



## John Adam Essner

December 21, 1923 - June 2, 2017

John Adam Essner, 93, of Cape Girardeau, died Friday, June 2, 2017 surrounded by family at his home of more than 60 years.

He was born December 21, 1923 near New Hamburg, Missouri, the son of Leo William and Rosa Helen Uhrhan Essner, the third of five boys.

He married Ina Jean Burger April 19, 1952 at St. Augustine Church in Kelso, Missouri. She survives.

John was a graduate of the former Benton High School in Benton, Missouri. He served in the Merchant Marines during World War II and in the Army during the Korean Conflict.

He spent most of his working life in the lumber and construction fields, having worked at D&G Builders, and Burton Gerhardt Construction Company. He then became a foreman of the nickel plating department of Superior Electric. He later worked for Southeast Missouri Lumber Company, which he eventually purchased and started Southeast Missouri Builders Supply which he operated with his family until his retirement in 1986.

After retirement, John could be found on his computer where he spent many hours writing the story of his life and researching and recording his family

genealogy to pass along to his children and grandchildren. He also kept busy with the big garden he put out every year.

He was a member of St. Mary Cathedral and Knights of Columbus Council 1111. In addition, he was active in the Cursillo Movement in Southeast Missouri and Boy Scouts.

He is survived by his wife, Ina of Cape Girardeau; nine sons, John L. (Jill), Steve ( Rev. Edie Bird), Jim (Sharon), Tom (Becki), Alan (Denise), Chris (Sandi), Roger (Donna), Greg, and Keith (Marianne) Essner all of Cape Girardeau; three daughters, Sr. Mary Essner, S.S.N.D. of Hannibal, Missouri, Jane (Wayne) Wilson of Cape Girardeau and Susan (Tim) McMann of Farmington, Missouri; 31 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren with one on the way; three brothers, Simon (Clara) Essner of Kelso, Herman (Dorothy) Essner of Maryland Heights, Missouri and Paul W. Essner of New Hamburg.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Vincent Essner.

Friends may call 4-8 p.m. Tuesday at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel. Parish prayers will be at 7 p.m. followed by a rosary.

Funeral mass will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at St. Mary Cathedral with the Rev. Joe Weidenbenner officiating. Burial will follow at St. Mary Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be given to St. Mary Cathedral or St. Mary School or the charity of your choice.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Mary Cemetery

1101 Perry Avenue  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 6. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

## Parish Prayers

JUN 6. 7:00 PM (CT)

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

## Rosary

JUN 6. 7:15 PM (CT)

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

## Funeral Mass

JUN 7. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary Cathedral  
615 William St.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703

# Tribute Wall



“ Alan and the rest of the family - I am so sorry to learn of the passing of your father. What a legacy your father has left behind in each and every one of you. A true example of what a man should be to his family. My prayers are with all of you and I pray that you find comfort in that you know he is with his Father in Heaven. May God's peace be with you each and every day until we are all called home. With love and prayers - Mary Vickery



Mary Vickery - June 16, 2017 at 07:32 AM



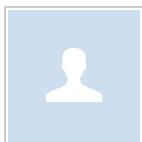
“ Sending our deepest sympathy on the loss of Mr. Essner. A kind and gentle man of great faith. Cheryl and Jim Lawrence

Cheryl Lawrence - June 06, 2017 at 02:34 PM



“ You all have our deepest sympathy in the loss of your father. What a special man to raise a family as awesome as each of you, are. You have our love and prayers, Dianne and Paul Roth

DianneandPaulRoth - June 06, 2017 at 01:59 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Adam Essner.



June 05, 2017 at 09:08 PM

KB

“ To the great family of a great patriarch, condolences from Kevin and Shelly Bullock in Nashville, TN. Would that we men, as youth, had the wisdom we have gained in our middle years, we could not have done better than to follow the devout steps of John Essner. He truly made his everyday work his altar, be that raising a family, raising a garden, serving his community, or in his profession. He and Ina truly served God by giving this earth such a great family to carry on his work. Mr. Essner, thank you for always doing your best, your family is in our prayers, please keep us in yours.

*De Colores*

*Kevin and Shelly Bullock*

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**Kevin Bullock** - June 05, 2017 at 06:45 PM

MS

“ I am so sorry for your loss!  
Love,  
Mary (Auer) Sturm

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**Mary Sturm** - June 05, 2017 at 11:11 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Adam Essner.



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June 05, 2017 at 10:44 AM

FP

“ *Ford And Brenda Phillips lit a candle in memory of John Adam Essner*



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**Ford and Brenda Phillips** - June 05, 2017 at 08:46 AM

JM

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



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**Jackie Murphy** - June 04, 2017 at 08:43 PM

FV

“ *Susan and Tim, Jim and Sharon, Alan, and Ben and Jessica,  
The love and prayers the parish family of St. Joseph's are with you and all of the Essner family. Your dad was one who just simply made the world a better place.*



*Although you will miss him tremendously, may your hearts feel peace knowing that he is now seeing the face of God... and without a doubt, hearing the words, "Well done, my good and faithful servant!" DeColores!  
Blessings of peace...*

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**Fr. Rickey Valleroy** - June 04, 2017 at 07:53 PM

MC

“ Our condolences are extended to Allie and Julian and the entire Essener family. We pray that you will be comforted during this very trying time. There's no doubt that you all have a lifetime of memories that you'll share for generations to come. God's continued blessings. Tyrone and Mary Coleman

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**Mary K. Coleman** - June 04, 2017 at 05:50 PM

GE

“ Uncle John will be so missed. He was such a wonderful man, always ready for a talk & always remembers your name. And he told the best stories! So glad that I was lucky enough to become a part of the Essner family!! Thoughts & prayers are with the entire family.



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**Gina Essner** - June 04, 2017 at 02:19 PM

LW

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Grandpa John was awesome. He was at every family event that we had the pleasure of attending which showed how important family was to him. He will be greatly missed. Our prayers are with the entire Essner family, especially Grandma Ina.  
*The Watkins Family*

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**Lisa Watkins** - June 04, 2017 at 12:18 PM

SL

“ So sorry to hear of Mr. John's passing! Mrs. Ina, please know you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers!

*Steve & Melody Loveless*

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**Steve & Melody Loveless** - June 04, 2017 at 11:30 AM

SK

“ Condolences to the Essner family on the passing of John. He will be sorely missed. I got to know John and Ina and all the Essner's when I was living in Cape during my college years 40 years ago. Over the years I have kept up with most of them and had asked about John and Ina from time to time. It happened that I was on a TEC with John and my father-in-law Cletus Weidenbenner and Fr. Joe was the lay director. I got to know John a little better on the TEC and what a man of faith he was.

*May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

*Amen*

*Steve and Janet Kuper  
Malden, MO*

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**Steve Kuper** - June 04, 2017 at 11:03 AM

JU

“ *Heartfelt Sympathy.*

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**janice unger** - June 04, 2017 at 09:53 AM

MW

*My deepest sympathy to all of the Essner Family especially to Mrs. Essner! You are in my prayers!*

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**Mary Ann Williams-Travis** - June 04, 2017 at 10:25 AM