



## Norman "Norm" E. Burgdorf

January 6, 1930 - October 13, 2015

Norman "Norm" E. Burgdorf, 85, of Limestone Township, passed away on Tuesday (Oct. 13, 2015) at his home.

He was born on Jan. 6, 1930, in Mitchell, S.D., the son of the Rev. Erwin Burgdorf and Louise (Moser) Burgdorf. He was baptized in Woonsocket, S.D.

The oldest of four, Norm graduated from St. Charles High School in St. Charles. He attended Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, Ind. He was assigned to Company B 2nd Engineer Battalion during the Korean War. He served in the Korean War from 1951-1953 with the ranking of Tech Sergeant in the U.S. Army. He received the Korean Service Medal with two bronze service stars and the United Nations Service Medal. He was a member of the Bourbonnais VFW chapter. After his military service, Norm moved to Kankakee, working as a truck driver. He spent most of his career at Rudolf Express Trucking Company for more than 30 years and was a member of Teamster Local 705.

He met the love of his life, Suzanne Daylor, and was married Oct. 22, 1960, at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Bradley, where he served on many boards and committees, sang in the senior choir, and served as an assistant minister until his passing.

His deep love for horses began more than 50 years ago, raising registered quarter horses and training them in reining. Norm was a member of the American Quarter Horse Association and The Reining Horse Association.

During his retirement years, Norm enjoyed watching sports including his grandchildren's teams, his beloved Cubbies, and the Chicago Bears. Each year, he looked forward to helping with the fall harvest on his daughter and son-in-law's farm. Norm also enjoyed reading and spending quality time with his loved ones.

He is survived by his wife, Suzanne, his daughters and sons-in-law, Lisa and Keith Yohnka and Susan Burgdorf-Miller and Jon Miller; his grandchildren, Laura Yohnka, Tim Yohnka, and Tim's fiancée, Kaliegh Wheeler. He is also survived by his sisters and brothers-in-law, Lennie and Bill Serstad, Carey and Alan Morrisson, and Rhoda Olson; sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Christine Jarvis, Jill and Bob Kamphoff and Avril and Bob Newsom; as well as many beloved nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais. Additional visitation will be from 10 a.m. Saturday until the 11 a.m. funeral service at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Bradley, with the Rev. Patty Heath officiating. Burial will be in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood at 10 a.m. on Monday. The procession to the cemetery will leave Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais at 9 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Our Savior Lutheran Church or the American Heart Association.

In lieu of flowers, memorial may be made to Our Savior Lutheran Church ([www.oursaviorlutheran.info](http://www.oursaviorlutheran.info)) or American Heart Association ([www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org)).

# Cemetery Details

## Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery

20953 Hoff Road  
Elwood, IL 60421

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **16**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.  
295 Main St., NW  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914  
(815) 932-1214  
cgfuneral@gmail.com

## Visitation

OCT **17**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Our Savior Lutheran  
975 W. Brookmont Blvd.  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 932-1848  
<http://www.oursaviorlutheran.info/>

## Funeral Service

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OCT 17. 11:00 AM (CT)

Our Savior Lutheran  
975 W. Brookmont Blvd.  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 932-1848  
<http://www.oursaviorlutheran.info/>

## Graveside Service

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OCT 19. 10:00 AM (CT)

Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery  
20953 Hoff Road  
Elwood, IL 60421

# Tribute Wall

JF

“ We are all saddened to learn about Norms passing. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the entire family.

*The Hinklemans*

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**Jon Hinkleman and family** - October 26, 2015 at 11:43 AM

RO

“ I will always remember my dear beloved big brother, Norm, who called me his "lil sis" and also Rhody when I was little. The day he came home from the Korean War after 2 years of devoted service was a glorious day. As a young girl, I will always remember opening the door for him in his uniform and duffel bag , surprised and ecstatic to see him! I gave him the biggest hug and it was a fantastic day that he came home safely to us. Norm was a beautiful testimony to Christ in his life, with a strong faith which showed in how he treated others so well and always had a smile on his face. So happy that he passed the way he would have wanted to go, in a happy place, his barn, and near his beloved horse. His spirit lives on and he is soaring with the angels, I know. R.I.P. my sweet bro. His sister, Rhoda Rose Olson

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**Rhoda Olson** - October 19, 2015 at 10:03 AM

RB

“ Susie and family, Learned of Norms passing last night from Carey. We want to express our sympathy and very sorry for your loss. We can certainly be comforted in the fact that Norm was strong in his faith when he was called home. Always remember the smile that he had on his face during the few conversations that we had. Gods Blessings to you all.

*Ron and Donna Burgdorf The Red Bud Cousins*

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**Ron and Donna Burgdorf** - October 16, 2015 at 08:13 PM

LC

“ We were saddened to hear of our neighborhood loss but happy that Heaven is rejoicing.  
Our condolences go out to Suzie and her family during this time.

*Lyle & Joann Coffman*

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**Lyle Coffman** - October 16, 2015 at 07:39 PM

LB

“ It was always a good day for me when I saw that Norm was on my schedule. I could count on a smile, on a pleasant encounter, on a respite from anything bad that was happening that day. Norm and Suzie are a wonderful example to me of how to live life to the fullest and, in Norm's case, how to meet your Maker while you are doing what you love, in the place you want to be, with the people with whom you want to live.

*Lynn G Brown, MD*

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**Lynn Brown** - October 16, 2015 at 04:00 PM

LC

“ Prayers going strong for the whole Burgdorf Family. I never saw Norm with out a smile on his face. His faith in God was so very strong a great example for all. His voice was beautiful. I know my mom (Jane Davis) loved to sing a duet anytime with Norm. Relying on Norm's strong faith in our God will help you through the trying days ahead. Remember all the amazing memories that you have of this amazing man. God Bless you all and give you the strength and love though this difficult time. Love to you all.  
Linda Clark

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**Linda Clark** - October 15, 2015 at 10:03 PM

LM

“ Susan please know that I am very sorry to hear about your dad. I know there are no words that can make the pain and sadness go away. I am praying for God's love and peace to be with you and your family. Please let your mom and sister Lisa know that they are also in our thoughts and prayers. Love, Jeff & Lisa Miller

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**Lisa Miller** - October 15, 2015 at 06:35 PM

SF

“ My deepest sympathy to your entire family. Cherish the precious memories and believe with all your heart that you will be reunited in Heaven!

Susan Farren

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**Susan Farren** - October 15, 2015 at 03:41 PM

BS

“ Never saw Norm without a smile on his face. He and Jesus are enjoying each other's company now.

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**Bill Serstad** - October 15, 2015 at 03:26 PM

DW

“ Our condolences are for you and your family. We will pray for comfort and peace. Susan and Jon are dear friends. It is evident how much Susan loved her Daddy. She spoke of him often and I pray that good memories will live in your hearts forever.

Love,

Vince, Deborah, Aleah, Brynn and Corah Wright

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**Deborah Wright** - October 15, 2015 at 02:56 PM

RC

“ Rachel Chambers lit a candle in memory of Norman "Norm" E. Burgdorf



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**Rachel Chambers** - October 15, 2015 at 02:49 PM

CJ

“ Norm is the father of my beloved friend, Susan. One year when Norm was in New Castle for a horse event, my family went to meet him and see his horse. Susan told him I had never rode (ridden?) a horse. So Norm showed me how to get up on his horse and led me around. It was my first horse ride!! He also let my kids, Matt and Johnna have a ride. I will always remember his smile - he was excited for me as I was - and I was very excited.

A great father is reflected in his children, and I not only see his face in Susan's, I know many of her finest virtues, faith, love of family, loyalty, steadfastness, compassion are from her father and mother as well.

May the everlasting love of God and the Peace of Christ keep you in the days and weeks ahead. Carol Jones and husband Mark, Parker City, Indiana

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**Carol Jones** - October 15, 2015 at 01:00 PM