



## Leonard Jesse Wille

September 28, 1929 - October 23, 2018

Leonard Jesse Wille, 89, of Jackson, Missouri died Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at his home.

He was born September 28, 1929 in Tilsit, Missouri to Jesse and Lulu Baer Wille.

He and Mary Justina Unterreiner were married August 12, 1947 at Immaculate Conception Church in Jackson, Missouri. She preceded him in death on January 17, 2011.

Leonard worked for Wagner's Bakery for 25 years, in 1970 he bought the bakery from the Wagner's and opened Wille's Bakery, which he owned and operated until he retired in 2001.

He and his wife shared a love of dancing. He also loved to coach little league baseball.

He was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Tilsit, Missouri.

Survivors include his two sons, Ralph (Evelyn) Wille of Jackson and Leonard Mitchell Wille of Jackson; one daughter, Sharon (Merritt) Hamilton of Jackson; one son-in-law, Scott McNeely of Jackson, Missouri; one brother,

Clement(Verla) Wille of Jackson; six grandchildren, thirteen great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, one daughter, Mary Catherine McNeely; one sister, Mildred Amelunke; one brother, Wilbur Friese; and one grandchild.

Visitation will be 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Thursday, October 25, 2018 at Ford & Sons Jackson Funeral Home in Jackson.

Funeral service will be at 10:00 am Friday, October 26, 2018 at Ford & Sons Jackson Funeral Home in Jackson with the Rev. Mark Boettcher officiating.

Burial will be at Russell Heights Cemetery in Jackson.

Memorial contributions may be given to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Tilsit, Missouri.

Online condolences may be made at [www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com](http://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com).

Ford & Sons Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Russell Heights Cemetery

Jackson, MO 63755

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **25**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Ford & Sons Jackson  
708 W. Main Street  
Jackson, MO 63755

## Service

OCT **26**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Ford & Sons Jackson  
708 W. Main Street  
Jackson, MO 63755

# Tribute Wall



“ *I am so sorry for the loss of your father. Prayers for the family.  
Christine (Edwards) Ruppel*

Chris Ruppel - October 26, 2018 at 06:20 PM

SU

“ *My deepest condolences to my Willie unterreiner cousins. Thinking  
of you*

Sheila unterreiner - October 25, 2018 at 06:42 PM



“ *Rose Tribute was purchased for the family of  
Leonard Jesse Wille.*



October 25, 2018 at 08:27 AM

MV

“ *As a High School student, I was fortunate to work for Willes Bakery.  
He was a kind man and his family made you feel like you were one  
of them. I moved on with my life and never got to meet his  
grandchildren, but the love and compassion that I received from  
Kathy and Scott will never be forgotten. Mr. Wille will truly go down  
in the history books for the pounds he contributed to in all of our  
lives. I am sure that he and Mary are dancing in heaven today.  
Prayers for all of you. God Bless - Mary Vickery*

Mary Vickery - October 25, 2018 at 06:13 AM

GB

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Leonard was always a very pleasant and caring person. Always enjoyed seeing and speaking with him. Enjoyed visiting the bakery too.  
Glen & Alice Birk

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Glen Birk and Alice Birk - October 24, 2018 at 09:57 PM

CM

“ In college my aunt introduced me to the most beautiful angel food cakes, the recipe of which came from Willes Bakery. A decade later I was lucky enough to run into Tyler McNeely, Leonard's grandson and my now husband. When Tyler introduced me to Leonard we were instant friends and I'm so thankful I got to know him, he got to see Tyler and I married, and he got to know our daughter Catherine. The last time I got to visit with Grandpa Wille he was being referred to by a gentleman in the nursing home as a legend in town because of the bakery. I know so many will remember his legacy for that. I'm grateful I got to know him beyond the sweets. Dance on Grandpa Wille.

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Chelsea McNeely - October 24, 2018 at 08:15 PM

MC

“ I moved to Cape County in 2000. I love a good, warm, fresh donut. My husband woke me up one morning at 4:30 am, and in sweatpants we drove to Wille's Bakery so we would be some of his 1st customers that morning. It was cold & brisk. The parking lot was packed when we got there! Donuts were yummy! He also made the best peanut butter frosted cinnamon swirl donut I had ever eaten! It was HUGE! Thankful for his legacy. God bless, keep & comfort this family.

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Marlene Cloude - October 24, 2018 at 07:41 PM