



Reaferd Ellison

July 7, 1929 - May 25, 2009

Visitation for Reaferd Ellison, 79, of Kankakee, will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday at the Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home, west Kankakee. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Friday at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Bradley, where he was a member. The Rev. Tony Nugent will officiate. Burial will be in Mount Calvary Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Hospice of Kankakee Valley or to St. Joseph Grade School. He died Monday (May 25, 2009) at Riverside Medical Center. Mr. Ellison worked more than 35 years in the steel mills, retiring in 1991 from Jones & McKnight. He was born July 7, 1929, in Tazewell, Tenn., the son of Porter and Mary Fletcher Ellison. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving during the Korean conflict. He loved fishing, building things, woodworking, making things out of cardboard (better known as the cardboard king), helping others, animals and bird-watching. Surviving are his wife, the former Marie Chaplinski, whom he married Jan. 31, 1987, in Limestone; one son and daughter-in-law, Chris and Sue Ellison of Bethalto; one daughter, Brenda Ellison and Tom Kelso of Kankakee; one stepson and stepdaughter-in-law, Tom and Sheri Cavender of Bourbonnais; five stepdaughters and stepsons-in-law, Cathy and Eric VonHoff of Yorkville, Tina and Tom Ronnenberg of Bourbonnais, Annette and Kevin Pollett of Mesa, Ariz., Cindy and Dave Massey of Bradley, LaDonna and Dennis Marquette of Chandler, Ariz.; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; two sisters, Juanita Koekenberg of Medaryville, Ind., Loretta Conway of Bald Knob, Ark.; two brothers and three sisters-in-law, James "JD" and Dorthea

Ellison of Logansport, Ind., Stanley and Betty Ellison of Bristol, Ind., Kanita Ellison of Judsonia, Ark.; and many nieces and nephews. Deceased are two brothers, Buford and Thomas; and one sister, Beverly.

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Album*



Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes - December 07, 2010 at 03:21 PM



“ A wonderful person, & a good fisherman.

##imported-begin##Billy D. Patton##imported-end##

May 26, 2009 at 02:49 PM



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May 26, 2009 at 02:49 PM



“ Marie, Tom and Sheri,

Our deepest sympathy on the loss of your loved one. He was a very kind man.##imported-begin##Pat Donath##imported-end##

May 26, 2009 at 02:49 PM



“ We are so very sorry to hear of the loss of your husband and father, and step-father. You have our deepest sympathy.

Alan and Becky##imported-begin##Alan and Becky Roth##imported-end##

May 26, 2009 at 02:49 PM