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JERRY L. CUNNINGHAM

1936 - 2009 | Age 73

Jerry Lee Cunningham, 73, St. Joseph, died Tuesday, December 1, 2009.

He was born July 18, 1936 in St. Joseph, where he was a life long resident. He is the son of Donald James and Helen Louise (Phillip) Cunningham. He served in the United States Navy. Jerry married Janice Marie Grooms on July 23, 1970.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Donald William and Robert Eugene Cunningham.

He worked for Lehr Construction Company.

(Survivors:) his wife; Janice; three daughters, Tanda Lewis and husband, Mike, Carolyn Cunningham and Velvet Cunningham all of St. Joseph; five grandchildren, Corey, Ashlie, Courtnie and Terence Cunningham and Rondell Crosley; three sisters, Charollette Callaway, Nell May Veale and Edith McNett all of St. Joseph; several nieces and nephews.

Mr. Cunningham was a member of the Missouri Cremation Services.

Online guests book and obituary at www.missouricremation.com.

DR. RON ENGELKEN

1945 - 2009 | Age 63

Ronald Alan Engelken DVM, 63, St. Joseph, passed from this life on Sunday, November 22, 2009. He died after a courageous battle with cancer.

Ron was born December 19, 1945 in Manhattan, KS to Pat (Graham) and Ben Engelken. He was the second oldest in a family of 13 siblings brothers, Dave, Larry, Joe, Mike, Chris, Jeff and Terry; sisters, Alice, Diane, Nancy, Elaine and Lisa.

Ron attended high school in Corning, KS, graduating in 1963. From there he went to K State graduating in 1970 with a degree in Veterinary Medicine.

Ron married Sharon Fairbank in 1969, to this union were born Matthew (California) and Laura, they later divorced.

Ron worked for Countryside Vet Clinic in 1970 until 1975 when he went to work for Dr. Robert Azelton who had a mixed practice and the St. Joseph Stockyards vet work. In 1980 Ron became partners with Dr. Stan Worl and they had a large animal practice and continued stockyard work.

When Dr. Worl retired Ron became the sole owner and started R & V Engelken Inc. which he ran with Valerie his wife of 28 years. Ron was the St. Joseph Stockyards veterinarian until his death.

Ron and Valerie married in 1981. They worked together for over 30 years. To this union five sons were born; Caleb (Connecticut), Seth (Texas), Eli (Alaska), twins Luke (North Carolina) and Jesse (St. Joseph). Also considered part of their family was Vanessa Chavez Durbin (Georgia). Ron was a member of Agency Methodist Church.

His passion was sports and kids. He coached boys basketball, girls volleyball and was the Athletic Director at St. Joseph Christian, when it first started. He also coached baseball in the South Side with many Championship teams of all ages. Ron also coached basketball in youth leagues and was very proud of all their accomplishments.

Memorial Services: Saturday, November 28th at Meierhoffer Funeral Home & Crematory. The Family suggests memorial gifts to the Operation Smile, 6435 Tidewater Dr., Norfolk, VA 23509 or the Agency Methodist Church. Dr. Engelken has been cremated.

Online guests book and obituary at www.meierhoffer.com.

HELEN T. FRAKES

1924 - 2009 | Age 85

Helen T. Frakes 85, of DeKalb, Mo, passed away Thursday, November 26, 2009 at a Saint Joseph health care center.

She was born August 30, 1924 in DeKalb, MO, daughter of Edith and Mack Dye. She graduated from DeKalb High School. She was a farmwife and homemaker and mother of 8 children and active in the DeKalb Community. She helped initiate the hot lunch program at the DeKalb School, was the Secretary of Westlawn Cemetery Association for many years; she was also a member of the Rebekkah Lodge, DeKalb Homecoming Committee, the Sleepy Hollow Extension Club and the DeKalb Christian Church.

Helen was preceded in death by husband, Calvin Frakes, her parents, two daughters, Beth Bush, and Robin Burnett, 2, Grandchildren, and 2, Great Grandchildren.

Survivors include 2 sons, Bill Joe Frakes and wife Jobeth of De Kalb, MO, and Bret Frakes and wife Candy of St. Joseph, four daughters, Dianne Powell and husband Larry of West Hills, CA, Karen Dittmore and husband Bill of St. Joseph, Becky Spencer and husband Casey of Faucett, MO, and Melissa Lawrence and husband Richard of Rushville, MO, 15 Grandchildren, 5 Step Grandchildren, 22 Great Grandchildren, and 12 Step Great Grandchildren, and a sister, Delia Maxine Jones of DeKalb, as well as numerous, Nieces and Nephews.

Funeral services were conducted on Monday, November 30, 2009 at 10:30 AM, at the DeKalb Christian Church, Rev. Keith Hoover officiating. The Interment will be at the Westlawn Cemetery.

Memorials are requested to the Ladies Service Group with the DeKalb Christian Church, or to the Westlawn Cemetery Association in care of the

VAN VICKLE MONUMENTS, INC.



1717 Frederick Ave. | St. Joseph, MO 64501
[816] 232-5882 | [877] 232-5882

Rupp Funeral Home.

MARION (PETE) GARDNER

1939 - 2009 | Age 70

Marion "Pete" Gardner, 70, St. Joseph, died Sunday, November 22, 2009 at his home.

Pete was born January 5, 1939 in Wallace, MO, the son of Earl and Esther (Johnson) Gardner who preceded him in death.

He was a graduate of Albany High School, Albany, MO, Hillyard Vocational and Technical School and attended Maplewood Community College, Kansas City, MO. He was a veteran of the US Navy serving during the Vietnam War. He retired after 26 years of service.

Pete married Perla Abellera on June 24, 1983. She survives of the home.

He was a member of Saxton Lodge #508, A.F. & A.M., thirty second degree Scottish Rite Mason, and Moila Shrine. He was also a member of the Fleet Reserve Association and a past member of the Little United Nation Club.

(Additional Survivors:) sisters, Frances Jeffers (James), St. Joseph, and Julia Bridges (Dale), Chesapeake, VA; nephews, Scott Bridges and Nicholas Bridges; and nieces, Katie Jeffers and Melissa Jeffers.

Graveside Service and Inurnment Friday, November 27 at Memorial Park Mausoleum. The Family suggests memorial gifts to the D.A.V.

Mr. Gardner has been cremated under the direction of Meierhoffer Funeral Home & Crematory.

Online guests book and obituary at www.meierhoffer.com.

NADINE HATFIELD

1923 - 2009 | Age 86

Nadine Hatfield was born August 21, 1923 in St. Joseph and lived here all her life. She graduated from Central High School, where she was a member of the National Honor Society and ROTC Sponsor Colonel.

She graduated from Platt-Gard Business College. Nadine was a volunteer Red Cross Nurse's Aide during World War II, and worked in the office of Swift and Company. She married Harold R. Hatfield June 16, 1945, and he preceded her in death March 9, 1995.

She worked at the family owned business, Hatfield's Sporting Goods until she retired in 1985. She was a life member of the SEMO Club and several Duplicate Bridge Clubs. Nadine was a member of the First Christian Church.

Nadine was also preceded in death by her mother, Anna M. Jaynes; two sisters, Maudine Fortier and Clarice Kennard; and two brothers, Herbert C. Jaynes and Franklin H. Jaynes.

Survivors include two sons, Tim and wife Lucy of St. Joseph, Ted and Ann and daughters, Halle and Maggie of Kansas City, Mo; several nieces and nephews; one step grandson, Gunner Loyd; one step granddaughter, Michelle Hendrix; four step great-grandsons and one step great-granddaughter.

The body has been cremated under the direction of Heaton-Bowman-Smith & Sidenfaden Chapel. Family and friends are invited to Nadine's house, Tuesday December 14, 2009 at 12:00 noon to celebrate her life.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donation to your favorite charity.

MICHAEL T. HENKOSKI

1933 - 2009 | Age 76

Michael T. (Mick) Henkoski, 76, formerly of St. Joseph, passed away October 29, 2009 at his home in Bullhead City, AZ.

Mick was born July 11, 1933 in St. Joseph to Mike and Anna Henkoski. He attended St. James elementary and graduated from Christian Brothers High School in 1951.

He served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1952-1955. H lived in the Southside until 1960, when he moved to southern California. He moved to Bullhead City, AZ. in 1986.

He married his wife Beverly in 1986. He retired from casino work.

Mick was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Ronnie Henkoski.

He is survived by wife Beverly of the home; sons Michael L. and Paul; daughters Tori and Lisa; and brother Victor A. Henkoski, South St. Joseph.

He has been cremated. Services will be 11 a.m. Friday, December 4, 2009 at Horigan Chapel, Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Burial to follow. Services will be conducted by Rev. Mike A. Bozarth.

WILMA HURST

1922 - 2009 | Age 87

Wilma Hurst, 87, St. Joseph, passed away Friday, November 27, 2009, at Saxton Woods Health Care Center.

Wilma was born on September 14, 1922, in Havelock, Ne., moving to St. Joseph in 1927. She was a member of Francis Street First United Methodist Church and YWCA.

After graduating from Central High School, she worked for the family grocery store, Hurst Market, in South Park. In 1958, Wilma went to work for Hillyard, Inc. where she was employed for over twenty-nine years, retiring in 1987.

Wilma is preceded in death by her parents, William B. and Ethel (Mooberry) Hurst; two brothers, Wesley and Chester Johnson and five sisters, Olive Johnson, Blanche Hughart, Laura Knight, Louise Switzer and twin sister, Winifred Hammond.

Survivors include her sister, Dorothy Hurst, St. Joseph; nephew, William R. Hammond, Dodge City, KS and niece, Beth H. Schreck, St. Joseph.

Services Monday, Nov. 30 at Heaton-Bowman-Smith & Sidenfaden Chapel. Dr. Susan Ventura officiating. Interment Memorial Park Cemetery, St. Joseph.

GENNY HURT

1929 - 2009 | Age 80

Genny Hurt, 80, St. Joseph, passed away Sunday, November 29, 2009 at a local hospital.

Genevieve was born January 25, 1929 to Nicholas and Susan (Worth) Merten in Cedar Rapids, Ne. She was of the Catholic faith.

She was married to Dennis Lee Hurt on May 30, 1949 in Albion, Nebraska. He preceded her in death April 16, 2008.

Also preceding Genevieve in death were her parents; daughters, Diana Roberts, Susan Tjaden; and granddaughter, Denise.

Survivors include daughter, Joan Kendall and husband, Tom, St. Joseph; grandchildren, Steven, Ed, Alva, Sara and Rachel; six great-grandchildren; brother, Nicholas Merten; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Arrangements by Heaton-Bowman-Smith & Sidenfaden Chapel. Private graveside services will be held at a later