



Melvin Charles Engelmeier

August 11, 1932 - August 26, 2016

Melvin Charles Engelmeier was born in Hinkle, Missouri on August 11, 1932, and passed from this life on August 26, 2016. He was the son of Benjamin and Julia Hinkle Engelmeier. He had one older sister, Dorothy, and one younger brother, Donald. Melvin attended Collins School through the eighth grade and graduated in 1951 from John F. Hodge High School in St. James. On July 11, 1952, he was united in marriage to Grace Fanger. Three children were born from this union, Gary, Debra, and Donna.

Melvin is preceded in death by his parents, Benjamin and Julia, and his sister Dorothy, and his brother, Donald. He is survived by his wife, Grace; one son, Gary and his wife Bonnie; one daughter, Debra and her husband Henry all of St. James. His younger daughter, Donna and her partner Crystal live in Houston, MO. Melvin is blessed with 7 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Melvin has always been a hard worker all of his life. During his younger years while in school, he worked on various farms in the area. One of the farms he worked was Leonard Blackwell's, and he also worked on two dairy farms owned by Alan Spurgeon and Bill Diestelkamp. After high school, he was employed by the Johnson Stephenson Shoe Factory until he joined the military in January of 1952. He served in the U.S. Air Force until January 1956. He did his basic in Texas and went to supply school in Wyoming. He served his remaining time on a base in Salina, Kansas, as a Staff Sergeant. After his military service, he returned to St. James and was employed by the

Homer Broyles Distributing Company as a beer truck driver. He also managed a small tavern in Rosati, MO, called Camp Hi-Light for 4 to 5 months. He soon found this was not a convenient job to spend quality time with his family. So in 1957, he started working for Hutcheson Ford Sales as a car salesman. He worked there full-time until 1962, and switched to part-time at Hutcheson's and also worked as a driver for a delivery truck of gas tanks for Skelgas till 1972. In 1972, he owned and managed Dent County Motors in Salem until 1985. He then worked for Diehl Montgomery Ford in Rolla until 1994. He retired from car salesmanship at the age of 62.

Melvin was very civic minded and worked for many improvements in St. James.

He was elected as a city alderman to the City Council many times and served during the terms of Mayor Oscar Glenn and Mayor Melvin Matlock. He also served on the board who promoted the building of the Senior Citizen Housing. Melvin served many years on the Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Chamber of Commerce of St. James. In 1972, he served as president of the Chamber of Commerce. Melvin was also an active member of the Jaycees for many years. In the late 50's, Melvin was instrumental in promoting baseball into the sports program in St. James. He raised money from local businesses for equipment for 14 to 16 Little League baseball teams. The money also helped to maintain the ball park during the summer, since the city did not provide the financial assistance. As a result, baseball replaced softball for boys in the high school program. Melvin was very proud of his contribution to the youth of St. James sports. He has always been an avid fan of baseball and enjoyed watching his son, Gary, play the most. He also has been a strong and loyal fan of the St. Louis Cardinals his whole life.

Other hobbies that Melvin enjoyed were hunting deer, elk, turkey, quail, squirrel and rabbit. He loved fishing and spent many early mornings at Meramac Springs fishing for trout. On his farm on B highway, Melvin worked many enjoyable hours tending to his cows and horses during his retirement. One person that Melvin felt was very influential in his life was Louis Donati. He

helped him so much during his father's death when he was in high school, and supported him during the time he served on the Park Board and the Chamber of Commerce.

Funeral services for Melvin Engelmeier will be Monday, August 29, 2016 at 11:00AM at the St. James Chapel of the James & Gahr Mortuary with Reverend Jerry Baumann officiating, and Hal & Connie Rhea providing the music, with a special duet by Hunter and Alivia Engelmeier. Internment will be in the St. James Cemetery with Nathan Kemnitzer, Donald Branstetter, Don Hughes, George Hughes, Wilbert Falke, and Brian Engelmeier serving as pallbearers, and Butch Tucker, Sid Brown, Bon Mounce, Eddie House, Donnie Holt, and Bob Stacy serving as honorary pallbearers. A visitation for family and friends will be held at the Chapel on Sunday, August 28, 2016 from 2-5PM.

Memorials are suggested to the St. James Athletic Department Baseball and Softball Program, cards are available at all James & Gahr locations. For online condolences please visit www.jamesgahrmortuary.com .

Cemetery Details

St. James Cemetery

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 28. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - St. James

117 Seymour St.

St. James, MO 65559

(573) 265-3232

dcjames@fidnet.com

<https://www.jamesgahrmortuary.com/>

Service

AUG 29. 11:00 AM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Melvin Charles Engelmeier*

January 30, 2023 at 04:37 AM



“ *Melvin Charles Engelmeier*

January 30, 2023 at 02:54 AM