



Lawrence Nelson

September 17, 1926 - December 3, 2018

Lawrence Nelson, 92, of Kankakee, passed away December 3, 2018. He spent a number of years in Arizona before returning to Kankakee County in early 2017. His home for the last two years was the Memory Care Unit at Citadel of Kankakee.

Born September 17, 1926, in Kankakee County, “Larry” was the son of the late Theodore and Angela Boucher Nelson. He married Alma “Mae” Brais on September 6, 1947, and upon her passing, he married Louise White on September 29, 1989.

A long-time resident of Rockville Township and a former Rockville Township board member, Lawrence graduated from St. George High School, where he served as the neighborhood “school bus driver”. He farmed family land in “Flickerville” for a number of years while also spending 42 years as a devoted employee of A.O. Smith. In addition to spending time with his family and friends and cheering for the Cubs, Larry heartily enjoyed square dancing.

He is survived by his second wife, Louise Nelson (Arlington, Texas) and six children from his first marriage. John (Sandy) Nelson, Manteno, Ron (Florrie) Nelson, South Bend, Mike (Joan) Nelson, Manteno, Mark (Gail) Nelson, Mattoon, Wanda Pharis, Bourbonnais, and Lisa Lillis Bourbonnais. He is also survived by siblings Nyla “Red” Nelson Sage Haws, Kankakee, and Robert

(Pat) Nelson, Bradley.

His 11 surviving grandchildren include Stephanie Nelson Miller (Dan), Shane Nelson (Karen), Tim Nelson (Jennifer), Jennifer Nelson, Christina Nelson, Brea Nelson Harms (Ryan), Paul Nelson (Heather), Ryan Lillis (Blair), Miranda Mae Nelson Williams (Mike), Emily Nelson, and Dakota Nelson. He is also survived by 13 great-grandchildren, including Alex and Avery Williams, Bryce and Christina Nelson, Carter and Addison Harms, Grace Nelson, Ava and Ella Nelson, Jace and Tanner Lillis, Claudia Nelson and Joshua Valdez as well as multiple step-children, step-grandchildren, and step-great-grandchildren from his second marriage.

He was preceded in death by his first wife Mae, as well as by two grandchildren, Shannon Marie Nelson and Jace Bryant Lillis.

On Saturday, December 8, a graveside memorial service will be held in the Chapel at All Saints Cemetery in Bourbonnais at 11 a.m. Cremation services have been accorded.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to Kankakee Valley Hospice or to the Memory Care Unit at Citadel of Kankakee.

Cemetery Details

All Saints Cemetery

1839 W. Route 102
Bourbonnais, IL 60914
(815) 933-2342

Previous Events

Graveside Service

DEC 8. 11:00 AM (CT)

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1839 W. Route 102
Bourbonnais, IL 60914
(815) 933-2342

Tribute Wall

DS

“ I will always fondly and deeply remember Lawrence Nelson as one of the kindest and gentlest souls I have ever known. A faithful and devoted family man, a ready and available neighbor, and a true godly servant. I hope he and his lovely Mae are enjoying a beautiful heavenly dance together. My deepest condolences to the entire family on such an enormous loss. ❤️

Denise Strahan - December 08, 2018 at 10:33 PM

GM

“ Our deepest sympathy to the family for your loss. To know him was to love him - love his smile, love his laugh, and love the way he loved his family and friends.

We have many fond memories of conversations with Larry, and his love for and pride in his children was always present. We are sure he is with his beloved Mae and we hope that gives comfort and peace to his children and grandchildren.

May your shared memories of his life well-lived keep him close in your hearts and bring more laughter than tears as the years pass by until you see him again. Rest in peace Larry.

Gary and Rose Mitchell - December 06, 2018 at 08:30 AM

MP

“ My deepest condolences to the Nelson families on this loss. Although I haven't seen Mr. Nelson for many years, I will always remember his warm smile, great laugh, and supportiveness. May he Rest In Peace good and gentle servant!



Mary Lou Paquette - December 06, 2018 at 07:25 AM

AW

Larry was a sweet and special guy. My husband met him years ago at Mikes place and they shared a joke together, but didn't remember him until he read the paper. He will be missed by all of us

Alice Wasson - December 09, 2018 at 11:20 AM