



Walter Koza

October 4, 1925 - October 17, 2005

Walter Koza -- Manteno Walter J. Koza, 80, of Manteno, died Monday (Oct. 17, 2005) at his home. Visitation will be from 3-8 p.m. Wednesday, with a 5 p.m. wake service, at the Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Thursday at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Manteno, where he was a member. Rev. Ed Grotovsky will officiate. Inurnment will be Friday in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood. Memorials may be made to Hospice of Kankakee Valley. Mr. Koza was a retired truck driver for Hygrade Foods. He had also worked for Standard Oil Co. He was born Oct. 4, 1925, in Chicago, the son of Frank and Laura Piepras Koza. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and received a Bronze Star and Purple Heart. He was a member of Teamsters Local 710, the Manteno American Legion Post 755 and the Knights of Columbus in Chicago. He loved fishing. Surviving are his wife, the former Helen Leeson, whom he married Sept. 20, 1947 at St. Joachim Catholic Church, Chicago; two sons and one daughter-in-law, David Koza of Chicago, James and Donna Koza of Galt, Calif.; six daughters and five sons-in-law, Katherine Simpson and Tom Parochelli of Chicago, Jane and Angelo DeAngelas of Hometown, Ark., Terri and Joel Grossi of Chicago Heights, Mary Ann and Garry Rooney of Orland Park, Linda and Tom Husum of Mechanicsburg, Pa., Diane and Liam Carey of Chicago Heights; one sister and brother-in-law, Florence and Robert Rys of Chicago; one sister-in-law, Vicki Koza of Chicago; 19 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Deceased are three brothers, Frank, Joseph and John

Koza; and one sister, Mary Bader

Tribute Wall



“ Aunt Helen-Even though we could not be with you at this time of sorrow, my husband and I would like to offer you and your children our deepest sympathy. I know you have a great support system to surround you. ĩ½Love, Susan###imported-begin###Susan Compton###imported-end###

October 17, 2005 at 03:57 PM



“ My deepest sympathy is extended to Mr. Koza's family. ĩ½If I can do anything for you (Jim, Dave) let me know. ĩ½I have great memories of your father. ĩ½I remember waking up almost every Saturday morning to find your father having coffee with my mom and Phil Vellegas. ĩ½He was a perminent fixture there for years. ĩ½Always arriving with some hot dogs left that he needed to get rid of. I remember the late night poker games happening in my basement with the parents and many other happy thoughts. ĩ½I would like to think of your dad sistting around the table with Phil, Monty, my mom, Bill Rotroff all playing poker, joking and having a great time. ĩ½I hope this time of sadness heals quickly and is replaced my happy good memories. ĩ½It is good to think that your father is without pain at this point. ĩ½Take care of your mom and if I could do anything for you at any time please let me know. ĩ½Jim will be there tonight, unfortunatly I won't be able to make it but you will be in my thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. ĩ½

With love,

Kathy###imported-begin###Kathy Fox-Laskowiecki###imported-end###

October 17, 2005 at 03:57 PM



“ Helen and family,

We returned from a trip and learned of your loss and we offer our heartfelt sympathy to you. We enjoyed knowing Wally and sitting in the driveway on many occasions with him. He was a great neighbor and we treasure our memories. Please call upon us for any needs we can help you with. Our prayers are with you all. God Bless. ##imported-begin## Joe Lanoue/Michelle Levitt ##imported-end##

October 17, 2005 at 03:57 PM



“ Wally and Helen are Friends of Lynn's

Parents and we have many fond memories

of Picnic and Horseshoe and family outings. ĩ¿½He will be missed by many. ##imported-begin## Tom & Lynn Kornaus ##imported-end##

October 17, 2005 at 03:57 PM



“ Some one left this at my Mom's funeral service in 1999 and it makes you think!

Untitled

If I knew it would be the last time that I'd see you fall asleep,

I would tuck you in more tightly and pray the Lord your soul to keep.

If I knew it would be the last time that I see you walk out the door,

I would give you a hug and kiss and call you back for one more.

If I knew it would be the last time I'd hear your voice lifted up in praise,

I would videotape each action and word, so I could play them back day after day.

If I knew it would be the last time, I could spare an extra minute or two,

to stop and say that ?I love you? instead of assuming that you know I do.

If I knew it would be the last time I would be there to share your day,

well, I'm sure you'll have so many more, so I can let this one slip away.

For surely there's always tomorrow to make up for an oversight,

and we always get a second chance to make everything all right.

There will always be another day to say our ?I love you's?

and certainly there's another chance to say our ?Anything I can do's?.

But just in case I might be wrong, and today is all we get,

I'd like to say how much I love you and hope we never forget.

Tomorrow is not promised to anyone, young and old alike,

and today may be the last chance you get to hold your loved one tight.

So, if you're waiting for tomorrow, why not do it today?

For if tomorrow never comes, you surely regret the day, that you didn't take

that extra time for a smile, a hug or kiss and you were too busy to grant someone,

what turned out to be their one last wish.

So hold your loved ones close today, whisper in their ear, tell them how much

you love them, and that you'll always hold them dear.

Take the time to say ?I'm sorry?, ?Please forgive me?, ?Thank you? or ?It's OK?.

And if tomorrow never comes, you'll have no regret about today!

###imported-begin###Jack & Bonnie Kohl###imported-end###

October 17, 2005 at 03:57 PM