



John Van Meter

September 14, 1926 - October 13, 2020

Graveside services for John Van Meter, 94, of Frankfort will be held on Wednesday, October 28, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. at Frankfort Cemetery. Bro. Harry Hebert will officiate. He passed away Tuesday, October 13, at Veterans Hospital in Lexington. He had been a resident of Thompson Hood Veterans Center in Wilmore for the past 20 months.

He was born September 14, 1926 to the late Buford and Stella Van Meter. He graduated Bridgeport High School in 1944 and was drafted to the Army shortly thereafter and spent some time in the Philippines. John met Anna Ruth Stodghill at the Second Street ball field and they were married in 1953 and spent the next 67 years at their home on Louisville Road. John retired after 40 years with National Distillers/Jim Beam where he worked the majority of his time at Old Taylor Distillery as a yeast room operator. He also farmed throughout his life, raising tobacco, baling hay and gardening. He was a member of Bridgeport Christian Church, baptized in 1940, an Army veteran of WWII and a lifetime member of VFW Post 4075.

He and Ruth raised two daughters and worked hard to support their family. They enjoyed being together and loved to raise a garden. After retirement, they often traveled to Dale Hollow Lake to camp and fish. John had to “get out” every day to take a ride around town and especially around the Game Farm. He enjoyed visiting family and friends and taking his grandkids on those “dumb rides.”

He was also preceded in death by his beloved brother J.B. Van Meter.

Survivors, in addition to his wife Ruth, are daughters Peggy Jo (Rusty) Tipton (Shelbyville) and Johnna Kaye (Joey) Griffith, Cropper; brother Eugene Van Meter, Lexington; sister Irene Van Meter, Lawrenceburg; grandchildren, Stephanie Tipton, Jamie Tipton, John Lynn (Stephanie) Smither; great grandchildren Madeline Perry, Rylee Smither, Russell Thomas Tipton, and several nieces and nephews.

Members of the VFW #4075 will serve as pallbearers and will perform military honors graveside. LeCompte Johnson Taylor Funeral Home is handling arrangements. Social distancing and face covering will be required at the cemetery. Expressions of sympathy may be made to VFW #4075 or Bridgeport Christian Church. Condolences may be expressed at www.ljtfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Frankfort Cemetery

215 E. Main
Frankfort, KY 40601

Previous Events

Graveside Service

OCT 28. 1:00 PM (ET)

Frankfort Cemetery
215 E. Main
Frankfort, KY 40601

Tribute Wall

TR

“ *Condolences from the Rawlings family of Charles and Ann Rawlings.*

Tim Rawlings - October 27, 2020 at 08:08 AM

EM

“ *As a very young child, John was quite shy and stubborn when our Father , Buford , lined up we three boys , JB John and Gene, in the VFW parade in downtown Frankfort where we would march carrying rather large flags of other nations. John did not wish to march or wear a small envelope style cap that belonged to the VFW. After removing the cap twice Dad forced it down to John's ears and said - you will march and you will wear that cap-.NUFF SAID.*

Later, John became quite competitive whether it be basketball at Bridgeport school or cutting and shocking corn or cutting tobacco at over 1000 sticks per day.

John returned from the Philippines where he served our country in WW2 and he used his mustering out pay to purchase a very nice Harley Davidson motorcycle that he enjoyed riding to work at the distillery and was seen going at very high speeds many times , fortunately , he was never injured in either case.

John was a very good person who always believed in what was good and right and responsible. I am honored to call him my Brother Eugene

eugene van meter - October 25, 2020 at 07:37 PM

 Barry
Conway

“ *i always seen Uncle John and Aunt Rooney at the game farm when they would drive around, alot of times would stop and talk to me. Good guy and like to fish.*

Barry Conway - October 19, 2020 at 05:59 PM

ST

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Stephanie Tipton - October 19, 2020 at 04:12 PM

ST

“ Growing up i spent part of my childhood at my papa and grannys. Remembering all the special memories i had at their house with cousin and my brother. The memories that pop in my head at first are the ones i spent there with my cousin john in the swimming pool they had for us and my brother would always go hide under my grannys bed playing hiding seek lol. The favorite one of them all is when he would wanna go for a ride and we would always call them "dumb rides". Im gonna miss u papa but i will see u again one day i love u.

Stephanie Tipton - October 19, 2020 at 03:53 PM

SP

“ Susan Parker purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of John Van Meter.



Susan Parker - October 18, 2020 at 07:32 AM

RW

“ *John was a special person that had concern for other people. He and Anna Ruth took time to visit family even though it was a struggle for them. He raised a wonderful garden and Anna Ruth would work hard to put it up.*

Rita Waits - October 15, 2020 at 08:45 PM