



Bernard Manson Watkins

August 22, 1912 - June 19, 2006

OBITUARY

BERNARD MANSON WATKINS

Bernard Manson Watkins, a longtime resident of Bolivar, passed away on June 19, 2006 at 9:52 PM in the Citizens Memorial Hospital in Bolivar after a lingering illness at the age of 93 years 9 months and 28 days.

He was born on August 22, 1912 in Cliquot, Polk County, MO the son of James Alonzo Watkins and Mary Frances Crawford Watkins.

On November 14, 1941 Bernard was united in marriage to Evelyn Degraffenreid and they were married for 55 years. To this union one son was born, Robert Wayne Watkins.

Bernard was drafted into the U. S. Army Air Corp in 1942 and received a medical discharge in 1945. He worked for 30 years at the M.F.A in Bolivar and the last 25 working years at Woods Supermarket in Bolivar, retiring in 1995. Bernard was a member of the Baracas Sunday School Class and the First Baptist Church in Bolivar.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Evelyn in 1997, a sister Zelda Wollard and a step-brother, Robert Rinck.

Surviving is one son, Dr. Robert W. Watkins and his wife Donna of Lees Summit, MO; two grandchildren, Matthew Watkins and wife Vanessa of Grain Valley, MO; Nicole Gaulden and husband David of Blue Springs, MO; 4 great grandchildren, Gabriela Watkins of Grain Valley, MO; Jessica Nixdorf and

husband Ben of Blue Springs, MO; Catherine Gaulden and Sam Gaulden both of Blue Springs, MO; and 2 great great grandchildren, Alexis Grace Nixdorf and Hannah Nicole Nixdorf both of Blue Springs, MO.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, June 22, 2006 at 3:00 PM in the First Baptist Church in Bolivar with Rev. Billy Russell and Rev. Harold Hendrickson officiating. Musical soloist will be George Baker with Susan Baker as the Pianist. Musical Selections will be "Take My Hand Precious Lord", "Amazing Grace", and "How Great Thou Art". Burial will be in the Greenwood Cemetery in Bolivar under the direction of the Butler Funeral Home of Bolivar. Casketbearers will be Ken Bruce, George Bruce, David Gaulden, Matt Watkins, Ben Nixdorf, and Bill Jones. Honorary Casketbearers will be the Baracas Sunday School Class. Military Honors will be conducted at the cemetery by the Flemington AMVETS Post # 114.

Memorial contributions may be made to the First Baptist Church Choir Fund % Butler Funeral Home, P.O. Box 11, Bolivar, MO 65613

Friends may sign the guest book or send private condolences at www.butlerfuneralhome.com.

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Tribute Wall



“ *Bernard Manson Watkins*

October 05, 2023 at 05:18 AM



“ *Bernard Manson Watkins*

January 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

Sandy Barker - June 22, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *Bob, Donna, and Family,*

We were sorry to hear of your loss. I know you have many wonderful memories to reflect upon at this sad time.

Carol, Brendan, and Drew Kelley - June 21, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *Our deepest sympathy to family and friends of Bernard Watkins.*

Jim and Martha Gauden - June 21, 2006 at 12:00 AM