



Clifford Frank Rudesill

January 26, 2015

Clifford Frank Rudesill, 90, of Cape Girardeau died Monday, January 26, 2015 at the Chateau Girardeau. He was born in Chicago, Illinois on July 25, 1924 to Walter Jackson Rudesill and Grace Sophia Blum Rudesill. He and the former Mary Kathryn ❖Ki❖ Litzelfelner were married January 20, 1946 at the Centenary Methodist Church in Cape Girardeau where they continued active membership through their adult lives. They celebrated 68 years together before her death August 5, 2014. Cliff graduated from high school in Hot Springs, Arkansas in 1942. He obtained his pilot❖s license, joined the Army Air Forces Air Transport Command, and became a flight instructor at the Harris Field in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. Active duty during World War II took him to Burma where he flew 87 night missions carrying fuel and supplies over the Himalayan Mountains (called The Hump) into China. He was, thereafter, a proud and active member of the Hump Pilots Association, never missing a reunion until so few of them survived, the group decided to disband. After the war, Cliff went into sales and sales management working for hardware companies in several Midwest cities. In 1968, he returned to Cape Girardeau when he bought an interest in Riverside Building Supply and Home Centers and served as the company president until his retirement in 1984. During that time, he was also for many years a member of the Board of Directors of Hardware Wholesalers, Inc. for which he also served as chairman. Cliff was an active member of the Cape Girardeau Chamber of Commerce for many years, serving on its Board of Directors and as board chairman. He was also a

member of the Board of Directors of the Greater Cape Girardeau Development Company, the Cape County Industrial Development Authority, and the SEMO Port Authority and had been enthusiastically involved in many other civic activities as well. Survivors include a son, Mark C. (Charryl) Rudesill of Cape Girardeau; a daughter, Mary Gail (Brian) Rohr of Naperville, Illinois; four grandchildren, Caira Rudesill, Daniel (Janet) Rohr, Andrew (Sheela) Rohr, and Mary Margaret (Mark) Rubin; and five great-grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by all including his extended family, The Culp♦s, Leblanc♦s, Mooney♦s, Phillips♦, and Litzelfelner♦s. In addition to his wife, Ki, he was preceded in death by his only brother, Walter F. Rudesill, who was killed in a military accident in 1942. Also preceding him in death were his parents, one grandson, and one great grandson. Visitation will be at Ford and Sons Funeral Home on Mount Auburn Road on Thursday, January 29, 2015 from 4:00PM to 7:00PM. Funeral service will be held at Centenary Methodist Church in Cape Girardeau on Friday at 10:00AM with Rev. David Conley officiating.. Entombment will be at the Cape County Memorial Park Mausoleum with full military honors by the Missouri Honor Guard. Memorials may be given to Centenary United Methodist Church in Cape Girardeau. Online condolences may be made at www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

TR

“ I'm so sorry to hear about your loss. My sincerest condolences travel to you in this difficult time. I hope you find comfort in the wonderful memories of a life lived to the fullest. Sending love to your family.

Tracy Ramey - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

ZW

“ Mark my condolences to you and your family. I'm your cousin on dorothea rudessill welch of metairie la. I'm sorry to hear your dad passed on to a wonderful place with our father in heaven. When god lets us borrow the ones we love he takes them back to give them to someone else to love. Mom and dad passed away mom two years and dad seven years. Don't stop talking to them god has them listing to every word you say. God bless.

Zoeann Welch - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

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Zoeann Welch - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ Gail and Brian, Our sincere condolences at the loss of your dad- We have great memories of being with him and know how much he loved you and your Mom and children. All the best- you are in our prayers and good wishes at this time.

PETER/CONNIE BERGERSON - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ It was a pleasure to know this fine man and his wife, Ki. They finally have peace together again.

Rick and Micki Brown - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ Mark, We were saddened to hear of your dad's passing. He was a fine man with a pleasant smile and a friendly attitude towards all. You and your family are in our prayers. Jane and Tom DeBoe

Jane Rader DeBoe - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Dear Brother-In-Law, so sorry to hear about your dad's passing. I'm sure Ki whispered in his ear that she was lonely. They were a lovely couple. Denise & Jim

Denise Hildebrand - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

FW

“ *To the Rudesill family: I offer to you my heartfelt consonances. When my mother moved into the Chateau in Cape Clif was at her dinner table for several month. It was my pleasure to talk and converse with him about his life. I am always amazed at the greatness of his generation of Americans; their call to duty for their county and their great citizenship after their military service. It was truly my pleasure to have met him. Fred Williams*

fred j williams - February 02, 2015 at 12:00 AM