



Ed Willard Kennedy

March 2, 1931 - January 23, 2014

On the afternoon of January 23, 2014, Ed passed away after a long battle with cancer at his home in Bolivar with family by his side. He was 82 years old.

Edsel "Ed" Willard Kennedy was born in Quincy, Mo. on March 2, 1931 to Lawrence and Cecil (Dietz) Kennedy, the third of nine children.

Ed enlisted in the United States Air Force in January 1952, and retired honorably in September 1972. He was awarded the Bronze Star, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Force Longevity Service Award with four Oak Leaf Clusters, National Defense Medal with Bronze Service Star, Vietnam Service Medal, Korea Defense Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, United Nations Korea Service Medal, and the Republic of Vietnam Service Medal.

On April 20, 1957, Ed was united in marriage to Charlene Parker in Kansas City, Mo. To this union were born three children: Kay, Gary, and Jim.

After Ed retired from the USAF, he delivered rural mail for the United States Postal Service out of the Flemington, Mo. post office. He retired after 17 years to his farm in Humansville, Mo.

Ed enjoyed many of the finer things in life, including woodworking, gardening,

sitting down for a game of checkers, mowing his yard, watching the Cardinals play ball, and he even tried his hand at beekeeping. If there is one thing that consistently had Ed's attention, it was the price of gasoline. Instead of buying what a telemarketer was selling, he would ask what the price of gas was where they lived.

Ed was preceded in death by his parents Lawrence and Cecil Kennedy, and three brothers: Sidney, Verl, and Elvin.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Charlene Kennedy of Bolivar, Mo. and his three children: Kay Rice and her husband Marlin of Ames, Iowa; Gary Kennedy of Atlanta, Ga; and Jim Kennedy and his wife Robin of Bolivar, Mo., and five siblings: Bob Kennedy and his wife Gwen of Wheatland, Mo.; Zada Maupin and her husband Bill of Independence, Mo.; Sue Sherman and her husband Larry of Wheatland, Mo.; Lee Kennedy and his wife Carol of Avery, Mo.; Judy McDaniel and her husband Chester of Kansas City, Mo. He is also survived by seven grandchildren: Cody Rice and his wife Anna of Peoria, Ill.; Kendra Verash and her husband Kyle of Georgetown, Texas; William Kennedy of Springfield, Mo.; Jeanna Kennedy Gaik and her husband Jon of St. Louis, Mo.; Sarah Basnight of Pensacola, Fla.; Jarred Kennedy of Springfield, Mo.; and Stephanie Wright and her husband Jacob of Waxahachie, Texas; and four great-grandchildren: Mauren Rice and Emrik Rice of Peoria, Ill.; Connor Kennedy of San Antonio, Texas; and Tristin Wright of Waxahachie, Texas.

Ed will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

Services will be held Sunday, January 26, 2014, 2:00 p.m. at the Rondo Baptist Church, Hwy 83 and East 340th Rd, Rondo, Mo. under the care and direction of Butler Funeral Home. Family suggests in lieu of flowers, donations

be made to the 5th District Honor Guard, at 703 E. Main Street, Humansville,
Mo. 65674.

PDF Printable Version

Tribute Wall



“ *Ed Willard Kennedy*

October 05, 2023 at 05:18 AM



“ *Ed Willard Kennedy*

January 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss and that we were unable to make it to service at Rondo.*

Shannon Henry (Garretson) & John and Rylee Henry - January 27, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Edsel how many memories I have of him. One I have is trying to smoke a butt of a cigarette that was flipped by the driveway, and getting caught by my father. Then he had Edsel light one up then he made me smoke it got sick. So thanks to Edsel I have no desire to smoke. Being held down and made to holler calf rope is another one. Going to his house in Ruskin Heights the wall that was like an accordion and folded up. Going to the air show at Richards-Gebaur Air base, and seeing things that the public did not get to see. Going to his farm, seeing the work that he and his family had done to make it look like a picture on a postcard. Going to a family reunion and my girls calling him Eddy pretzel. Also got see places like Alexandria LA, Biloxi MS because my mother wanted to visit her brother. He will be missed greatly.*

Dale Grindstaff - January 25, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ Dear Kennedy family, We are so sorry for the loss of Ed. He will forever be in our hearts, as will all of you. We love you all so very much and will be praying for comfort and peace at this very difficult time. Much Love, Riley & Vivian Duke

Riley and Vivian Duke - January 25, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Sorry to hear of your loss, our loss here heavens gain. your friends across the street. Jerr & Vicki

Jerry & Vicki Carson - January 25, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ Sharing in your great loss, but rejoicing in your eternal gain.

Love,

Ted & Dawn

Ted & Dawn Sage - January 25, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AN

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Ed was a very good and kind man who will be missed. My prayers go to the family in their time of morning.

Angela - January 24, 2014 at 12:00 AM