



Robert J. Knudsen Sr

June 9, 1923 - April 13, 2019

Robert J. Knudsen Sr., age 95, of Bourbonnais, passed away Saturday, April 13, 2019 at the Illinois Veterans Home at Manteno.

He was born June 9, 1923 in Pontiac, the son of Harry & Minnie Pearl Street Knudsen.

Robert was a graduate of Pontiac High School.

He married Dorothy Mae Grove on November 13, 1948 in Odell. She preceded him in death on January 4, 2007.

He was a union carpenter until 1963. Then he worked for Sears and Wolohan Lumber. He worked as a substitute instructor at the Kankakee Area Career Center in the building trades department. Robert also worked as a home inspector.

He raised quarter horses for many years.

From 1988-1989, he was the First Commander of the VFW Post 9961 in Bourbonnais.

Robert enjoyed roller skating and golfing and was an avid Chicago Cubs fan.

He enjoyed woodworking and he built his own home in Bourbonnais, where he lived for 65 years.

He was a long-time school board member and a member of the Civil Defense.

Robert served in the U.S. Navy during WWII. He served as an MP at the Great Lakes Naval Base. After his deployment, he served as a gunner's mate first class on the U.S.S. Crescent City.

Robert was selected to participate in the Honor Flight to Washington D.C. He was also honored as a WWII veteran at a Chicago Blackhawks game.

He was an active member of the Wesley United Methodist Church in Bradley, where he served as a Sunday school teacher, and he was a member of the Methodist Men's group.

Survivors include:

One daughter & son-in-law, Nancy (Charles) Matesi of New Lenox, and their son, Chas (Cara) Matesi, and their daughters, Olivia & Ella.

One daughter & son-in-law, Jan (Paul) Graham of Minooka, and their children, Hayley (George) Slefo and Ray Graham.

One daughter & son-in-law, Sandra (Mark) Gravlin of Bourbonnais, and their daughter, Amanda (Scott) Carnes, and their children, Molly, Milo, Maisey, Maren, and Mercy; one son, Ryan (Jenny) Gravlin, and their children, Monica and Ellis, and one daughter, Lindsay (Jesse) Arseneau, and their children, Mia, Poppy, and Dorothy.

One daughter and son-in-law, Connie (Carl) Reum of Gibson City, and their

daughter Heather (Paul) Meister and daughter Ashley (Jamison) Stalter, and their children, June and Jentry

One son and daughter-in-law, Bob Jr. (Paula) Knudsen of Millsap, TX, and their daughter, Chelsea Knudsen.

One son and daughter-in-law, Bill (Margareth) Knudsen of Palatine.

And one sister, Jane Tinker of Gainesville, GA.

In addition to his wife, Robert is preceded in death by his parents; six siblings, Everett, John, Richard, Helen, Marge, and Donald; and one granddaughter, Heather Meister.

Visitation will be held from 9:30 a.m. until the 11:30 a.m. funeral service on Thursday, April 18, 2019 at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais. Rev. Dalene Kuebler will officiate the service.

Interment will follow at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood.

Memorials may be made to the Illinois Veterans Home at Manteno.

Cemetery Details

Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery

20953 Hoff Road
Elwood, IL 60421

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 18. 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

APR 18. 11:30 AM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.
295 Main St., NW
Bourbonnais, IL 60914
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Tribute Wall

SM

“ I am sorry to hear of the loss of Robert Knudsen to the family.,He was a true gentlemen I always looked forward to seeing him at superbowl party at Bill and Margreths every year he enjoyed Carmel corn popcorn and the warmth and enjoyment of being with family and friends he will be missed. Susan Mandel May he rest in peace.

Susan Mandel - April 17, 2019 at 09:29 PM

LW

“ I knew Bob for 50 plus years I grew up with his kids next door to my dads house. He and dad looked after each other. He was an awesome neighbor to dad and when I worked at Sears he was an awesome employee, well liked and respected, when he went to Wolohans he was sorely missed. I so appreciated his daughter Nancy coming to my dads funeral last month. We will miss Bob.

Lynda Weemhoff - April 17, 2019 at 04:40 PM

DK

“ Sending condolences to the Knudsen family. I have many memories of your parents and kids from back in the day, back in the neighborhood. Love to you guys.

Dawn Corlett Kingston - April 17, 2019 at 04:10 AM

JJ

“ So very sorry for the families loss. I always enjoyed visiting with Bob. He lived a long life filled with so much family love. I know he was a proud vet.

Judy Jo - April 16, 2019 at 08:37 PM

KR

“ Duane and I would like to extend our deepest sympathy to all of you. We enjoyed socializing with Bob at coffee for many years. He was a fine example of a true Christian man. Hugs to all of you.

Kathy Roy - April 16, 2019 at 07:49 PM

PR

“ Hi Knudsen family - We are very sorry for your loss. I believe your father came down to our father's (Harold Stang) funeral. They were cousins. Our grandmother was Alverda Stang (mother of Harold and youngest child of the Street clan, your grandmother, Minnie, being the oldest) We remember some of the family, and I see that Jane is still living? I would love to contact her if someone could get back to me on how to do that. Again, our sincerest sympathies to all of you, Peg, Rick & Cherry Stang of Pontiac, IL.

Peg Raube - April 16, 2019 at 01:45 PM