



James Peter Jonker

January 19, 1926 - November 26, 2011

James Peter Jonker: Jim passed away Saturday morning at Mahaska Health Partnership Mahaska Hospital in Oskaloosa at the age of 85 years, 10 months and 7 days.

Jim enjoyed sports; he competed as a sharp shooter and pitched on fast pitch softball teams. He was an avid baseball fan and loved following the St. Louis Cardinals. Jim was a life-long member of the Christian Reformed Church.

James Peter Jonker, son of Peter C. and Rachel DeJong Jonker, was born January 19, 1926 at the rural home of his parents near Peoria, IA. He was a graduate of the Peoria Christian Grade School and later earned his G.E.D. Jim helped his dad on the family farm prior to his enlistment in the Army in 1951. He served his country during the Korean War. Following an honorable discharge, James returned to help his father on the family farm east of Peoria. March 4, 1953, he married Harriett Marie Swank at the Peoria Christian Reformed Church. They made their home on the family farm until a fire destroyed their home in 1956. Jim joined the Iowa State Patrol in 1957. Over the years, Jim served in Ottumwa, Parkersburg, Oskaloosa, Cedar Rapids and Spencer. He served the patrol until 1981 when he retired as a lieutenant. That year he was appointed as the United States Marshal for the Northern District of Iowa and he and Harriett resided in Cedar Rapids. He retired from that appointment in 1994, having served under three U.S. Presidents. In 1996,

they moved to Pella, Iowa. Jim moved to Oskaloosa in 2006.

Jim's family includes his children and their spouses: Nancy and Richard Boland of Oskaloosa; Laura Jonker of Iowa City; Dan and Faith Jonker of Holland, MI; Mark and Stephanie Jonker of Shreveport, LA; and Tom and Val Jonker of Cedar Rapids, IA; fourteen grandchildren: Nick Boland, Luke and Tony Hardy, Joe and Leah Jonker, Calvin, Rosie, Arie, Annelies, Frits, and Wenona Jonker, and Bailey, Riley and Carley Jonker; and a sister and brother-in-law, Edith and Art Meppelink of Pella, IA.

In addition to his parents, Jim was preceded in death by his wife on April 14, 2004; three sisters: Matilda Vos, Wilma Bokhoven and Cora Hol.

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Tribute Wall



“ *James Peter Jonker*

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