



Martin D. Needels

July 23, 1936 - August 14, 2021

Martin D. Needels passed away August 14, 2021, at his home of a massive heart attack. He was born July 23, 1936, in St. Marys, Ohio, son of Thomas Jefferson Needels and Deva Marie Hanlin Needels. On August 21, 1962, Martin married Maribeth Wetzig, who passed away on April 21, 2002. On March 6, 2004, he married Margaret Popham, who survives.

Martin served in the U.S. Air Force, 1955-59. He received a BA degree in history from Southern Arkansas University, MA and PhD. Degrees in history from the University of Nebraska. He taught in the History Department of Southeast Missouri State University from 1969-2001. Martin was an active member of Abbey Road Christian Church, serving in a number of leadership positions.

In addition to his wife, Margaret, he is survived by son Thomas (Marisa) of Mt. Juliet, TN; daughter Jennifer of Cape Girardeau; stepsons Douglas (Jean) Popham of Tucson, AZ and David Popham (Roselyn) of Wheaton, IL. He is also survived by grandson Taylor Needels of Cape Girardeau and granddaughter Lindsey Needels of Nashville, TN; step grandchildren Madeline and Lauren Popham of Tucson, AZ and Zachary and Alexander Popham of Wheaton, IL, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, their children and grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Betty Hetrick, brothers John and Jim Needels, and step sisters Maxine McMurray and Kathleen McMurray.

Visitation will be held Friday, Aug. 20, 2021 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Chapel. A celebration of life service will be Saturday, Aug. 21, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at Abbey Road Christian Church with Rev. Elaine Schoepf officiating.

Private burial will take place at a later date at Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Abbey Road Christian Church or to the charity of your choice.

Cemetery Details

Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery

2315 Highway 61 North
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 20. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Ford And Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Chapel
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Road
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Celebration of Life Service

AUG 21. 10:00 AM (CT)

Abbey Road Christian Church
2411 Abbey Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Tribute Wall



“ Frank and Robyn Walker-Christensen purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Martin D. Needels.



Frank and Robyn Walker-Christensen - August 18, 2021 at 04:16 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Martin D. Needels.



August 18, 2021 at 07:23 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Martin D. Needels.



August 17, 2021 at 01:34 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Martin D. Needels.



August 16, 2021 at 07:53 PM

AN

“ *Margaret, I'm sorry for your loss. I remember a work trip we took, and I talked with Marty about the Cardinals in the World Series. Praying for comfort and peace during this difficult time.*

Andrea Nenninger - August 16, 2021 at 02:29 PM

JL

“ *Jean, Deva and Lesley purchased the Rose Remembrance for the family of Martin D. Needels.*



Jean, Deva and Lesley - August 15, 2021 at 06:33 PM