



Paul Henry Voss

August 23, 1939 - August 3, 2020

In the early morning hours of Monday, August 3, 2020, Paul Henry Voss, loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, passed away at the age of 80, at home in DeMotte, with his wife, Peggy at his side.

Paul was born August 23, 1939 in Harvey, IL to George and Anne (VanderBilt) Voss. He was a devoted family man, proud railroad retiree, avid story teller, and a friend to many. Paul was a self-proclaimed, "Mama's Boy", he spent his early childhood in South Holland, IL but during high school he moved throughout the Midwest as his dad followed his career with the Rock Island Railroad. Paul graduated from Shawnee Mission High School in Shawnee Mission, Kansas, Class of 1957. He moved back to South Holland in 1959 where he met his wife, Margaret "Peggy" O'Brien, at a PX dance at Thornton High School. He told his aunt that very night that he met the girl he was going to marry. Paul and Peggy were married in 1961 and raised 2 daughters in Thornton, IL.

Paul followed in his father's footsteps and worked for the Rock Island Railroad for 37 years. After his retirement in 2000, he enjoyed time with his family, horse racing, fishing, and most notably time at home, which he referred to as "909 Breezy". There with his TV, he named Curtis, he spent many hours arguing politics, cheering on the Chicago Bears & the Chicago Cubs, and later in life, enjoying the adventures of Matt Dillon on Gunsmoke. It is rumored he may have had a small crush on Miss Kitty. When not at home, Paul spent many afternoons at the Thornton American Legion entertaining the retired crowd with his colorful stories, shots of Canadian Mist, and playing his favorite David Allen Coe song, "You don't have to call me Darlin, Darlin" on the jukebox.

Paul lived his life fully with a fierce love for everyone around him. He had a true passion for people, all people. His brother-in-law, Rich, wrote this about him: "I don't think you ever met a stranger you didn't like & didn't get to know in a few minutes. You inspire me with your love of life & your curiosity about everyone you met." Paul will be missed by so many, but his love and stories will live on in our hearts & memories.

Paul is survived by his wife of 58 years, Margaret "Peggy" Voss, daughters: Paulette (Jim) Govert, Pamela (Bob) Pechal; grandchildren: Melissa Crose, Rebecca (Timothy) Frye, Trey & Bryan Pechal; great-grandchildren: Timothy, Joshua, Olivia, and Zachary Frye; brother, Gene Voss; sister, Georgian (Elmer) VanDrunen; sisters-in-laws, Kathe (Derrill) Bibby, Mary Puglise, Shirley (Rich) McGrath, Sue (Don) Kennedy, Vicki O'Brien, and Patsy Rozek, furry friends: Molly & Minnie; numerous other extended family members.

He is preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Patricia Elanne; sister, Marlene (the late, George) Gibson; parents-in-law, Eleanor & Arthur O'Brien; brother in law, Bill O'Brien, and friend, George (Lefty) Rozek.

Friends and family may visit, while wearing masks and practicing social distancing, at Jackson Funeral Service of DeMotte on Friday, August 7, 2020 from 2:00 to 7:00 PM. A Funeral Service will immediately follow at Jackson Funeral Service at 7:00 PM with Pastor Jim Alblas officiating. Interment will take place at a later date at Plummerville Cemetery in Fennville, Michigan.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Boy's Town in Paul's name.

Cemetery

**Plummerville
Cemetery**

Fennville, MI,

Events

AUG Visitation 02:00PM - 07:00PM

7

Jackson Funeral Service of DeMotte

200 3rd Street SouthWest P.O. Box 681, DeMotte, IN, US,
46310

AUG Funeral Service 07:00PM

7

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46310

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Jackson Funeral Chapels - August 06, 2020 at 03:38 PM



“ Paul was my Partner as he always would say, and I would always say back to him. He was such a genuine guy with great stories. We would always play golf together back in the day when we had golf outings as part of the annual family reunions. I really enjoyed him being my Partner. We had such a good time golfing together. I was telling Paul back in 1989 that I always wanted to go to a Cubs game, and he said we should go. Yett (Paulette as Paul used to call her lovingly) was in the room and she said, I'll get you guys some tickets. Paulette sure did. They were box seats right behind home plate. Paul and I had a wonderful time at the game. I so appreciated it that he was willing to go with me. The Cubs game against the Phillies was Thursday, September 21, 1989 at 1:20 pm in the afternoon. No, I don't have that great of memory, but I still have the ticket stub from the game. I carried it in my wallet for years. When we would visit Paul and Peg sometimes that event would come up, and I'd say I have the ticket stub in my wallet, and Paul couldn't believe it. He was such a wonderful brother-in-law and I will miss him greatly.

Don Kennedy

Don Kennedy - August 08, 2020 at 11:48 AM



“ Paul told that story too. However, he added to it - wasn't there something about stopping in at a nearby bar for a beer and then forgetting where the car was parked? . He loved you too, Don! He always enjoyed being with you and with this whole wonderful family

Peggy - August 08, 2020 at 07:40 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memorial Service



Jackson Funeral Chapels - August 07, 2020 at 10:10 PM



“ My heart goes out to the four generations of family who knew and loved Paul as a husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather, not to mention his extended family of which I was lucky to be a part of. Paul was more like a brother than a brother-in-law to me. We were sometimes even mistaken for brothers, which pleased me no end. What a wonderful life Paul led, surrounded by loving family and friends, always ready to share a story, always friendly to strangers and curious about THEIR stories. Paul was one of a kind. We are so blessed to have had him in our lives. I wish I could be with my beloved sister-in-law Peggy and the rest of the family at this time. I can only tell you that I will never forget him, and my thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Rich. ,

Rich McGrath - August 07, 2020 at 04:55 PM



“ My dear brother-in-law, Paul Voss, died on Monday, August 3rd, this week. He was 80 years old, soon to be 81 later this month. Paul was suffering from Lewy body dementia for the past few years, and although in an ever-declining condition, as Paulette said, he never lost his personality. Paul had a big personality, a heart filled with love and acceptance of others, an ability to tell the most fun and interesting stories, an ever-ready offer of a "nipper" to put you at ease, and an overwhelming love for my sister, Peggy.

I cannot imagine a world without Paul in it. Paul has been in my world since I was 4 years old, my age when he and Peg met with a kiss at Thornton Township High School's PX dance. When they were dating, and Paul came to the house, Bill and I would sing to him, "Tall Paul." Peg and Paul were married when I was 5, and had Paulette, Patricia, and Pammy soon after. I started babysitting Paulette and Pam at an early age, and the car rides between our house in Harvey and their house in Thornton gave plenty of opportunity for conversation with Peg who usually picked me up, and Paul who usually drove me home. When I was in my teen years, during the tumultuous early 1970's, Paul rarely drove me home before first spending an hour or so talking with me in their living room. You see, my own dad had died, and Paul knew some extra time and attention to this struggling teenager was in order. Paul never understood my desire to leave Illinois as soon as I was old enough, and he regularly tried to talk me out of it. As Shirley says, we who left have paid a dear price in missing so many of the events in the photos, and especially in missing Paul's services today and tomorrow. This breaks my heart.

I will forever be grateful for Paul's love and kindness shown to me as a child, to me as a teen, to Don as a new family member, and to my daughters, Ellen and Amy. Paulette reminded me this week that Paul always felt lucky and honored to have married into Peggy's family. We were lucky and honored to have him. I will miss him dearly.

Susie

Susan O'Brien Kennedy - August 07, 2020 at 11:49 AM



“ Susie - he loved you so much. He watched you grow up and was as proud of you as he was of his daughters. We are so blessed by this wonderful family, and Paul felt and shared the love

peggy - August 10, 2020 at 09:32 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Paul Henry Voss.



August 07, 2020 at 10:20 AM



“ Peg - Thank you for being a wonderful, caring, wife to Paul. As the older sister, I am thankful for you. We are keeping you, Paulette, Pam, and family in our prayers. Reminiscing of growing up years - today. He was a loving brother.

Elmer & Georgian Van Drunen - August 07, 2020 at 09:34 AM



“ Thank you, Georgian. He was easy to love
Peggy - August 08, 2020 at 07:59 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Paul Henry Voss.



August 06, 2020 at 07:31 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Paul Henry Voss.



August 06, 2020 at 06:30 PM



“ 147 files added to the album LifeTributes



Jackson Funeral Chapels - August 06, 2020 at 03:05 PM



“ Aunt Peg, Paulette,Pam and family,
Sorry to hear of his late life struggles, I will always think of his visits to my mom several times a week in South Holland. Lots of stories and laughs along with coffee time, I'm glad I was there a lot. Thinking of you in your time of grief, praying that God will give you comfort in the upcoming days. I will miss him.
In sympathy, Chuck and Deb Paarlberg

Debra Paarlberg - August 05, 2020 at 11:05 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Paul Henry Voss.



August 05, 2020 at 03:38 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Paul Henry Voss.



August 05, 2020 at 03:33 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Paul Henry Voss.



August 05, 2020 at 12:19 PM



“ We will always remember the times we had with Paul at our home in Kansas, drinking shots and beer and listening to Hank Williams and reminiscing about the Rock Island! The Rock Island was a "mighty fine line" and Paul was a mighty fine man!

Our Heartfelt Condolences,

Jerry & Tammy Clarke

Jerry Clarke - August 05, 2020 at 12:15 PM



“ Thank you Jerry & Tammy We had some fun times

Peggy - August 08, 2020 at 08:00 PM



“ Paul called me Shoi-lee and never understood how I could have left the Midwest and my family for California. Not being able to be there to say goodbye to you makes me wonder myself. I loved you and the way you loved my sister and will remain inspired by knowing you

Shirley McGrath - August 04, 2020 at 09:25 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Paul Henry Voss.



August 04, 2020 at 05:03 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Paul Henry Voss.



August 04, 2020 at 05:02 PM