



James Thomas "Red" Dowling

January 1, 1918 - November 27, 2012

James Thomas "Red" Dowling, age 94, of Topeka, passed away Tuesday November 27, 2012 .

Red was born the 4th of July, 1918 on Independence Creek to John F. and Agnes I. (Kilkenny) Dowling. His mother said he was her red-headed firecracker.

He attended Maur Hill and St. Benedict's both in Atchison KS. In the late 1930's, Red played on an Atchison KS basketball team that defeated the Harlem Globetrotters. Red was the last surviving member of the 1942 State championship softball team from Atchison KS. He served as a medic in the Army.

Red married Ruth L. Biffinger, Feb 4, 1941, in Atchison. She preceded him in death Oct. 9, 2006. He was also preceded in death by siblings, Francis "Fritz" Dowling, Mary Ellen Babcock, and Richard Dowling.

Red worked for Ed Marling's, Baumgartner's and Moore's Furniture before retiring from Sears Roebuck. He was a member of Knight's of Columbus Council No. 534, American Legion Post #1 and Mater Dei Catholic Church.

Survivors include their children, Mary Ann (Tim) Grace, LaSalle IL, John F.

Dowling, Hampton NH, Linda (Charlie) Grover, Topeka, Mike (Cindy) Dowling, Grain Valley MO, Patty Dowling, Topeka; 10 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

Family will greet friends from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Fri. at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Rd, Topeka KS 66614, where a parish rosary will be prayed at 6:30 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00a.m., Sat., at Mater Dei Holy Name Catholic Church. Burial will follow at Mt. Calvary.

Memorial contributions may be made to Mater Dei Parish or St. Benedict's Abbey, Atchison sent in care of the Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Rd, Topeka KS 66614.

Tribute Wall



“ Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of James Thomas "Red" Dowling



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - January 21, 2016 at 04:42 PM



“ James Thomas "Red" Dowling

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ Pierce, hey grandpa I love you

pierce - October 20, 2021 at 10:22 PM



“ Red was a true joy to meet - I was taught the game of pitch and continue to play it today - my best to the family - he was a special man.

John Hadley - November 30, 2012 at 07:46 PM

#K

“ I woke up today not being Jim Dowling's Granddaughter. I will miss his letters and e-mails. He always closed them by telling me what he had to eat. He wrote me every week while I was away at college. I treasure the ones that I still have. He was a wonderful teacher, coach, friend, mentor and Grandpa. I will never forget him.

#2 Granddaughter Kelly - November 28, 2012 at 12:26 PM