

Gerald "SHORTY" Robert Thompson

October 17, 1935 - November 27, 2016

Gerald Robert "Shorty" Thompson, age 81, died on Sunday, November 27, 2016.

Born October 17, 1935 in St. Louis, Missouri to Andrew and Elizabeth Thompson. On April 23, 1955 he married Margey Hudson.

He lived in Florissant, Missouri, was a Cement Mason Local 527, a Navy Veteran, worked for McCarthy Construction for a majority of his career. He retired in 1993.

Survivors include his children Mike (Marcia) Thompson of Bartelso, Illinois; Dana (Dan) Eagan of Florissant, Missouri and Shelley Gellner (fiancé Tom Molidor) of Chicago, IL. Grandfather of Danny (Joanna) Eagan; Tim (Melissa) Eagan; Jamie Eagan (John Martin); Anna Thompson; Chad Gellner; Matthew Thompson; Benjamin Thompson; and Jared Gellner. Great Grandfather of Taylee Eagan; Aubrey Eagan; Bobby Eagan; Aidric Eagan, Asa and Asher Eagan. He is survived by his brother George Thompson. Shorty will be especially remembered for his friendship with Jan Bieser.

A Memorial Gathering will be held at Archway Memorial Chapel, 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm followed by a Memorial Service at 6pm Wednesday, November 30, 2016 at 111 Taylor Road, Hazelwood, MO 63042, (314) 895-3900.

Memorial contributions are welcome.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

NOV **30**. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Archway Memorial Chapel
111 Taylor Road
Hazelwood, MO 63042
(314) 895-3900
info@archwaychapel.com

Memorial Service

NOV **30**. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Archway Memorial Chapel
111 Taylor Road
Hazelwood, MO 63042
(314) 895-3900
info@archwaychapel.com

Tribute Wall

DA

“Dad - You were such a great Dad and role model for all! Our dad (Shorty) was a man of many qualities: integrity, fairness, dedicated hard worker; he loved to dance, he loved being a river rat, he was frugal and a razzer (teaser), he had a nickname of “The Rock”, he was a dedicated Democrat. Our most important memory- he always had a smile on his face. He was an accomplished Cement Mason and worked the majority of his career with McCarthy Brothers Construction. He always had a river lot on the Mississippi River and enjoyed his time at the “River” with friends and family. The most important relationships to Shorty was his family. When we were growing up, he always instilled a hard work ethic and his standard cliché was “if you can’t do it, you can’t stay”. In addition, he instilled values in each of us such as honesty, respect for ourselves and others, fairness, loyalty to family and friends, confidence to challenge ourselves throughout life, and the drive to achieve our dreams. My dad favorite comment was “I am so lucky and proud of my kids.”

Our experiences with our “River Rat” Dad included a scary spider episode in our mobile home. There was a big black, fast, spider that ran across our bed. Dad was able to catch and kill the scary spider. We would not sleep in the bed that night but Dad took care of his girls, always checking on us, as we tried to go to sleep on the couch. Dad had a john boat for fishing but all he caught was a big black snake....we really were not fishermen. Dad’s next play toy for us was a Honda 50 mini bike. So in order to test the endurance of the bike, Dad and Uncle George took it for a spin....imagine the sight...two grown men 200lbs plus each holding on to each other while straddling a small motorcycle. A few years later, we graduated up to the Honda 100 and Kawasaki 100 which we could not wait to hop on when we arrived at the river (except for Shelley —she was a little chicken after she wrecked the minibike in front of the group at the river in Elsberry called “Six Pack”).

Dad loved sports and we all participated in a sport or two - football, roller hockey, softball/baseball and the new sport for girls - soccer. One of the years Dana and Shelley needed a soccer coach. Dad signed up for the job. This was a new sport for Dad because he

really did not know the game but he gave it his all. We were very competitive and successful even though we were called "The Pumpkins".

Not too long ago Dad was telling us a story about hanging out with the Forshes. He proceeded to talk about how he would get together with the Forshes at their house for a night of cards. Forshes lived a couple of blocks from us so they would call mom and dad on the land line and keep the phones off the hook. Periodically, mom or dad would pick up the receiver and listen to make sure we were safe and sound...all quiet....really..... sounds kinda like a baby monitor on steroids....two blocks away. If we only knew.

Dad was a frugal shopper. He enjoyed his days at the Auction in St. Charles, the Sears Outlet down the street and JC Penny's Outlet at Jamestown Mall. Dad purchased around 500 plus mini blinds/pull shades at the auction for practically nothing, what a deal he would say. He also owned several sweepers/coffee makers/clocks/butcher block knife sets, you name it, he had the ticket. But as we all know so well....the deal that got away was the "Power King Tractor." He saw the tracker on a trip to Bartelso to visit Mike's family and made a low ball offer to the seller. He walked away but with the new internet technology, the owner was able to sell it on ebay. Dad talked about this all the time, the deal that got away so the family knows the story well.

Dad's contribution to St. Louis as a Cement Mason is endless. Any direction you look throughout the St Louis area, Dad touched - high rises, bridges, hospitals, and major highways. Dan would always say, "Your Dad had the makings of a well oiled machi

Dana - November 30, 2016 at 12:15 PM

DA

“ Shorty was not a very complicated person, he had a lot of important personal relationships that he cherished and spoke of them often. My mental picture of Dad, is sitting around laughing and talking old I remember when stories with a big smile on his face and a lot of teasing, he was enjoyable to be around and you would always have a good time. He was happiest surrounded by family and friends, in a comfortable setting, his home, a job site, along the river or at a family gathering. When I was young, in the 60s and 70s, I remember Saturday mornings at Grandma Liz’s house sitting around the kitchen table with Grandma, Grandpa, George and Dad, eating toast with coffee talking about the week’s events, how everyone was doing, some politics and a lot of laughing and camaraderie, he was at EASE. That description can be placed into many encounters and gatherings that each and every one of you had with Shorty throughout his life and he remembered most of them. Remember a story with Shorty.

Here is the fabric of my dad’s life and how I think he remembered you and your stories. If I can speak for him this is his goodbye: To the Family Thompson: Pop, Mom, Mike, Dane (Dana) and Shell, I will always be with you. George, Margey and the Hudson’s, Marcia, the Eagan’s, Jan and her family, Vic, the Behrle’s and Jess you were part of me. My grandkids, I am so proud of all of you in my own way, each of you an individual and I always wanted to treat you the same and fairly, go do good things!

Work and McCarthy: Tom you were with me the whole way, Johnny G it was a pleasure, Rodney and Fred, thanks for all the help and support. Great to work with you Ted, Tim M, Mike M, Larry, Paul, Charlie, Ed, Sid, Bobby, Dave, Chester, and Joe.

The River Rats: George, Bud, Howard, Cotton, Odie, Gary, the Robinsons, and the rest let’s sit by the campfire and reminisce.

To my military family of the 1960’s, be safe in your travels.

To all of my friends, be happy, smile, laugh, I am in a good place, and let’s have a Miller Lite.

Love you, Shorty

Dad, my goodbye to you. To coin a phrase from an old movie, for me to have Shorty Thompson as my father, “I think I am the luckiest

*guy in the world.” Love you, Mike
Dad, my goodbye to you. You are my Rock - your love and support
made me the person I am today. I love you and will miss you
greatly. Love, Dana*

*Dad, my goodbye to you. I am going to be lost when we meet as a
family, I will be waiting to hear your joking comment of me, laughing
along the way. I will never forget you and your loving support. Love
you lots, Shelley*

*Shorty, I will miss you dearly and I am so appreciative of what you
did for me by training me to be the best cement finisher. Love, Dan*

Dana - November 30, 2016 at 12:14 PM



“ *Fields of Europe for Spring was purchased for
the family of Gerald "SHORTY" Robert
Thompson.*



November 29, 2016 at 10:45 PM



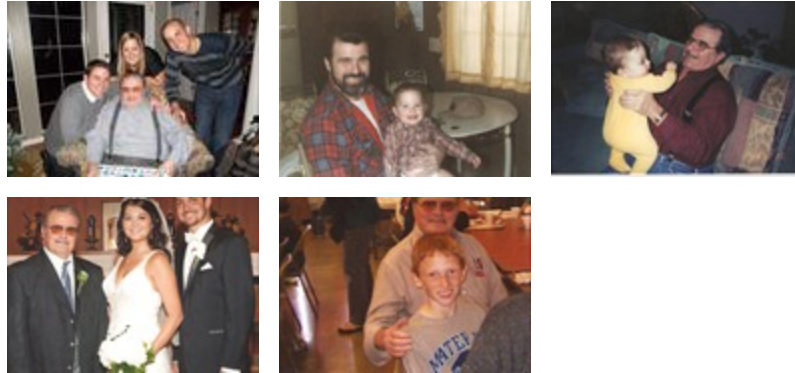
“ *2 files added to the album Thompson*



Dana - November 29, 2016 at 09:38 PM

DA

“ 13 files added to the album Thompson



Dana - November 29, 2016 at 07:43 PM

SK

“ Sandi and Allen Kreke purchased the Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Yellow and White for the family of Gerald "SHORTY" Robert Thompson.



Sandi and Allen Kreke - November 29, 2016 at 04:36 PM



“ Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White was purchased for the family of Gerald "SHORTY" Robert Thompson.



November 29, 2016 at 02:30 PM

-J

“ - Susan, Adam, Lori, Diane, Mitzi, Renee, Jerose purchased the Classic Sympathy Dish Garden for the family of Gerald "SHORTY" Robert Thompson.



- Susan, Adam, Lori, Diane, Mitzi, Renee, Jerose - November 29, 2016 at 12:29 PM



“ Cherished Memories - All White was purchased for the family of Gerald "SHORTY" Robert Thompson.



November 29, 2016 at 11:12 AM

TF

“ The Lickenbrock Family purchased the Floor Plant for Sympathy for the family of Gerald "SHORTY" Robert Thompson.



The Lickenbrock Family - November 29, 2016 at 10:50 AM

KS

“ Kenneth McGhee And Archway Staff sent a virtual gift in memory of Gerald "SHORTY" Robert Thompson



Kenneth McGhee and Archway Staff - November 28, 2016 at 08:29 PM