



## RJ McKinney

August 5, 1929 - January 27, 2017

RJ McKinney, 87, passed away Friday, January 27, 2017 at Saint Louis University Medical Center.

He was born in Advance, Mo. on August 5, 1929 to the late Rube and Aria Bird McKinney.

RJ was married to Mildred Christine Thompson, August 28, 1948 in Paducah, Ky. She preceded him in death March 24, 1993. He married Vicki Kay Connell on June 8, 2001.

Survivors include his wife Vicki McKinney of Cape Girardeau; daughter, Debra McKinney (Mark) Kaiser, Jefferson City. Daughter-in-Law Sonya McKinney, Austin, TX. He enjoyed four grandchildren, Lauren Christine Kaiser (Marty) Johnson, Alexa Starr (Riley) Percivill, Taylor Bleu (Alexander) Smith, and Mark Stewart Kaiser, Jr.; four great-grandchildren, Kadah Belle McKinney, Miles Alan Johnson, Tuscany James Smith, and Macklin David Johnson. He was also survived by Vicki's children and grandchildren.

He was also preceded in death by his son David Kent McKinney.

RJ graduated from Advance High School in 1946. Upon graduation, he enrolled in Paducah Community College in Paducah, Kentucky where he

graduated with an accounting degree.

He was employed with Jim Wilson Co., in Cape Girardeau Mo. from 1950 until retiring in 1997. He served as President from 1987 until being elected Chairman of the Board in 1995.

RJ was very involved in the Cape Girardeau community. He has been a member of Grace United Methodist Church since 1958.

RJ joined the Cape Girardeau Lions Club in 1971, serving as chairman of various committees, and as Secretary, Vice-President and President.

He was appointed to the Cape Girardeau Planning and Zoning Commission where he served three terms as Chairman. He also served on the Cape Girardeau Long Range Comprehensive Planning Committee and the Board of Directors for the Cape Girardeau Executives Club and on the Cape Girardeau County Board of Park Commissioners.

RJ was elected to the Southeast Missouri Hospital Foundation Board of Directors in 1996, and served in numerous roles including treasurer and on the Executive Committee.

RJ was a member of the Cape Girardeau Chamber of Commerce for over 50 years, serving on various committees and the Board of Directors.

He served on the Board of Directors of the Greater Cape Girardeau Development Corporation, the Colonial Cape Foundation and the Community Counseling Center where he also served on the Executive Committee.

He was selected to serve on the board of Southeast Missouri Crime Stoppers, Inc., and was appointed to the Center Junction Board of Directors and the

Cape Girardeau County Transit Authority.

In 2001, he was elected Executive Director of The Guardian's Law Enforcement Officers and Firefighters Family Relief Fund, Inc.

Funeral services will be under the direction of Ford and Sons Mount Auburn Funeral Home in Cape Girardeau. Visitation will be from 4 - 8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home. The funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday also at the Mount Auburn location. Burial will follow at Cape County Memorial Park.

Memorials may be made to Feed My Starving Children at LaCroix United Methodist Church in Cape Girardeau or a charity of the donor's choice.

# Cemetery Details

## Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery

2315 Highway 61 North  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701  
(573) 334-1909  
<https://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 31. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

## Service

FEB 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

BB

“ *As good a man as I've ever known. Hope you're sharing cocktails with Charlie & Louise. I miss you R.J. 🙏❤️* □  
Love,  
*Brad & Kathie Brune*

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**Brad Brune** - May 03, 2022 at 02:32 PM

BB

“ *As good a man as I've ever known. Hope your sharing cocktails with Charlie & Louise. I miss you R.J. 🙏❤️* □  
Love,  
*Brad & Kathie Brune*

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**Brad Brune** - May 03, 2022 at 02:31 PM



“ *I am sorry to hear about your loss. My condolences to Debra and the McKinney family.*

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**Robert Hale** - January 31, 2017 at 07:40 PM

DH

“ *Vickie:  
We are so sorry to hear of RJ's passing. Separation is so hard.  
Great to know for us Christians, there is a "Hello after Goodbye".  
We are in Florida and, sorry to say, will miss the funeral. God's  
peace be with you.  
Don & Carolyn Hopper*

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**Don & Carolyn Hopper** - January 31, 2017 at 03:47 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of RJ McKinney.*



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January 31, 2017 at 01:47 PM



“ *Jed and Brandi Miller and the girls purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of RJ McKinney.*



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**Jed and Brandi Miller and the girls** - January 31, 2017 at 11:45 AM

TH

“ Dear Vicki:

*I was saddened to learn yesterday of RJ's passing. I'm not in Cape Girardeau at the moment but about a thousand miles away. Otherwise I would have been at the service. One has only to read his obituary to understand that RJ lived a life that made a difference in the lives of others. I don't know anyone who was more involved in our community than he. I had the distinct privilege of serving with RJ on the hospital foundation board. He rarely, if ever missed a meeting (usually getting there early), always came well prepared, and was consistently in good spirits. Despite his typical joviality, he was always serious about the work of the foundation--and he did a lot of it. I hope the fact that his was a life well lived will be of some comfort to you at this time. He will be missed--and remembered--by many. Jane joins me in extending our heartfelt condolences.*

*Sincerely,*

*Tom Harte*

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**Tom Harte** - January 31, 2017 at 01:41 AM