



Wilbur Lee McMillen

October 19, 1919 - September 22, 2016

Wilbur Lee McMillen, age 96, of Rural Chanute, KS passed away on Thursday, September 22, 2016 at NMRMC. Wilbur was born on October 19, 1919 in Chanute to Noah Edward and Ada Ann (Knapp) McMillen.

On September 24, 1939 he married Mary Irwin at the pastor's house in Chanute. They would have celebrated their 77th wedding anniversary on September 24. They had known each other since they were in the first grade together. Mary survives him at home.

Wilbur worked for Bennett Creamery in Chanute, KS and later Dewy, OK after high school until he was drafted during WWII into the Navy. He served aboard the USS Suisun as a radar, sonar operator from 1944 through November 1945. The ship was present in Tokyo Bay on September 2, 1945 for Japan's formal surrender ceremony. After he returned home from the war, Wilbur went to work on his farm, which he loved. He enjoyed raising cattle, growing crops, and welding and fixing equipment. He also enjoyed fishing and hunting in his free time. Wilbur also worked for a time as the director of the Production Credit Association or what is now Farm Credit Services. He was a member of the Otterbein United Methodist Church.

Wilbur's family includes:

Wife:

Mary McMillen of the home Sons:

Kenneth McMillen and wife Beth of Loda, IL

Richard McMillen and wife Charlotte (Deceased) of Loudon, TN Bill McMillen and wife Kathy of Chanute, KS

Daughter:

Jane Crawshaw and husband Johnny of Clay Center, KS

15 Grandchildren

29 Great Grandchildren

7 Great Great Grandchildren

Wilbur was preceded in death by his parents; 6 brothers and 1 sister.

A funeral service will be held Monday, September 26, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. at the Otterbein United Methodist Church in Chanute. A visitation will be held prior to the service on Monday, September 26, 2016 from 10 a.m - 12 p.m. at Countryside Funeral Home, Johnson Chapel. Military Honors will be conducted by the Chanute Honor Guard. Online condolences may be left at: www.countrysidefh.com. Families request memorials to the Otterbein United Methodist Church and may be left with or mailed to the funeral home. Services have been entrusted to: Countryside Funeral Home 101 N Highland, Chanute, KS 66720.

Cemetery Details

Neosho County Memorial Park

21st Street
Chanute, KS

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 26. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Countryside Funeral Home - Johnson Chapel
101 N. Highland
Chanute, KS 66720
(620) 431-1220
<https://www.countrysidefh.com>

Service

SEP 26. 2:00 PM (CT)

Otterbein United Methodist Church
631 W. 7th
Chanute, KS 66720

Tribute Wall

LG

“ *Uncle Wilbur we will miss your smile & stories. My favorite memories are our families worshipping at the one room country Zion Methodist Church, getting together to pick pears at Grandpa McMillen's orchard, our families helping each other in farming, working cattle and just getting together. As a little girl I would sit in the corner listening to you, my dad & other Uncles telling stories. Love to Aunt Mary & family*

Linda J. Goodson - September 26, 2016 at 08:51 AM

TF

“ *The Bobby Varndell Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Wilbur Lee McMillen.*



The Bobby Varndell Family - September 25, 2016 at 11:43 AM

JS

“ *JK & Linda Sherwood purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Wilbur Lee McMillen.*



JK & Linda Sherwood - September 25, 2016 at 10:23 AM

MC

“ We extend our sympathy to Wilbur's family. He was an outstanding gentleman, a true leader, friendly, and did much to help others. He was liked by all who knew him. He was proud of his outstanding family. He had many unusual life experiences with being in the Navy, PCA, Church, and other activities. We are keeping your family in our thoughts and prayers. Maynard and Jeanice Cress, Humboldt

Maynard & Jeanice Cress - September 24, 2016 at 07:16 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Wilbur Lee McMillen.



September 24, 2016 at 08:26 AM

TW

“ *Twila lit a candle in memory of Wilbur Lee McMillen*



Twila - September 23, 2016 at 03:56 PM