



John A. "Jack" Behrens

December 6, 2013

John A. (Jack) Behrens, 91, passed away Friday, Dec 6 2013 in Round Rock, Texas. Mr. Behrens was a long time school educator/administrator in Missouri. He was born April 27, 1922 to Richard A. and Harriet Spann Behrens and raised in Cape Girardeau, MO. Jack graduated from Cape Central H.S. in 1940 and attended SEMO 1940-1943 before entering active duty with the U.S. Marine Corps, assigned to V12 Officer Training Program at Western Michigan University. He played Varsity Basketball at both SEMO and Western Michigan. Jack made the winning shot for SEMO in the 1943 NAIA National Championship Basketball game and is a member of the SEMO Athletic Hall of Fame. In 1944 Jack was assigned to 5th Marine Division stationed in the Pacific. After WWII he stayed in the Marine Corps Reserves. In 1946 he received a B.S. Degree in History from SEMO, moved to St. Louis MO and worked at the Veterans Administration and in education. Jack was recalled to active duty in 1950 with the 2nd Marine Division for Korean War service. He returned from active duty, was reassigned to the Marine Corps Reserve, retiring after 20 years with the rank of Major. Jack earned a Master's Degree from Washington University in St. Louis in 1955. He worked in education in the Kirkwood School District and then returned to work for SEMO in 1962, finally retiring in 1986 as SEMO University Admissions Director. Mr. Behrens and family resided in Webster Groves MO for 33 years. Jack and his wife of 64 years, Charlotte, enjoyed many good years of retirement, traveling the US by car visiting friends and family. Mr. Behrens' family was lifelong members

of Old St. Vincent's Catholic Church in Cape Girardeau where he served as an usher. Jack was a consummate gentleman, a true friend, a great listener who had a very dry sense of humor and a great smile. He loved watching sports, especially college basketball and football and reading newspapers. Jack treasured his lifelong friendship with Rolla Anderson and Jack Lamkin. Dear friends, Merit Leming, Bob Chisum & Jack (Pug) Russell and his granddaughter, Katelyn Spann Chatron, preceded Mr. Behrens in death. Jack is survived by his wife Charlotte Nann Blackford Behrens, brother Richard P (Dick) Behrens, Del Ray Beach, FL, sister-in-law Marjorie Cord, Rohnert Park, CA; son Richard Spann Behrens and wife Debbie - Saginaw, TX, daughter Barbara Ann Chatron and husband Mike, Round Rock, TX, grandchildren Megan Lott (Alan), Anne Miller (Mike), Lance Waddill, Angie Uptmore (James), 5 great-grandchildren: Hallie, Jordan & Erin Lott, Evelyn & Harrison Uptmore. His nephews Chris Cord, Richard (Skeeter) Behrens, John Behrens & Robert Behrens will greatly miss him. Visitation will be Thursday, December 12, 2013 from 2 to 6 p.m. at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel. Parrish prayers will begin at 5:30. Funeral Mass will be Friday, December 13, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at Old St. Vincent's Catholic Church. Memorial contributions in Jack Behrens name can be made to the Old St. Vincent's Church in Cape Girardeau or Southeast Missouri State University general scholarship fund.

Tribute Wall

JB

“ Dear Charlotte and family I heard through David L. Hawkins of Jack's passing... You will be lonely but remember the happy times..
Jessie Bryan

Jessie Jo Bryan - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Dearest Charlotte & Family. Jack was a hero in my life. What a great man - a compassionate man. When I was a senior at SEMO doing my student teaching, he listened to my side of the story and gave me a B instead of the report of the classroom teacher that I didn't deserve above a C. Jack is the reason I was able to graduate Cum Laude. I am grieved by his passing.

Jean Seres - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Our Deepest Condolences to the Behrens family our prayers are with you.

Doug & Orie Schultz - December 12, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KJ

“ Please accept my deepest sympathy for I too know the pain of losing someone you love. May your family find comfort as I have in knowing that our loving heavenly Father promises us that very soon he will 'wipe out every tear from our eyes, and death will be no more.' (Revelation 21:4) What a wonderful day that will be!

K. Jackson - December 12, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ *Our deepest sympathy to the Behrens family. A great friend!*

Tomlinson Family - November 12, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SE

“ *In deepest sympathy*

Susan & Paul J Smith, EdD - November 12, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ *Our love, prayers and sympathy to Charlotte, Barbie and Spann and all of Jack's family. We give thanks for all the years and memories we shared.*

Cape Girardeau Bridge Club of St. Louis - October 12, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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Cape Girardeau Bridge Club of St. Louis - October 12, 2013 at 12:00 AM

EB

“ *My sincere sympathies to Charlotte and the family. I know that my dad, Alton Bray, considered Jack to be one of his closest friends. I will keep the family in my prayers.*

Ellen Busch - October 12, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SV

“ *My deepest sympathy to Charlotte and the Behren's family. Here's a saying that may be comforting. "Death is not extinguishing the light. It is turning out the lamp because the dawn has come." By Tagori, a Bengali poet. Sincerely, Sue*

Sue Vogelsanger - September 12, 2013 at 12:00 AM