



Samuel Gene LaFont

December 17, 1922 - February 5, 2017

Samuel Gene LaFont, 94, of Cape Girardeau peacefully passed away Sunday, Feb. 5, 2017, at Saint Francis Medical Center.

He was born Sunday, Dec. 17, 1922, in Portageville, Missouri, beloved son of Samuel Lee and Lula Dillenger LaFont.

He was baptized at and was a member of St. Eustachius Catholic Church in Portageville, and was a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Gene served in World War II as a paratrooper and was a staff sergeant. After his military service, he returned home to operate LaFont Cafe and service station in Portageville. In 1977, he moved to Cape Girardeau and operated LaFont Auto Sales.

After retirement, he was a volunteer with Meals on Wheels through the Cape Girardeau Senior Center. Gene's great loves were his family and dancing every Saturday night. He was known around town as "Gene, Gene, the dancing machine."

Gene was father to Rick and Pat (Terry) LaFont; grandfather to Lance (Tara) LaFont; stepgrandfather to Jared (Ashley) Brewer; great-grandfather to Brie and Wesley Claire LaFont; brother to Harry, Bub and Eileen; and uncle to

John (Sandy) and Steven (Valerie) LaFont.

A funeral Mass will be at noon Feb. 20 at St. Eustachius Catholic Church in Portageville.

A tribute to Gene's life will be at a later date at the Venue in Cape Girardeau.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the Cape Girardeau Senior Center, 921 N. Clark Ave., Cape Girardeau, MO 63701.

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

FEB **20**. 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Eustachius Catholic Church
200 W. 4th Street
Portageville, MO 63873

Tribute Wall

LW

“ *Lori Wynn lit a candle in memory of Samuel Gene LaFont*



lori wynn - February 24, 2017 at 05:23 PM

VW

“ *Gene had such a love of country which he displayed around Cape Girardeau by a constant display of the American flag waving from his car's windows. I was one of this neighbors in Shadybrook Court who enjoyed his "quick to help with anything" attitude as he walked the many miles he did everyday around the neighborhood in all kinds of weather. He helped me first find a car and then a home in Shadybrook after overhearing a conversation I was having in a store checkout line with someone about my misfortunes of having my car totaled and at the same time seeking a place for my elderly mother and I to live. He handed me his card and then went above and beyond to really help us. He was a devout Catholic with the true Christian spirit of charity. He will be missed by many.*

Valerie Wondrick - February 19, 2017 at 11:51 PM

SO

“ *Pat, I am so sad about the passing of your dad. I will keep your family in my thought and prayers during this very difficult time. Your dad was quite guy!!!*



Susie O'Connell - February 16, 2017 at 09:05 PM

LW

Dear Ricky and Pat I just heard my thoughts and prayers of with ya'll. You were so lucky to have had him for so many years. I was only 26 when I lost my mother. You have been blessed. As you know Gene was my godfather. I am Lori Wynn my parentd were Herb and Mary Etta Wynn from Portageville. I remember as a child dancing with him my feet on top of his and playing at the cafe. As a growup we still had a few dances he was smooth on his feet he dance to Old Blue Eyes "Strangers in the Night" has my favorite he made me love the kind of music. He had a wonderful life, loved by many. I think I'll listen to Strangers in the Night and cry a little and smile because he was a part of my life. I love you guys. My # is 870-740-5648 please call.

lori wynn - February 24, 2017 at 05:22 PM