

William "Bill" Otto Ruwwe

July 25, 1930 - December 19, 2013

William "Bill" Otto Ruwwe Age 83 of Lake St. Louis, Missouri.

William Otto Ruwwe was born on July 25, 1930 in the rural town of Japan, Missouri. He was preceded in death by his parents Otto and Mamie Ruwwe. Bill was the middle child of three, his older sister Betty (deceased) who is survived by her husband Don Burgess and younger brother Clyde who is married to Patty Ruwwe.

A Sullivan High School graduate and Army veteran, he continued his education and graduated from Central Missouri State University. He furthered his education at Washington University in the Engineering Department.

Bill joined the Army shortly after graduation from high school. He served in Germany near the end of World War II and later served in Korea.

Bill married the love of his life, Helen Haynes whom he met in college. They married on New Years Day in 1958. One of his most endearing faux pas was showing up at Helen's dorm to pick her up for their first date and asking for "Helen Hayes".

The union was blessed with two daughters, Teresa Lynn and Nancy Jean. Sons-in-law are Michael Howard and Joe Ratliff.

Bill's career started at Wagner Electric as a chemical engineer. He was with Wagner for 33 years, where he performed in the capacity of engineering clerk, quality control chemist, manufacturing engineer and ending his career on a high note the plant manager of Wagner Brake Fluid Division.

Bill was the inventor of an electroless nickel plating process for cast iron. In addition he invented the dissolution of crystal formation in brake fluid.

He was a member of the Society of Automotive Engineers and the Saint Louis Genealogy Society.

He researched his family roots back into the 1700's and connected with many relatives in Germany and across the United States.

His love of the outdoors included fly fishing (with which he is credited for creating many more lovers of the sport) and travel which took him across the United States and the globe.

Bill was the proud grandfather of Laura Clary, Andrew Clary & his wife Elizabeth, Steven Clary and Jesse Ratliff.

Great grandchildren include Joseph, William, Lydia, Nora and Oliver Clary.

He enjoyed working his own forty acre farm of family land and taking family and friends on hayrides using his father's little red tractor. Bill enjoyed golfing with Helen and winters in Florida.

He and Helen enjoyed playing bridge. Bill excelled at the game but mostly he enjoyed the company of good friends.

Husband, father, brother, grandfather, great grandfather, Bill leaves family and many dear friends. He will be sorely missed.

Cemetery Details

Rock Church Cemetery

7400 HWY N
O'Fallon, MO 63368

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

DEC 27. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Dardenne Presbyterian
7400 HWY N
O'fallon, MO 63368

Memorial Service

DEC 27. 11:00 AM (CT)

Dardenne Presbyterian
7400 HWY N
O'fallon, MO 63368

Tribute Wall

GR

“ Great memories as a child going to the Ruwwe family reunions that Bill facilitated and what a gentleman he was. My condolences to the family.

George Ruwwe-

George Ruwwe - January 06, 2014 at 08:38 AM

SW

“ I am a cousin off the Braly side, I use to do a lot of genealogy with Bill and will miss e-mail him. Sheila Tyree Wood, Rolla, MO.

Sheila Tyree Wood - January 02, 2014 at 07:54 PM

MH

“ Helen, my deepest sympathies on your loss. Know that you are in my prayers. Marie Haupt

Marie Haupt - January 02, 2014 at 02:45 PM

EM

“ Helen, so sorry for your loss. He was a sweet man. Elaine McConahay

Elaine McConahay - December 30, 2013 at 11:05 AM

CJ

“ To our dear friend Bill: We worked together many years ago at So. Broadway TomBoy store. You were also my beer drinking buddy at Tampa Bar. We spent many winters in Florida with you and Helen and had such good times. You will be sorely missed. Our love and prayers to Helen and the family..Love you Chuck and Connie

chuck jakubeck - December 27, 2013 at 02:37 PM

JP

“ 1 file added to the album *Ruwwe Cousins 2007*



Jeanette Pitcher - December 27, 2013 at 01:20 PM

SS

“ O Helen I am so sorry to hear about Bill. He was a wonderful man and a true friend to my dad. I know you all enjoyed your trips to Florida for many years and I enjoyed visiting you there! You, Bill my Dad and Mom were 4 peas in a pod! He will be truly missed. You are all in my thoughts an prayers. My deepest sympathy goes to you and your girls. God bless! Shelly Sieckhaus (Jakubeck)

shelly sieckhaus - December 26, 2013 at 11:03 PM

JH

“ Many good memories of the family farm with my cousins.

Jane Kissing Hungler - December 26, 2013 at 01:34 PM



“ Let It Snow was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Otto Ruwwe.



December 25, 2013 at 12:02 PM

VB

“ *On the dance floor, no one did the Kansas City Shuffle better than BILL AND HELEN.*

Val Burkhart

Val Burkhart - December 24, 2013 at 12:19 PM

JF

“ *Jackie Frintrup lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Otto Ruwwe*



Jackie Frintrup - December 23, 2013 at 09:52 PM

KS

“ *I worked with Bill for many years at Wagner. I was in sales so I interacted with him about customer orders. Always a gentleman, and a good friend. We are also related very distantly.*

Rest in peace, Bill Ruwwe.

Kathy Strothcamp

Kathy Strothcamp - December 23, 2013 at 06:16 AM

BB

“ Bill and Helen were among my closest friends during the years when I lived in the St. Louis area. My husband Charles and I spent many good times sharing a meal at each others house or a visit to their country home. We shared many great meals at local restaurants. I missed them a lot when I moved to Amarillo. We have kept in touch over the years and I cherish the time when they came to Amarillo to visit a relative of Bill's and we spent a day visiting the Palo Duro Canyon. Bill has a spot in my heart and he will be missed. Helen you have my deepest sympathy. My sincere love to you and your family.

Beverly de la Bretonne

Beverly de la Bretonne - December 22, 2013 at 01:46 PM

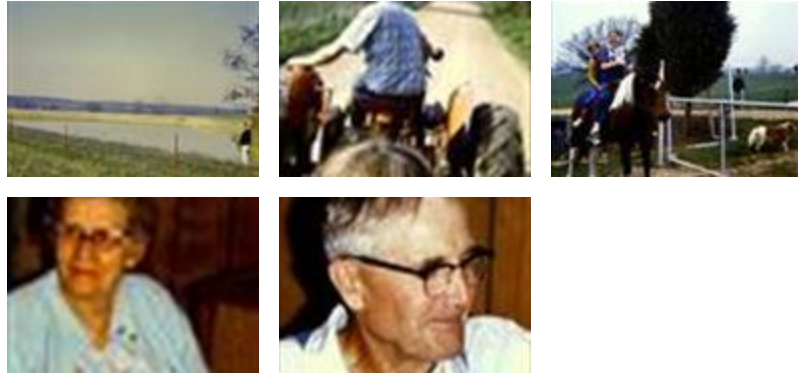
PV

“ My sincere sympathy to Helen and the family. Bill was a dear friend and neighbor. I have so many great memories. He knew my favorite meal was his country ribs. He would make them for my birthday. Our neighbor's would all go on fishing trips and out to lunch often. Bill was always the organizer of these trips. He was the best. He will be missed

Pat Vitale - December 22, 2013 at 01:23 PM



“ 22 files added to the tribute wall



Teri Ruwwe-Howard - December 22, 2013 at 11:13 AM

MH

“ Michael Howard lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Otto Ruwwe



Michael Howard - December 22, 2013 at 10:54 AM

MH

“ 12 files added to the album Bill and Family



Michael Howard - December 22, 2013 at 10:52 AM

PH

“ Patricia M Haynes purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of William "Bill" Otto Ruwwe.



Patricia M Haynes - December 22, 2013 at 10:08 AM



“ Teri Ruwwe-Howard lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Otto Ruwwe



Teri Ruwwe-Howard - December 22, 2013 at 09:52 AM

TH

“ 15 files added to the album New Album Name



Teresa Howard - December 22, 2013 at 09:01 AM



“ Kenneth McGhee lit a candle in memory of
William "Bill" Otto Ruwwe



Kenneth McGhee - December 20, 2013 at 04:12 PM

JP

*To my cousin,
Although I never lived in proximity with Bill Ruwwe who was my 1st
cousin once removed, we shared a deep interest in researching family
roots. Bill's Great Grandfather, Caspar Heinrich Ruwwe born 1829, was
the older brother of my 2nd great grandfather Franz Heinrich Ruwwe
born 1833.
I called Bill for help with our lines and recently had a breakthrough on
the Ruwwe lines in Germany. But I guess Bill already knows that now. I
have looked up to him and was glad to know I had such a fabulous
cousin in Missouri who was happy to talk to me when I needed him.
In 2007 I met for the first time, Bill and Helen Ruwwe welcomed me
and my mother, Nell Matthews Gore, into their home in Missouri and
even invited a cousin, Mike Kissing to the reunion. This was a great
day for me.
I revere the work he has done and I am very proud to be his cousin.
Our sympathies go out to Helen and their daughters and grandchildren.
Jeanette Gore Pitcher
and Nell Matthews Gore*

Jeanette Pitcher - December 27, 2013 at 01:11 PM