



Gerald "Jerry" Duree

January 12, 1921 - July 16, 2008

Gerald Garfield Duree was born on January 12, 1921 on the prairie in Eads CO. He passed away from natural causes at the age of 87, on July 13, 2008 in Topeka KS. He is survived by his beloved wife of 40 years, Jean; his three daughters, Helen Duree (Orland CA), Velda Duree (Fresno CA), Tish Smith (Topeka); his son, Tom Ferraro (Tucson AZ); and his three sisters, Edna Rogers (Topeka), Ruth Grindel (Denver CO) and Irma Duree (Topeka). He was very sadly predeceased by his son, Gerald Wayne Duree. Jerry took great pride in his grandchildren, Erica Duree, Paul Stone, Carl Stone, Nicole Bartolini, Loretta Sigala (Gomez), Maria Perez (Gomez), Brooke Piper (Smith), Nicholas Ferraro and Matthew Ferraro; and his great-grandchildren, Emily Stone, Evan Perez, Sofia Perez and Luke Piper. Jerry came from strong pioneer stock. He was always fascinated with the fact that his mother and father crossed the Kansas prairie two times in covered wagons before finally settling in Perry KS. He joined the US Navy when he was 17 years old and went off to see the world. When World War II broke out, Jerry fought in the Pacific Theatre as a gunner's mate on a fast attack destroyer, manning 16mm guns. After 20 years of service and many decorations and promotions, he retired from the Navy as a Chief Gunner's Mate. He returned to his beloved Sunflower State in 1960. He worked for 25 years for the Hallmark Co. all the while farming (his true vocation) on the side. Jerry had an abiding faith in God and was a loyal church member all his life. He, his energy, and his appetite for life will be missed by all who knew him. Family will greet friends from 6 to 8

p.m. Wednesday, July 16th at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Burial will follow at Mission Center Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to North Rock Baptist Church or Wanamaker Road Baptist Church, sent in care of the funeral home.

Tribute Wall



“ Gerald "Jerry" Duree

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ Thought of Jerry today....he and Jean were good friends of my parents, Louis and Louise Unrein. Fond memories of visiting them when very little recall and they housed our first milk cow in their barn. He was always kind and friendly.

Tim Unrein - October 06, 2019 at 05:24 AM



“ Grandpa Duree was always very kind and loving.

My favorite memory of him was a visit he made to our home in Illinois when I was a child. While he was there, he took apart several of our broken toys/bicycles/tricycles and reassembled them into a makeshift tractor that we could ride. It was a strange looking thing, but it was fun to play with.

He was always very good at keeping up with us, which is a tough job because we don't keep in touch much. We enjoyed every card and letter we would get.

We will all miss him very much.

*Love,
Carl, Rachel and Emily Stone.*

Carl Stone - July 15, 2008 at 09:36 PM

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“ *Condolences and prayers to the Duree family from Mary Jo(Cloud)Cannon.*

Duree,Gerald - July 15, 2008 at 01:48 PM