Calvin Neeman Sr.



Calvin Neeman Sr.

Calvin Amandus Neeman Sr., 86, of Lake St. Louis, Mo., formerly of Cahokia, III., was called to his Lord and Savior on Thursday, Oct. 1, 2015.

Calvin was born in Valmeyer, III., and graduated from Dupo High School. He was most notably recognized as a professional baseball player with the Chicago Cubs, Philadelphia Phillies and Pittsburgh Pirates. Cal began his baseball career signing with the New York Yankee's in Joplin, Mo., as an uninvited tryout. He attended Illinois Wesleyan University where he was an acclaimed baseball and basketball player. Later he graduated from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

He was a Korean War veteran, active in his church and served on numerous local boards. Always the competitor Cal developed a contagious passion for golf which he shared with everyone. He was a teacher, coach, and mentor to many.

While in the Yankee organization he met, married and cherished his lifelong adoration, Mary Ann, nee Minchich, Neeman from Binghamton, N.Y. In their 61 years of marriage they raised five children with a reverence for God and secondary love of family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Amandus Neeman and Elenore, nee Johanning, Neeman; and an older brother that passed shortly after birth.

Surviving siblings are a brother, Earl (Carolynn) Neeman of Macinaw, III., and a sister, Adeline (AI) Ferry of East Carondelet, III.

He has five surviving children, all of which cannot adequately articulate their immense love for their father: Calvin and (Carol) Neeman of Waterloo, Ill., Jim and (Sue) Neeman of Freeburg, Ill., Lori and (Louis) Wray of Lake St. Louis, Mo., Susanne (Kevin) Graham of Dardenne Prairie, Mo., and Paul Neeman of Creve Coeur, Mo.

Immeasurably, his positive influence encouraged his six grandchildren: Collin (Jill) Neeman, Jake Neeman, Leslie (Adam) Robertson, Louis C. Wray, Charles Wray, Kevin Graham, and Katelynn Graham.

Visitation: Friends may call from 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 4, 2015, at Pitman Funeral Home, 1545 Wentzville Parkway, Wentzville Mo.

Funeral: Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, Oct. 5, 2015, at Living Lord Lutheran Church, 500 Cedar Circle Dr., Lake St. Louis, Mo., with Pastor Roy Christell officiating. Interment will be at Our Lady Cemetery, Lake St. Louis, Mo.

PITMAN FUNERAL HOME, Wentzville, Mo.

Funeral Home

Pitman Funeral Homes & Cremation Services 1545 Wentzville Pkwy Wentzville, MO 63385 (636) 327-6600

Published in Belleville News-Democrat on Oct. 3, 2015