncle Keith, he was such a

Gentle Man, kind, polite and loved by

us!

Our prayers will be with during this

difficult time.

Love, Wayne and Marcia*

May 17, 2010 at 11:29 AM



“ We are so sorry for your loss, but know that the pride and love Grandpa gave lives on in all of you. Our prayers are with you as God holds you in this time of sorrow.##imported-begin##Maria##imported-end##

May 17, 2010 at 11:29 AM



“ I have only wonderful memories of Mr & Mrs Oakes when we were all in Fort Benning/ Columbus, Georgia. I am deeply saddened to learn of LTC Oakes' passing, and send my deepest sympathy to his loving Family.##imported-begin##Olivia DiCarlo Garrison##imported-end##

May 17, 2010 at 11:29 AM



“ KIETH WILL BE REMEMBERED AS A GREAT FRIEND. MARY AND I BOTH LOVED TO BE AROUND HIM. WE LOVE YOU PEGGY.##imported-begin##FLOYD & MARY BURKS##imported-end##

May 17, 2010 at 11:29 AM



“ One of the olde' breed of Military Aviators has made that last great flight. - "May the Lord hold him in the palm of His hand" - Best wishes to the family.

Cordially,

Bob Smith

CW3, U.S. Army, Retired##imported-begin##Robert C. Smith##imported-end##

May 17, 2010 at 11:29 AM



“ NULL##imported-begin##Harold ĩ ĩ½(Hal)
ĩ ĩ½ĩ ĩ½ĩ ĩ½ĩ ĩ½ĩ ĩ½Loyer##imported-end##

May 17, 2010 at 11:29 AM



“ Served with LC Oaks at Ft. Sheridan in the 5th Army FLT. DET.
ĩ ĩ½What an honor to serve with him. ĩ ĩ½Also a member of the
AOCA and CV-2B pilot, with the 57th in Nam. ĩ ĩ½He will be missed
by many. God Bless. ĩ ĩ½##imported-begin##Mike Sele##imported-
end##

May 17, 2010 at 11:29 AM



“ I remember Keith when he served in Germany as the Operations
Officer in

the 4th Armored Division--a thankless,

stressful job--but he kept everything

under
conrol(including aviators)with a skillful style of leadership.

ĩ ĩ½ĩ ĩ½ĩ ĩ½ĩ ĩ½It was such a pleasure to see him

(and
Peggy)at the AOCA reunions. ĩ ĩ½Peggy

and Keith always
won the longest married

award-they were a decade ahead
of 2nd place winners. ĩ ĩ½They set the bar pretty high for the rest of
us.

 ĩ ĩ½ĩ ĩ½ĩ ĩ½ĩ ĩ½Personally, I'll miss telling

"war stories" about the 4th Armored

Division Aviation
in Germany with Keith

at the AOCA reunions

##imported-begin##Jim Greenquist##imported-end##

May 17, 2010 at 11:29 AM



“ We are so sorry for your loss. I have very fond memories of visiting Peggy & Keith with our Mom & Dad. My Mom loved those visits and I know my Dad liked talking to Keith about serving in the military. I remember Keith as a nice, kind, gentle man.

You all are in our thoughts and prayers.

Love,

Colleen & Barry & Connor

Madonna & Jeff
##imported-begin##Colleen O'Connor-Jackson##imported-end##

May 17, 2010 at 11:29 AM



“ My dad may have worked with Mr. Oakes. His name was Stan Butler from Chebanse. Anyway, we read about him in the paper and wanted to thank you for playing such a part in the armed services in the defense of our country. Thank you!
##imported-begin##George & Nancy Haley##imported-end##

May 17, 2010 at 11:29 AM



“ Dear Peggy, Linda, Fella & family,

We were so sorry to read about Keith. We will always remember that he was a gentleman. Our prayers and deepest sympathy to all of you.
##imported-begin##Jay & Dorothy Griswold##imported-end##

May 17, 2010 at 11:29 AM



“ NULL
##imported-begin##Walter Duke##imported-end##

May 17, 2010 at 11:29 AM



“ Peggy, Family and Friends,

Keith lead a full and rewarding life. He will be deeply missed, but his memories will be there to comfort and smile with as he would want. Marliese and I, along with the entire AOCA family hold your loss with the deepest of sympathy and in our prayers.##imported-begin##PAUL AND MARLIESE HERRICK##imported-end##

May 17, 2010 at 11:29 AM



“ It was my honor to serve under Keith in the 61st Aviation Company (Caribou) during the Vietnam conflict. I am deeply saddened by his passing. Please accept my heartfelt sympathy.

Sincerely, Wade LaDue##imported-begin##Wade W. LaDue##imported-end##

May 17, 2010 at 11:29 AM



“ NULL##imported-begin##Ben Collins##imported-end##

May 17, 2010 at 11:29 AM