



## Harlan B. Helgeson

September 13, 2017 - October 10, 2017

Harlan B Helgeson Jr. age 94 passed away on October 10th after a short illness. He loved his country and proudly served during WWII in the Army Air Corp. He was a long-time resident of the Bourbonnais and Manteno area. He was born in Cherryvale KS to Harlan B Helgeson Sr and Hannah (Hamilton) Helgeson on Sept 13th 1923. He is survived by his wife Tekla Andrews. He is also survived by his two children: Wayne & Debbie Helgeson and Wendy & Carl Crays. He has 6 grandchildren: Daniel Crays, Carolyn Whitaker, Marc Helgeson, Lindsey Helgeson, Erin Willis, and Andy Helgeson. He has 9 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by a half-sister Karen Denoyer, a step-brother Robert (Bob) Helgeson, and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother Auldon Helgeson, and his wife, Martha (Shumaker) Helgeson.

Mr. Helgeson loved music and credited his mother, who was a music teacher, with teaching him his love of music. He played in several bands which included Jo and the Boys and the Combinations. While serving in the Army Air Corp during WWII he entertained troops as a member of the 513th Air Force Band including a USO show where Mickey Rooney was the headliner. He was also an avid bowler and earned the title of Illinois State Bowling Champion in 1966.

Mr. Helgeson retired from both the Illinois Central RR and the United States Postal Service. He was an active member of the Moose, the VFW, the American Legion, the Shriners, and was a past president of the Masonic

Lodge. Cremation rites were accorded. A Celebration of Life Service will be held at Grace United Methodist Church in Bourbonnais. Visitation will start at 11AM with full Military Honors at 1pm. Masonic Rites will be accorded at 1:45 followed by the Celebration of Life Service at 2pm. A lunch will be served immediately following the service at the church.

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Cremation rites were accorded. Please sign Harlan's guest book at [brownfuneralhomemanteno.com](http://brownfuneralhomemanteno.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 28. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Grace Community United Methodist Church  
735 Main St NW  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

## Service

OCT 28. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Grace Community United Methodist Church  
735 Main St NW  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

## Military Honors

OCT 28. 1:00 PM (CT)

Grace Community United Methodist Church  
735 Main St NW  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

## Masonic Rites

OCT 28. 1:45 PM (CT)

Grace Community United Methodist Church  
735 Main St NW  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

# Tribute Wall



“ *Harlan B. Helgeson*

October 06, 2023 at 01:14 PM



“ *I spent a lot of my childhood at Gala Lanes. I remember "Uncle Harlan" which is what he told me to call him very well. He would always give me pointers on how to improve my bowling. I give some credit to him for my 187 average. He was truly a very loving man.*  
*Pam Buser*

**Pam Buser** - October 27, 2017 at 01:18 PM



“ *Mel and Joyce purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Harlan B. Helgeson.*



**Mel and Joyce** - October 25, 2017 at 09:20 PM



“ *My condolences to Tekla, Wendy and Wayne. Harlan was an integral part of our family, and I have known him all my life. He was a great story teller and knew all the stories about the Hamilton clan. A great guy, and I will miss him. Jim Hamilton*

**James L Hamilton** - October 25, 2017 at 07:35 PM

KC

“ Harlen Helga Kim was one of the sweetest great grandpa with a girl could have he always had something funny witty or wise to say to all of his smile could light up a room the last time I talk to was just a couple days before He passed away he was a little hospital and said it was good to talk to you Katie bug and my grandma Said hearing from me made his day and put a huge smile on his face I will always love you and miss you grandma Gigi bubba Gigi but at least you are finally together give grandma Judy a hug and kiss for me Please is it hurts A lot to think you were gone From earth and the world lost a true soldier but at least you and grandma Gigi are finally together and I know me and from earth and the world lost a true soldier but at least you and grandma Gigi are finally together and I know me and the rest of our family will see you both again someday I will always love you and miss you goodbye.



Love,  
Your Oldest great granddaughter Katie bug  
Caitlin Sue Crays Crays (Katie)

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**Katie Crays** - October 25, 2017 at 06:20 PM

RC

“ Harlsn I worked with you at the Post Office in Bradley. Ypu were a nice man and was very good worker. You will be missef.



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**Russ Collins** - October 25, 2017 at 05:41 PM

JH

“ Johnny And Jeannie Holt lit a candle in memory of Harlan B. Helgeson



Johnny and Jeannie holt - October 25, 2017 at 10:46 AM



“ 3 files added to the album Pictures of Harlan



Brown Funeral Home - October 18, 2017 at 03:08 PM

TB

I remember when Harlan and my dad Ray Blackmore who also worked for the IC were on the same team in a bowling league in the 1960's Tom Blackmore

Tom Blackmore - October 26, 2017 at 09:27 AM

VD

“ Harlan and Martha were such good neighbors to Don and I. Many good memories. My love and prayers for all of Harlan's family always. Virginia R Dominick



Virginia R Dominick - October 17, 2017 at 09:42 AM