



Eugene "Gene" Lee Klem

April 3, 1937 - July 19, 2021

Dateline Bretzville, Indiana

Eugene Lee "Gene" Klem, age 84, of Bretzville, Indiana, passed away at 3:40 a.m. on Monday, July 19, 2021, at home surrounded by family.

Gene was born in Kyana, Indiana, on April 3, 1937, to Joseph A. and Rosa Anna (Welp) Klem. He married Mary Ann (Voegerl) Klem on October 4, 1958, in St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Jasper, Indiana. She preceded him in death on April 18, 2008.

Gene, along with his wife Mary Ann, operated the Santa Claus American Legion from 1959-1960. They then owned Palm Gardens Restaurant in Bretzville from 1966-1975. Gene retired from IMI Concrete in Huntingburg, where he had been a truck driver for several years. After retirement he mowed for Cedar Crest Intermediate School.

He was a member of Divine Mercy Parish - St. Anthony Catholic Church, St. Anthony Conservation Club, the St. Anthony Community Center, and a charter member of the St. Anthony Fire Department.

He enjoyed woodworking and spending time with family and friends.

Surviving are four daughters, Rosey (Daniel) Patmore, Newburgh, IN, Dots (Chuck) Sotzing, Bretzville, IN, Lugene (Marvin) Merkel, Huntingburg, IN, Catherine (Randy) Hopf, St. Anthony, IN, one son, Thomas E. (Bonnie) Klem, Jasper, IN, 15 grandchildren, four step grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, 14 step great grandchildren, one step great- great granddaughter, one brother, Alvin (Vernita) Klem, St. Anthony, IN, two sisters-in-law, Rita Klem, St. Anthony, IN, and Dolores Klem, Ireland, IN.

Preceding him in death besides his wife are one grandson, Benjamin Patmore, two sisters, Henrietta Ernst and Lucille Hopster, and seven brothers, Oscar, Clarence, Vic, Arnie, Walter, Art, and Ray Klem.

A Mass of Christian Burial for Eugene L. Klem will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 22, 2021, at St. Anthony Catholic Church in St. Anthony, Indiana, with burial to follow in the church cemetery.

A visitation will be held from 2:00-8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 21, 2021, at the Becher-Kluesner Downtown Chapel in Jasper, Indiana, and one hour before services at the church on Thursday from 9:00-10:00 a.m. The Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association District #18 will conduct a memorial service at 7pm on Wednesday at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made to Divine Mercy Parish, St. Anthony Fire Department, or to a favorite charity.

Condolences may be made at www.becherkluesner.com.

Cemetery Details

St. Anthony of Padua Church Cemetery

4444 Ohio Street
St. Anthony, IN 47575

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 21. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Becher & Kluesner Funeral Home - Downtown
214 East 7th Street
Jasper, IN 47546
(812) 482-4141
email@becherkluesner.com

Visitation

JUL 22. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
4444 Ohio Street
St. Anthony, IN 47575

Mass of Christian Burial

JUL 22. 10:00 AM (ET)

St Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
4444 Ohio Street
St. Anthony, IN 47575

Tribute Wall



“ Eugene "Gene" Lee Klem

January 01, 2023 at 10:54 AM



“ Dots, so sad to hear of your loss. My heart and prayers to you and your family.

Bob Honaker - July 21, 2021 at 11:09 AM



“ Sorry for your loss of a great friend and uncle. He was always upbeat and helpful. I will miss greatly. Dennis Klem Sorry I will not be able to attend due the virus situation.

Dennis R Klem - July 21, 2021 at 09:31 AM



“ I will always picture Dad (Gene) in his red cap, plaid shirt and cigar hanging out his mouth. And of course that big smile. Since Cat and I became freinds he always made me feel like part of his family and treated me like one of his own wether we were in trouble or not. I will miss him he is in good company im sure with Mary Ann , my mom and Pap. Love to you and your family. Thanks for making me a part of yours

Jolene parrow - July 20, 2021 at 10:27 AM

WF

“ lots of memories from all the years he served on the fire dept and board of directors there were no bigger supporters than gene and mary got to be very good freinds with both of them going to miss geno

woody fischer - July 19, 2021 at 04:45 PM