



Elmer S Mekker Sr

August 11, 1934 - July 30, 2014

Elmer S Mekker Sr. passed away on July 30, 2014. He was born August 11, 1934 on Griffing Ave in Cleveland, OH. He graduated from St. Margaret's of Hungary School in 1948, St Benedictine High School in 1952, TRW Apprentice in 1961 and college at Fenn College and John Carroll University .

Elmer started full time work at Thompson Products, later known as TRW Inc., in November 1952. For 41 years, he worked at various locations, spending the last 20 years of his career as the Sr. Product Assurance Specialist for TRW aircraft fuel pumps.

Elmer was drafted into the US Army in April 1955 serving in England as a 75mm anti aircraft technician. He continued his service in the US Army Reserves until 1984 when he retired from the 2077th USAR school as a Sr. Instructor with a rank of Master Sergeant E8 and was awarded an accommodation medal.

Elmer was a member of the S.M.A. Club, EOUV Club and the Gottscheer Blaskapelle Brass Band. He managed the Gottscheer Blaskapelle for over thirty plus years, traveling to perform in northeastern USA, Canada and two trips to Germany and Austria. The last 20 years he played the base drum for the band.

Elmer's favorite past time was his two children, tent camping, motor home traveling, boating and most of all dancing.

Elmer started dancing in first grade at St. Margaret's Fall Festival on E. 116th St and then started performing at various Fall Festivals on Buckeye Rd. He enjoyed dancing at various Oktoberfests around Cleveland. He hired and monitored the performance of bands and dancers for Steve Bencic's Oktoberfest for 5 years. During his retirement years, he danced 3-4 nights a week at various Polka dances around northeast Ohio.

Elmer is survived by his daughter Diane Robert Beavers, son Elmer S Elizabeth Mekker Jr, Special Friend Marty Cromwell, siblings Joseph Dorothy, Frank Judy – Deceased, Mary Lee Ron Ryan, James Tish, many nieces and nephews and friends in the Polka world.

Funeral Mass will be held on Monday August 4, 2014 at 10 AM at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, 1730 Mount Carmel Dr Wickliffe, OH 44092.

Visitation will be on Sunday August 3, 2014 from 3 – 7 PM at the Monreal Funeral Home 35400 Curtis Blvd, Eastlake. Burial will immediately follow at All Souls Cemetery.

Family suggests contributions be made to The American Cancer Society 10501 Euclid Ave. Cleveland, OH 44106 or Wounded Warriors Project P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, Kansas 66675.

Immediately following the burial, the family cordially invites all family and friends to Sterle's Country House 1401 East 55th Street Cleveland, OH 44103, to celebrate a great man's life, and dance to polka music.

Tribute Wall

WC

“ My deepest sympathy in the passing Elmer. I had the pleasure of meeting Elmer when he came to visit Shimadzu. In chatting, we found out we both worked at TRW and knew mutual people. From the instant I met Elmer, it was as though I had known him all my life. He was so easy to talk to and had such a warm smile. I just wish I would have had the chance to see him dance the Polka! I know he will be sorely missed by all. Thinking of the entire Mekker family at this time. Wendy de Castro

Wendy de Castro - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

WG

“ Our deepest heartfelt condolences to Elmer's family and the entire Mekker families. May your happy memories give you peace at this time of sorrow. We will always fondly remember the family trips to Cleveland to visit Elmer and the Mekker family. Elmer was a kind and generous man who will be deeply missed by his friends and family. In recent years we had the pleasure to be with Elmer and Marty at one of the German Family Society Octoberfests. Elmer certainly enjoyed listening and dancing to the polka music. We know he is dancing in heaven. Our love and prayers are with you at this difficult time. Wendel, Wendell & Kathy, Frank & Christine Gieger

Wendell Gieger - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM