



Melvin Van Der Karr

September 11, 1921 - December 15, 2004

Visitation for Melvin P. "Mel" VanDerKarr, 83, of Lakeland, Fla., formerly of Aroma Township, will be from 4-8 p.m. Sunday at the Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais, and from 9 a.m. Monday at St. Anne Catholic Church, until the 10 a.m. celebration of the funeral Mass. Rev. James Fanale will officiate. Burial will be in Kankakee Memorial Gardens. Memorials may be made to St. Anne Catholic Church, where he was a member. He died Wednesday (Dec. 15, 2004) at Hospice of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. VanDerKarr retired from Armstrong World Industries after 33 years of service. He was born Sept. 11, 1921, in Kankakee County, the son of Martin and Cecile Marcotte VanDerKarr. Surviving are his wife, the former Oralee Rowley, whom he married Feb. 26, 1949, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Kankakee; four sons and daughters-in-law, Roger and Lorraine Hicks, Richard and Kathy Hicks, all of Bourbonnais, Raymond and Jane Hicks of Omaha, Neb., Ronald and Sharon Hicks of Minneapolis, Minn.; one daughter and son-in-law, Patricia and Dale Prairie of Mason, Ohio; one sister, Rosella Reagan of Lombard; and one brother and sister-in-law, Richard and Florence VanDerKarr of El Cajon, Calif.; 15 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. One brother, Roland VanDerKarr; and one granddaughter, are deceased. Mr. VanDerKarr served in the U.S. Army during World War II and was a member of the American Legion in Winter Haven, Fla. He was a volunteer for Skyview Estates Association, Lakeland, Fla.

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Album*



Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes - December 07, 2010 at 01:45 PM



“ *Mel was one of a kind! The best supervisor that I ever worked for. Very fair and kind. He will be missed by everyone who knew him.*###imported-begin###Loretta M. Chase###imported-end##

December 16, 2004 at 10:01 AM



“ *We were sorry to read of your loss and unable to attend do to Pattys poor health.*###imported-begin###Verl and Patty Overright###imported-end##

December 16, 2004 at 10:01 AM



“ *May time and cherished memories help to gently ease your sorrow, giving you hope and strength with each day. Thinking of you.*###imported-begin###Ron and Sandy Schweigert###imported-end##

December 16, 2004 at 10:01 AM



“ Mel was good to work for. If you were fair to him, he was fair to you. You really didn't want to be on his "bad side". ĩ½ Lot's of good memories from Line 3 midnight shift. ĩ½ Best memory was the night we surprised him with a party at the Kankakee Boat Club. ĩ½ He will be missed. My sympathy to all the family and I regret not being able to make visitation due to prior committment.##imported-begin##Harry Schriefer##imported-end##

December 16, 2004 at 10:01 AM



“ I am sad to learn of Mel's passing.

I remember him fondly, as well as Richard and Roger, from my days at Armstrong.

Mel was such a fine man, a true gentleman. ĩ½ I know you will miss him very much.

Frances Haase##imported-begin##Frances Haase##imported-end##

December 16, 2004 at 10:01 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Mel's family at this time. ĩ½ You have our deepest sympathy.##imported-begin##Ralph & Natalene Ferrari##imported-end##

December 16, 2004 at 10:01 AM