



## Richard "Dick" Balgeman

December 24, 1929 - February 3, 2021

Richard "Dick" Balgeman, age 91, of Manteno passed away Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee. He was born December 24, 1929 in Berwyn, the son of Vernon & Regina (Fitzgerald) Balgeman. Richard married Wauneta Laird on November 15, 1952 at St. Joseph Church in Manteno.

Richard was the Chief Radiologic Technologist for Manteno State Hospital for 34 years. He also had worked for 4 years for Shapiro Developmental Center in Kankakee. He received his master's degree from Governor's State University in Alcohol Abuse Counseling. Richard was a Deacon at St. Joseph Church in Manteno. He enjoyed woodworking and doing yard work. He was instrumental in the Village View TV 10 in Manteno and getting the Manteno Golf Course started. Richard was a village trustee for 4 years in Manteno and had also owned/operated an antique shop called Bird in the Alley.

Richard was the past Chairman of the planning commission for the Village of Manteno. He was listed in the "Who's Who of the Midwest". He was awarded the Manteno Historical Society Citizen of the Year and the Illinois Governors Award Superior Achievement in 1971.

Richard was in the National Guard.

He was a parishioner at St. Joseph Church in Manteno.

Richard was very proud to have married many of his grandchildren and baptized many of his great-grandchildren.

Surviving are his wife of 68 years, Wauneta Balgeman of Manteno; one son

and daughter-in-law, Dan & Julie Balgeman of Westville; three daughters and three sons-in-law, Marcia & Mike Hellmuth of Bourbonnais, Kathy & John Howell of Bourbonnais, and Barb & Mike Adragna of Indianapolis, IN; one sister, Jayne Balgeman of Berwyn; one brother-in-law, Henry Laird of Dorsey; thirteen grandchildren, Matt (Anne) Hellmuth of Lockport, Meghan (Mike) Quinones of Chicago, Regina (Kyle) Richards of Hoopeston, Lyndsay Howell of Champaign, Sherry Mitchell of Houston, TX, John (Melissa) Howell of Flanagan, Amy (Chris) Lewis of Indianapolis, IN, Angela (Justin) Castelli of McCordsville, IN, Beth (Matt) Carson of Carmel, IN, Abby (Scott) Nieten of Noblesville, IN, Tony (Jess) Adragna of Indianapolis, IN, Taylor (Misty) Balgeman of Catlin, and Corey Balgeman of Miami, FL; and 26 ½ great-grandchildren. Richard is preceded in death by his parents and one brother-in-law, Bill Laird.

Visitation will be held from 9 a.m. until the time of the 11 a.m. funeral Mass on Monday, February 8, 2021 at St. Joseph Church in Manteno. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, face masks and social distancing will be required. The Very Rev. Richard Smith, Vicar General and Rev. Albert Heidecke will officiate the service.

Cremation rites will be accorded following the services. Private family inurnment will be held at a later date at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Manteno.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Joseph Church. Arrangements by Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Manteno.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Joseph Cemetery

9000 E. Road  
Manteno, IL 60950  
(815) 263-6287

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 8. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Joseph Church  
207 S. Main St.  
Manteno, IL 60950  
(815) 468-3403  
<http://www.stjosephmanteno.com>

## Funeral Mass

FEB 8. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Joseph Church  
207 S. Main St.  
Manteno, IL 60950  
(815) 468-3403  
<http://www.stjosephmanteno.com>

# Tribute Wall

PB

“ Hello this is Patricia Bachman I was looking to get into contact with Dick's sister Janye. Please call me.

Patricia Bachman - September 01, 2024 at 08:14 PM

CT

“ My parents Lou and Dolores Bales were friends with Duck and Juanita. My father and he were in the National Guard together. I remember visiting at their home as a child and riding in their Art Linkletter peddle car. My parents have already past and I always wondered about Duck and Juanita. Really wonderful people

Cindi Bales Tracy - February 09, 2021 at 05:50 PM

CT

I am so sorry about the typo of his name Dick

Cindi Bales Tracy - February 09, 2021 at 05:54 PM

CB

“ Dear Balgeman family  
So sorry for your loss. What a good guy! I loved talking to them when they would come into Docs. They kept me updated how the girls were...how many grandbabies...how many great grandbabies. Seemed like everytime I saw them there was another one on the way! What a good life and a good friend to my dad. He will be missed.

Cindy Hildebrandt Beutien - February 08, 2021 at 12:29 PM

KH

Cindy, thank you for your kind words about dad. Kathy

Kathy howell - February 09, 2021 at 03:33 PM

JK

“ Dear Wauneta and family  
Our sincere condolences to you and your entire family through this tragedy. Dick was always a good friend to both of us and we enjoyed his sense of humor so much. You are in our prayers.  
Sincerely, George and Junie Kozak



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**junie kozak** - February 08, 2021 at 10:18 AM

GO

“ Dear Wauneta,  
We were so sorry to hear of Dick's death. What a kind man he was! We always enjoyed seeing you and Dick at diaconate functions and spending time talking with the two of you. He was a true servant of the Lord. May his good works go with him and may he rest in peace. Our prayers are with you.  
Deacon Greg and Mary Ouska  
St. Joseph's, Downers Grove

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**Greg and Mary Ouska** - February 07, 2021 at 10:57 PM

BQ

“ Dear Marcia, Mike & Meghan, our thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family. May all your wonderful memories of your father help you through this difficult time.

Tony and Beth Quinones

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**Beth Quinones** - February 07, 2021 at 08:56 AM

BB

“ Barry Bales lit a candle in memory of Richard "Dick" Balgeman



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**Barry Bales** - February 06, 2021 at 05:25 PM

MB

“ Dick was a long ago friend He married my roommate from Manteno State Workers we both were friends of Rose Drumm He was Avery outstanding person and I'm glad to have known him even for a short time Blessings toWaneta and family Muriel Turner Baker

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**Muriel Baker** - February 04, 2021 at 02:15 PM

MM

“ MR MRS sent a virtual gift in memory of Richard "Dick" Balgeman



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**MR MRS** - February 04, 2021 at 01:34 PM

TT

“ My sincere condolences to Wanetta and the entire Balgeman family. Dick welcomed me over 30 years ago to Villageview Ch. 10 in Manteno. It was my 1st station to get my feet wet in broadcast. He loved the production process and made TV production so fun, producing live broadcasts of the Go-Kart races was quite a feat. We met when my dad brought down the smoke stacks at Diversatech. I was videotaping as well as Dick and it was a friendship ever since. So many wonderful memories, I still remember his amazing miniature carousel he built form scratch. Rest well, Dick. Many hugs to you, Wanetta and all the best to the Balgeman family.

Terry Bates - WGN TV - February 04, 2021 at 01:26 PM

PO

“ I can not put into words how much Dick zags meant to my family. He baptized my grandchildren and was in Rotary and golf course reorganization with my husband. AlwYs willing to help on any project to advance the well being of our community, church or person. He will be missed but I am so glad I got to know him and his lovely wife. Prayers of sympathy and peace to his family.

Pat O'Reilly - February 04, 2021 at 10:13 AM

BH

“ Bryan & Joelene Hays lit a candle in memory of Richard "Dick" Balgeman



Bryan & Joelene Hays - February 04, 2021 at 09:18 AM

MP

“ To the entire Balgeman family, I have fond memories when I was the child care provider for you four young Balgeman children way back in 1964! And I remain grateful for the time your parents attended a surprise birthday in my honor and the annual note I received to keep in touch. Your dad has been a tremendous example for the next generation. May he Rest In Peace. You all remain in my prayers.

Mary Lou Paquette - February 04, 2021 at 12:43 AM

JC

“ Dear Wanetta, Marcia, Kathy, Barbara and Danny my deepest sympathy for your loss your dad and mom always seemed like family to me and my brother Michael. He was an amazing man and a great father to you all I'm sure he was the best grandpa and great grandpa. I so enjoyed visiting with him the summer of 2019 and also visiting with your mother we enjoyed talking about old times when everyone was kids and we exchanged prayers in light of the Holy Spirit. † My thoughts and prayers are with you all I understand the pain of your loss our hearts will miss him but our souls tell us that he is in heaven with the mighty Lord God. And the Lord will grant you peace in this trying time of loss. God bless you all and peace be with you in Jesus mighty name I pray amen † † † !!



Julie Lamarre Clark - February 03, 2021 at 07:12 PM

JJ

Wauneta and family. I feel such a sense of loss with Dicks passing. He brought to Manteno a true servant of Christ attitude when he arrived so many years ago. When others had agendas and attitudes, he saw opportunities for growth and improvement to our beautiful little town. What a public servant he was! May you find comfort in knowing that Dick lived a life most men would only hope to achieve.

Jerry Jarvis - February 04, 2021 at 08:08 AM

MA

*Jerry,  
You hit it right on the mark. He is going to be missed so much!  
Thank you*

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**marcia** - February 09, 2021 at 10:01 AM

GH

*He was my great grandpa*

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**Gavin Hellmuth** - January 30, 2023 at 03:29 PM