

Walter W. "Smiley" Wirtz

September 10, 1927 - January 24, 2019

Walter W. "Smiley" Wirtz, age 91 of Highland, IL, died Thursday, January 24, 2019, at his residence in Highland, IL.

He was born September 10, 1927, in Grantfork, IL, the son of Frederick and Anna (nee Branger) Wirtz.

On April 26, 1952, he married Violet J. Keilbach. She passed away on , December 23, 2001.

He was a member of Evangelical United Church of Christ. He was also a member of Highland Masonic Lodge #583 (50 year member); Highland Country Club.

Walter was born and grew up in Grantfork area. He graduated Highland High School in 1945. He joined the US Army Air Force serving from 1/26/1946 to 7/25/1947. When he returned home he started work at Highland Box Company and retired from there, After retirement he worked at Wick Aircraft. He enjoyed playing golf, still playing at age 91. He was an avid card player (Bridge, Euchre, Gin Rummy, Jass) . He also enjoyed fishing and the Baseball Cardinals.

Survivors include :

Son - Lonnie R. (Mary) Hoffman, Breese, IL
Grandchild - Kevin P. (Chelsea) Hoffman, Morton, IL
Great Grandchild - Owen D. Hoffman, Morton, IL
Sister - Minnie M. Baer, Highland, IL
Sister - Louise A. Gardiner, Manassas, VA
Special Friend - Rosemary Neathery, Highland, IL

He was preceded in death by :

Father - Frederick --- Wirtz - Died 8/22/1975
Mother - Anna A. Wirtz nee Branger - Died 3/29/1968
Wife - Violet J. Wirtz nee Keilbach - Died 12/23/2001
Grandchild - Jeffrey M. Hoffman - Died 1/30/1990
Brother - Arnold E. Wirtz - Died 9/19/2005
Brother - Herman F. Wirtz - Died 7/31/2003
Sister - Mary Katherine Wirtz (infant) - Died 1/14/1919
Sister - Laurene E. Brown - Died 6/5/1974
Brother - Arthur J. Wirtz - Died 1/25/2005

Arrangements are being handled by Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Visitation will be held from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Thursday, January 31, 2019, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL and from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM on Friday, February 01, 2019, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Funeral services will be at 10:00 AM on Friday, February 01, 2019, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL, with Rev. Will VerDuin officiating.

Interment will be at Grantfork U.C.C. Cemetery in Grantfork, IL.

Memorial contributions may be made to Charity of the Donor's Choice.

Tribute Wall

RR

“ Rita Rinderer lit a candle in memory of Walter W. "Smiley" Wirtz



Rita rinderer - January 23, 2021 at 12:24 PM

DD

“ Don and Linda Deiters lit a candle in memory of Walter W. "Smiley" Wirtz.. Will always remember Smiley back in the day of working at Wicks Aircraft Supply. He will be greatly missed!!!



Donald & Linda Deiters - January 31, 2019 at 10:55 AM

BD

“ Blanche Driemeyer lit a candle in memory of Walter W. "Smiley" Wirtz



Blanche Driemeyer - January 31, 2019 at 09:16 AM

LI

“ Linda Iberg lit a candle in memory of Walter W. "Smiley" Wirtz



Linda Iberg - January 29, 2019 at 08:19 PM

JH

“ Our deepest sympathy to Smiley's family. Jeanne worked at the Alton Boxboard..."back in the day"...and met Smiley then. He always lived up to his nickname! He lived just down the street from Russ' Uncle Nelson Keilbach and was a frequent visitor at Nel's so we saw him often. More recently, Jeanne enjoyed playing bridge against him at the Weinheimer on Wednesday nights. He, his smile and his sense of humor will certainly be missed!

Russ and Jeanne Heuberger

Jeanne and Russ Heuberger - January 28, 2019 at 02:51 PM

JH

“ Jeanne And Russ Heuberger lit a candle in memory of Walter W. "Smiley" Wirtz



Jeanne and Russ Heuberger - January 28, 2019 at 02:45 PM

RR

“ Rita Rinderer lit a candle in memory of Walter W. "Smiley" Wirtz



Rita Rinderer - January 26, 2019 at 07:46 PM

RR

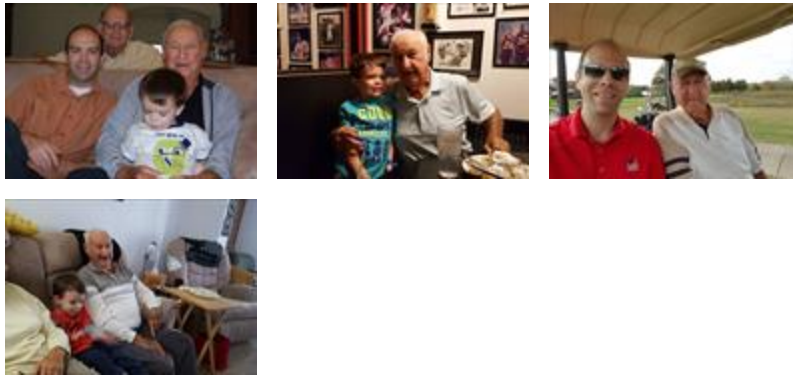
“ Rita Rinderer lit a candle in memory of Walter W. "Smiley" Wirtz



Rita Rinderer - January 26, 2019 at 07:45 PM

KH

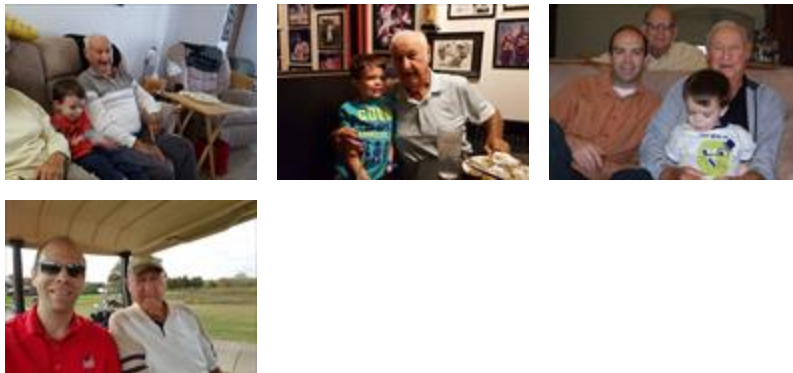
“ 4 files added to the album Memories of Grandpa



Kevin Hoffman - January 26, 2019 at 03:39 PM

KH

“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



Kevin Hoffman - January 26, 2019 at 03:37 PM

KH

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Kevin Hoffman - January 26, 2019 at 03:27 PM