



Henry "Hank" Wanke

May 3, 1925 - June 16, 2023

Henry "Hank" Wanke, 98, of Topeka, Kansas, passed away on Friday, June 16, 2023, while traveling in Georgia. Henry was born in Montevideo, Minnesota, May 3, 1925, to Margaret H. (Ketelsen) and Christian H. Wanke. He was married to Martha S. Wehner in 1948. They were married 66 years. He worked as vice president of Security Benefit Life in Topeka and at Midland National of Sioux Falls in South Dakota. Henry was a member of the German-American Club of Topeka, Saint Aloysius Catholic Church at Meriden, Kansas, Topeka Optimist Club and a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars. During WWII, he was in the army, taught German to fellow soldiers, did reconnaissance, and fought at the Battle of The Bulge. Henry enjoyed spending time with family, travelling, playing bridge, reading both in German and English, Sudoku, crosswords, history, playing chess, gardening, bowling, fishing, Minnesota Twins baseball, college football, coffee with cream and Sunday afternoon naps.

Henry was preceded in death by his wife, Martha, sisters, Vernida VanMeveren and Jeane Goulson and a grandson, Thad Millard. He is survived by his children, Hilde Wagner, Williamsburg VA; Chearie Donaldson (Dan), George Wanke (Tess Banion), Alexandria VA, Erika Tipton, Topeka and John Wanke (Sara), San Antonio TX; his grandchildren, Todd Wagner, Kevin (Lauren) Wagner, Paige (Todd) Herman, Schaan (Jen) Donaldson, Heather (Lee) Scherer, Hilary Banion Wanke (Josh Campbell), Colin (Lindsey) Wanke, Lisa Tipton, Karen Tipton, Briana (Ryan) Moeller, Jenaye (Paul) Madigan, Daniel Wanke, Karalyn (Caleb) Killgore; and his great-grandchildren, Audrey Millard, Davis Millard, Gresham Wagner, Christian Wagner, Luke (Sammie) McCarvel, Brooklyn Donaldson, Jaq Donaldson, Kyra Scherer, Melina Scherer, Flynn Campbell, Agrippa Campbell, Darwin Campbell, Isla Wanke, Ophelia Wanke, Zachary Nitcher, Bryson Moeller, Adelyn Moeller, Thomas Madigan, Eliana Madigan; great-great-grandchild, Aurora McCarvel; sister-in-law, Barb Wehner, and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

Cremation has taken place in Georgia. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday, October 14, 2023, at Mother Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Church, Topeka, Kansas. Inurnment will be in St. Aloysius Cemetery, Meriden, Kansas.

Contributions may be sent to St. Aloysius Catholic Church, 615 E. Wyandotte St., Meriden, KS 66512, or the Kansas School for the Deaf and sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614.

Condolences may be sent online to www.kevinbrennanfamily.com.

Previous Events

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT **14**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Mother Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Church
2014 NW 46th Street
Topeka, KS 66618

Tribute Wall



“ *Sacred Duty Spray* was purchased for the family of Henry "Hank" Wanke.



October 04, 2023 at 10:45 AM