



## Don Priest

November 30, 1934 - July 29, 2024

Charles Donald Priest, 89, of Cape Girardeau died Monday, July 29, 2024 at the Missouri Veterans Home in Cape Girardeau.

He was born November 30, 1934 in Cape Girardeau. He was the third of five children to Charles "Tuck" and Erna Priest.

He attended St. Vincent de Paul Grade School and graduated from Central High School in 1952. In 1954 he joined the Army and served one year in the Korean War as a Cryptographic Specialist. After his honorable discharge in 1956 he resumed his studies at Southeast Missouri State University where he graduated with a degree in Accounting in 1958.

Prior to the war he met LaVonna Sue Leasure while working as a bellhop at the Marquette Hotel. After his return from service they married on May 30, 1958 at Old St. Vincent Catholic Church in Cape Girardeau.

He started his career as an accountant with A.C. Brase and spent the better part of his more than 50-year career at the firm of Stanley, Dirnberger, Hopper and Associates LLC, where he retired in 2017.

He was a member of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, the Elks, and Kimbeland Country Club. He will always be remembered as an avid SEMO

Indian fan!

He is survived by his sister, Mary Helbig of Fenton; his three daughters, Lisa A. (Ray) Reinagel and A. Suzanne (Larry) Eftink both of Kelso, Missouri and Krissi D. (Chris) Davis of Cape Girardeau; and a son, Mark D. Priest of Raleigh, North Carolina.

He was a grandfather to 12 grandchildren, Lindsay Reinagel and Lauren (Jayden) Pobst; Clayton Eftink, Whitney (David) Rule and Hunter (Allie) Eftink; Ashley, Allison and Andrew Priest; Jackson and Karsyn Andrews and Charleigh and Quinn Davis.

He is a great-grandfather to seven great-grandchildren; Blakely and Kannon Pobst, Knox Reinagel, Briar Crowden, Lettie and Beau Eftink and Eli Smith.

He was preceded in death by his wife, LaVonna "Sue" Priest; his two brothers, Jack and Jerry; and sister, Jo Ellen Priest.

Visitation will be from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Thursday, August 1, 2024 at Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel with Parish Prayers at 7:00 PM, followed by the rosary.

Funeral Mass will be at 10:30 AM Friday, August 2, 2024 at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church with Pastor Rick Jones officiating.

Burial will be at Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery in Cape Girardeau following the funeral Mass.

Memorial contributions may be made to the International Rett Syndrome Foundation.



# Cemetery Details

## Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery

2315 Highway 61 North  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701  
(573) 334-1909  
<https://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 1. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel  
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

## Parish prayers and rosary

AUG 1. 7:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel  
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

## Funeral Mass

AUG 2. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church  
1919 Ritter Dr.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701



# Tribute Wall

PG

“ *Mr. Priest was a great man with a contagious smile and fun loving spirit, and I'm grateful to have had the chance to know him. Despite strong evidence to the contrary, he even convinced me that I was capable of swinging a golf club and hitting a shot or two, and for that I'm also thankful. Best regards and love to his wonderful extended family - he will live on through you all!* ”

Paul Greene - August 01, 2024 at 08:27 PM

TF

“ *The Steck, Lassiter, and Love Families purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Don Priest.* ”



The Steck, Lassiter, and Love Families - August 01, 2024 at 12:48 PM

TT

“ *Tammy Terry sent a virtual gift in memory of Don Priest* ”



Tammy Terry - August 01, 2024 at 08:40 AM

DB

“ His wonderful smile and his amazing love of hot wings brought a lot of love and laughter to our days visiting the Missouri Veterans Home. Don was a special man and I will never forget his love of life and family.

Doug and Judy Bruyette - August 01, 2024 at 12:00 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Don Priest.



July 31, 2024 at 11:55 PM

SD

“ Never met an individual with the energy, drive and work ethic of Don Priest. He would out work us all and he was a very, very, very good accountant. He took pride in his work. His playful smile and laugh were contagious and we enjoyed many a late-night excursion to the Playdium and Dino's Pizza after we put our pencils down during tax season. Sadly, the old guard is passing away. Rest in Peace my good mentor and friend.

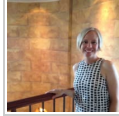
Steve K Dirnberger.

Steve Dirnberger - July 31, 2024 at 06:19 PM

JH

So sorry for your loss. Certainly enjoyed being their neighbor for 30 + years.. They will never be forgotten. Lots of good memories. Miss updates of the family. Everyone has grown up so fast it is amazing. Miss them  
Judie Herbst

JUDIE HERBST - August 01, 2024 at 01:05 PM



*Sending love to you all. Don meant the world to my dad, who could not have asked for a better friend. I know he will truly be missed.*

*Jenny McBride*

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**Jenny McBride** - August 01, 2024 at 06:19 PM

MV

*So sorry for the loss of your dad Lisa and Susan. I have fond memories of your dad. He always encouraged me to do better when I was playing softball. Thanks for the memories Don*

*Mary Vickery*

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**Mary Vickery** - August 02, 2024 at 10:03 AM

SS

*Dear Mary, The loss of siblings is difficult. You and I each had three older brothers. Mine have been gone for several years. I am thinking of you. I wished to attend the visitation and funeral but I am recovering from surgery. I've missed you through the years. Lots of good memories. Don was a fine man. He will be missed by all who knew him.*

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**Susan Montgomery Smith** - August 02, 2024 at 10:16 AM