



Russell Weekes

January 1, 1914 - September 25, 2009

Russell E. Weekes, age 95, of Topeka, passed away Sept. 20, 2009 at his home. Russell was born Feb. 19, 1914 in Paxico to Jesse and Bessie Copp Weekes. He met Kathryn Sweeney at Clark's School of Business. They were married Sept. 17, 1937 at Holy Name Church. She preceded him in death Nov. 6, 2001. Russell and Kathryn dedicated their lives to children, adopting Dennis, then Denise and later parenting the four Silvia brothers: Joe, Jim, Bob and Phil. They were devout Charismatic Roman Catholics who were committed to the Topeka Community working with Catholic Charities and St. Vincent Orphanage. Together their legacy resulted in a better life for the countless individuals whose lives they changed. Russell served in the Navy from 1943-45. He retired in 1971 from Santa Fe Railway Co. He was a member of the Santa Fe Retirees, Most Pure Heart of Mary Church and the Knights of Columbus. Russell was an avid hunter and knew the Flint Hills. Survivors include his children, Dennis Weekes and Denise Weekes, both of Topeka; sons, Joe Silvia, CA, Jim Silvia, IL, and Bob Silvia, CA; 14 Grandchildren, 33 Great-Grandchildren, 10 Great-Great Grandchildren. He was preceded in death by Phil Silvia. A Wake Service, celebrating Russell's life, will begin at 5:30 p.m. Friday followed by visitation at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Rd, Topeka KS 66614. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Sat., Sept. 26, at Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church. Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. at Mt Calvary Cemetery, St Marys. Memorial contributions are suggested to

Epilepsy Foundation of America sent in care of the funeral home.

Tribute Wall



“ *Russell Weekes*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Mr. Weekes was such a special guy to not only myself but my brother and family. I was privileged to have known him. Even late in life I know he was very keen in the news of the world. His sacrifices, service and values are something to be commended and strived for. Uncle Dennis, Denise, Aaron and Russell - my best wishes to you in this time. Much love to you all.*

Stanton Ross - September 28, 2009 at 07:31 PM



“ *Dad, You and mom taught us the true meaning of love. You sacrificed much to give us Silvia boys a home full of love, sharing and happiness. What we are today is a reflection of the love, care and warmth which you gave so freely. We love you!*

Jim & Helen Silvia - September 26, 2009 at 08:25 AM



“ *My condelence to the family. I will continue to keep the family in prayer during the time of difficulty. Draw close to the Lord and He will draw close to you. He will strengthen you and surround you with love during this season of your life. My love & blessings, Stella Alejos, Kansas City*

Stella Alejos - September 25, 2009 at 03:13 PM

PS

“ My childhood is filled with fond memories of visiting Grandpa & Grandma Weekes at their home in Topeka. I remember the simple things... making sandwiches in the kitchen, sipping lemonade on the porch, playing pool in the basement, hide-n-seek all over the house, or playing in the yard. Their home was always warm and inviting, and they shared their love generously with all who entered. Their kindness and love for others was evident in their lives. I know my father's life was deeply enriched by them, and I am blessed to have been able to grow up with them in my life. Grandpa & Grandma Weekes walked the walk, and they will be greatly missed. Denise, words are hardly sufficient, but Thank You for everything you've done over the years.

Patrick Silvia - September 25, 2009 at 12:08 PM

JC

“ Denise and your brothers-
My prayers are with you during this time of sorrow. May your memories bring you comfort. Plus the knowledge that your father is now with his Maker.
Jody Colhouer,

Jody Colhouer - September 24, 2009 at 07:20 PM

RS

“ Dad and Mom Weekes are greatly loved and appreciated by the Robert Silvia family for rescuing our Dad from the orphanage and making him their son. Their selfless devotion to the Silvia boys was remarkable. You are greatly missed.

Robert Silvia - September 24, 2009 at 07:01 PM

DW

“ Dad, thank you for letting me be able to provide you with a loving and caring home that you and I shared for 6 years. You have given me more than words could ever express. Thank you so much for all the love, wisdom, support and loving kindness that you gave freely to all that entered our home. You were always such a gentle person to all that helped you at the hospital and then back at home. You would kiss the hands of the nurses and staff and that showed your appreciation to them. Thank you for adopting me as your daughter. God had picked you and Mom out to raise all of us kids. It has been a honor to be a member of the Weekes family.
Your Daughter,
Denise Weekes

Denise Weekes - September 24, 2009 at 06:58 PM

CM

“ Denise,

We are thinking about you and praying your strength. We love you and if you need anything, don't hesitate to call.
Christina

Christina & Marta - September 24, 2009 at 05:59 PM

CR

“ What a great friend Mr. Weekes was in my youth. I remember living at the house on Indiana in Topeka, playing in his flowers, and spending many hours hearing stories told about his life, family and friends. Uncle Dennis, Aaron, Russell and Denise....I will miss him dearly.

Chris Ross - September 24, 2009 at 01:37 PM

CH

“ Russell was the sweetest man I ever met. He had his own way to charm those he came in contact with. He was such a big Blessing to me. I thought of him as my dad, too. He loved my 3 pepper omelet I would get to make for him occasionally. He was a joy to be around. The stories he would tell were so interesting. My life has been enriched by our meeting. Thank you so much Denise for sharing you DAD with me. Love you Russell and the Weekes family.

Connie Heath - September 24, 2009 at 01:00 PM

GM

“ Denise, You know how I loved getting to meet Russell at MorningSide in Blue Eye MO. and the times we got to talk with him and (also you) via Yahoo conferences. I was blessed and will always remember his blessing on me. And forever be thankful. For you and the Whole Family are Bob and my thoughts and prayers . May you all be blessed with beautiful memories and meet Russell and Mom again , on the other side..
In His Love , Gerry

Gerry Messier - September 24, 2009 at 10:51 AM

CT

“ To all who loved Dad Weekes - Words cannot express what knowing this wonderful man for over 45 years has meant to me. He leaves such an amazing legacy and though we, who loved him so much, will miss him deeply I know he is with his Lord, Mom Weekes and Phil. Each visit with him was so special but the last time will always be the most precious as we knew he was looking heavenward.

Mary Denise, thank you beyond words for the wonderful dedication and care you gave Dad and Mom. You are so appreciated. Dennis, thank you for being there, too.

I know Sonny felt such a love for Dad, too, and sends his regards. Much love to all the family.

Clarice

Clarice Silvia Todd - September 23, 2009 at 05:05 PM

BH

“ Denise, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Brenda Holliday - September 22, 2009 at 09:36 PM

CW

“ Dennis, I worked with your dad at Santa Fe when I first started with the Railroad. He was a good man as I remember.

Charles Widner - September 22, 2009 at 08:24 PM

GG

“ *Denise and Dennis,
I was so sorry to hear of Russell's passing. He was a sweet, gentle man and you were very fortunate to have had him for so many years. I'm sure there are many treasured moments to fill your heart and comfort you.*

*Sincerely,
Guyla*

Guyla Godfrey - September 22, 2009 at 07:50 PM