



Eugene O'Connell

May 29, 1926 - November 3, 2015

Eugene O'Connell, 89, of Lake Villa, IL passed away on Tuesday, November 3, 2015.

He was born in Erie, IL on May 29, 1926, the son of the late Walter and Irene O'Connell. Eugene graduated high school in 1944 and soon joined the Naval Reserve. He was later inducted into the United States Army and served during World War II in Germany. After the war, Eugene went to California where he attended technical school and worked as a Master Aviation Mechanic. He moved back to Illinois where he worked as a carpenter for many years, retiring in 1988. Eugene built his own airplane and earned his pilot's license in 1983. He enjoyed woodworking, NASCAR, building model cars and airplanes, and gardening. He will be missed by his two cats Ladybird and Misty.

He is survived by his daughters Debra O'Connell and Dawn O'Connell; grandchildren Marc Cozza, Shana Cozza, Heather Moebus, and Michelle (Rob) Ditchen; and by his great grandchildren Elysia, Layla, Carley, Kayden, Lydia, and Sadie.

He was preceded in death by his daughter Karen Cozza and by his brother Robert O'Connell.

Memorial visitation will be from 1 - 3 p.m. on Saturday, November 7, 2015 at

Ringa Funeral Home, 122 S. Milwaukee Ave. Lake Villa, IL 60046. A memorial celebration will begin at 3 p.m. on Saturday at the funeral home. Interment of the cremated remains will take place privately at a later date. Flowers are accepted or consider a contribution in Eugene's memory to the Wounded Warrior Project (<http://bit.ly/1bZg87t>).

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

NOV 7. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Ringa Funeral Home
122 S. Milwaukee Ave.
Lake Villa, IL 60046
(847) 356-2146
info@ringafuneralhome.com
<https://www.ringafuneralhome.com>

Memorial Service

NOV 7. 3:00 PM (CT)

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122 S. Milwaukee Ave.
Lake Villa, IL 60046
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Tribute Wall



“ Eugene O'Connell

October 04, 2023 at 02:13 PM

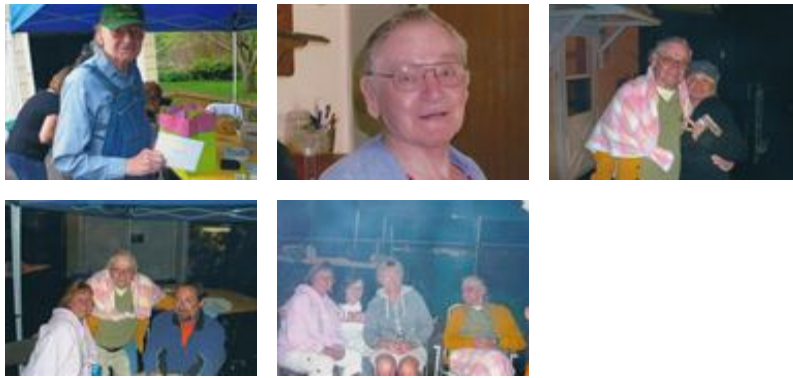


“ Eugene O'Connell

December 31, 2022 at 11:36 AM



“ 48 files added to the album Life Tributes



Ringa Funeral Home and Cremation Service - November 07, 2015 at 09:23 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eugene O'Connell.



November 06, 2015 at 05:19 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eugene O'Connell.*



November 06, 2015 at 04:02 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eugene O'Connell.*



November 06, 2015 at 12:53 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eugene O'Connell.*



November 06, 2015 at 11:52 AM



“ *Christine Frank Deaton purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Eugene O'Connell.*



Christine Frank Deaton - November 06, 2015 at 06:54 AM

LN

“ We are sorry to hear of Gene's passing. Our family have wonderful memories of him. Around 1966 hubby Larry worked with Gene at the Engelhardt construction Co. They became good friends. Gene enjoyed our son Russell and gave him a miniature saw horse. Just the right size for a 5 year old. We kept in touch every Christmas. A few years back Gene made a trip up to the northwoods where we have moved to. We had a wonderful visit. He of course brought each of us hand made gifts which we will always cherish. Our son mentioned this morning that they use the letter opener every single day. As for me I use the little table every day for my tea cup. So you see Gene is and always will be in our thoughts. May God richly bless each of you as you go through this time remembering we will see him again with our Lord and Savior. With our love to each of you, Larry, Juanita, Russell, Kelli, Shalea, Ryann, and Brianna Nellis

Larry Nellis - November 05, 2015 at 06:40 PM

CS

“ I would like to extend my condolences to Dawn and Debbie and the rest of the O'Connell family. I met Gene only a few times but remember him as a talented and kind man. He is at peace now with God.

Carey Skoglund - November 05, 2015 at 03:31 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Eugene O'Connell.



November 05, 2015 at 02:42 PM

RO

“ My name is Robert Sean O'Connell and Gene O'Connell was my Great-Uncle. I first met Uncle Gene on August 6, 1987 when my grandparents Robert and Delia O'Connell took me back to Chicago. I was amazed how much he looked and sounded just like my grandfather. It was funny how my grandfather gained his Midwest accent back as soon as he saw Uncle Gene. Uncle Gene gave me a tour of his home and showed me the airplane he built. He seemed more excited to show me was the wasp nest in his kitchen. There were no wasps in it but he kept it on his wall and it was almost three feet long. Over the years, he came out to California several times to visit with my grandparents and reconnect with the family. After my grandfather passed away, he would still come out and stay with my grandmother. She never asked him to, but he would always walk around the house and look for little things to fix. Uncle Gene also took a liking to my wife Jennifer and he would usually bring her a wooden project he made. She keeps the potpourri box full and on the entertainment unit with the family pictures. Uncle Gene was a quiet man, just like my grandfather. It wasn't because they didn't have anything to say, they just liked to observe and enjoy what was going on. When they did speak, you knew it was worth listening to! I will never forget Uncle Gene. Rest in peace, Uncle Gene, until we meet again!

Robert O'Connell - November 05, 2015 at 11:36 AM

PS

“ I only met Eugene once but will never forget him. As a long time co-worker of Deb's, her Heartland Head Start family has enjoyed many stories of his adventures. He lived life with gusto and has left his family and friends with wonderful memories. My deepest condolences to Deb and Dawn and the rest of his family. Pat Stash

Pat Stash - November 05, 2015 at 10:14 AM

KA

“ *Sending our love and sympathies to Deb and Dawn and the rest of the family. From Heartland Head Start!* ”



Karen - November 05, 2015 at 09:28 AM

TF

“ *Sending our deepest condolences! From, The Dowell Family* ”



The Dowell Family - November 05, 2015 at 08:05 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Eugene O'Connell.* ”



November 04, 2015 at 08:29 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Eugene O'Connell.* ”



November 04, 2015 at 08:14 PM