



## M.E. (Estel) Zumwalt

August 15, 1921 - March 24, 2012

M.E. (Estel) Zumwalt was born August 15, 1921 to Henry and Mae Stewart Zumwalt in Polk, Missouri. Estel grew up on a family farm in Polk, Missouri. He enjoyed life on the farm where he soon learned the value of hard work as well as the benefits of living in a rural setting where there was always good food and comforts of being surrounded by family. He later attended school in Bolivar, Missouri and graduated from Bolivar High School in 1938. Upon the completion of his studies he took control of the family farm and guided its operation from 1938 until the eve of World War II in 1941. He enlisted in the Army in September of 1942. Estel proudly served his country in the 119th Infantry, 30th division. He landed on Omaha Beach 7 days after D-day on June 13, 1944. He survived many battles scattered across Europe including the Battle of the Bulge all the way until V-E Day. During his tour of Duty he was awarded 6 Bronze Campaign Stars, Bronze Star with a Cluster, 1 Silver Star, 1 Purple Heart and 1 French Croix de Guerre. He was honorably discharged from the Army in 1945.

Upon the completion of his military service, Estel returned home where he began the MFA Artificial Insemination program in the Bolivar area in 1946. Later that same year he bought and ran the OK Caf down on the square in Bolivar in partnership with his brother Herbert.

In 1948 he was appointed to be a Rural Mail Carrier. He consistently carried

mail from then on until September 1976, when he retired for the first time.

Not one to rest on his laurels, Estel went to work for Bob Butler Real Estate in April of 1977 as a real estate agent. He remained at this position until he retired for good in 1988.

Among his many interests and talents were hunting upland birds, mainly quail, and training the breeding bird dogs. He was also a foundation breeder of Missouri Fox Trotting horses and an excellent owner, trainer and showman of many fine Missouri Fox Trotters. He was a lifetime member of the Missouri Fox Trotting Horse Breed Association.

At an early age Estel was saved and joined the Mt. View Missionary Baptist Church in Polk, Missouri. He later moved his membership to the Calvary Baptist Church in Bolivar.

On July 26, 1943 he married Betty Phillips at the home of Rev. C.B. Tucker in Springfield, Missouri. To this union, two sons were born, Ray H. and Brad E. Zumwalt.

He is preceded in death by his wife of 67 years Betty Mae, parents Henry and Mae Zumwalt, a son Ray Henry, his sister Grace Kaudle and her husband Max, his brother Herbert Zumwalt and wife Maxine, a sister-in-law Vera Zumwalt, and a brother-in-law Dee Aspey.

He is survived by a son Brad Estel & wife Sandy of Springfield, four grandchildren John and wife Kashia of Willard, Justin and wife Ivy of Grandview, Bethany of Springfield, and Sara of Springfield, a daughter-in-law Jane Zumwalt of Stockton, three great grandchildren Sam and Henry of Willard, Zach of Grandview, a brother Berkley of Polk, a sister Opal Aspey of Bolivar, and many nieces and nephews, a host of friends and relatives. Estel

was loved by so many and will be sorely missed by family members and friends alike.

Funeral service will be held at 10:00am, Wednesday, March 28, 2012 at the Butler Funeral Home in Bolivar, Missouri with Brother Ron Erven officiating. Musical selections will be "It Is Well With My Soul", "He Touched Me" and "How Great Thou Art" sung by Brad Wommack. Burial will follow at Mt. View Cemetery in Polk, Missouri. Pallbearers will be Jerald Andrews, Gerald Sergent, Brent Butler, Pat Foster, Jay Stevens, Derrell Ashlock, Dannie Hubbert and Charles Johnson.

Visitation will be held from 6:00-7:00pm on Tuesday, March 27, 2012 at the Butler Funeral Home in Bolivar, Missouri.

Friends and family may sign the guestbook or leave private condolences at [www.butlerfuneralhome.com](http://www.butlerfuneralhome.com)

PDF Printable Version

# Tribute Wall



“ *M.E. (Estel) Zumwalt*

October 05, 2023 at 05:18 AM



“ *M.E. (Estel) Zumwalt*

January 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. May the words in Isaiah 25:8 give you hope and comfort.*

**Barb & Tom Layton** - April 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Brad and family,*

*I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your dad. He and your mom were such wonderful neighbors (and friends) to my parents and then later on to my sister and her family. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.*

**Dana (Hite) Rocha** - April 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *We are so sorry for the loss of a wonderful person. Estel was one of Randy's most favorite people and he treasured his friendship. May God bless you in your time of sorrow.*

**Pat Hicks** - March 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *May God comfort your heart in this time of sorrow..Doug and Jane Montgomery*

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**Jane Montgomery** - March 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ *Mr. Zumwalt will be greatly missed by those who knew and loved him. Randy Hicks*

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**Randy Hicks** - March 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM

HS

“ *Dear Brad & Family,*

*We send our sympathy in the loss of your Dad. Mike & I have many fond memories of him from childhood until now. Mike recalls all their talks when your Dad was their letter mber our talks before/after church when I attended Calvary. More recently, we always visited your Dad when visiting my Mom (LaurNell Strack)@ Parkview. Your Dad always smiled, even as his health continued to decline.*

*We hope you feel comfort in knowing he is at Peace & in Heaven with your Mom & Ray.*

*Helen Ann & Mike*

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**Helen Ann Stanek** - March 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. May the words in Psalms 147:3 give you hope and comfort.*

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**Barb & Tom Layton** - March 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ To the Family so sorry about your loss. He will be missed by many at Parkview. He was one of a kind. Sorry Brad and family.

Lacey Snodgrass - March 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ James Whitman

James Whitman - March 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SE

“ Brad and Family,  
No doubt a saint has gone home to the LORD. May his love and your memories of good times shared comfort you until you all meet again.  
Sharon Whitman Easter

Sharon Whitman Easter - March 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BT

“ Im so sorry about your loss..Marvin will be missed by us at parkview. thank you for letting us take care of him. Will keep your family in our prayers

brandy truelsen - March 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ We were sorry to learn of Estel's death. I always visited with him when I went to visit mother (Moriece Skarvan). They were classmates and she always wanted to see him and visit. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.  
Jane, Jim, and Jennifer OtradovecD

Jane Otradovec - March 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *M.E. (Estel) Zumwalt*

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**Dannie and Mary Jane Hubbert** - March 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM