

Hackett - Livingston Funeral Home

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Willard J. Flynn

Willard Jess Flynn, son of William Charles, Jr., and Lillian Inez (Maltsberger) Flynn, was born on May 8, 1918, in Shenandoah, Iowa. He passed away on November 22, 2002, in Shenandoah at the age of 84. Willard lived his entire life in the Shenandoah area with the exception of his military service. He served in the U. S. Army during World War II, enlisting in December of 1942, as a Medical Aidman with the 4th Infantry Division. He worked as a litter bearer carrying patients from the lines to the Aid Station and giving emergency first aid when needed. He also worked in the Aid Station directing 14 men bringing in wounded. Some of the various places he served were in Northern France, Normandy, Central Europe and the Rhineland. He earned five Bronze Stars with Arrowhead attached, a Distinguished Unit Badge, Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster. On November 26, 1938, Willard was united in marriage to Thelma Pauline Chryst in Rock Port, Missouri. Willard worked at Nishna Valley Lumber Company for 38 years as a carpenter. He was a member of the Nishna Valley Saddle Club. Willard and Thelma were renowned and loved by many kids for opening their garage up for Halloween entertaining for 43 years. Willard enjoyed carpentry work, fishing, gardening and flowers. Most of all, he loved his family and watching his grandchildren, Stacy and Jason grow up. They enjoyed building toys together in the garage. He was especially proud when great grandson, nine month old Logan Flynn Kuker, was born and given his name. Willard said his goal everyday was, " If I can make one person laugh, I've had a good day". Willard was a sweet dad and grandpa who loved life. He and Thelma were life long friends.

Preceding Willard in death were his wife Thelma, his parents, William and Lillian Flynn, sisters, Alice Sharp, Mable Meads, Lois Stake and Bessie Reed. Survivors include his daughter and son-in-law, Nancy and Larry Heard of Shenandoah; granddaughter, Stacy Kuker, husband Troy and great grandson, Logan of Bellevue, NE; grandson, Jason Heard of Shenandoah; four brothers, Russell Flynn and his wife Wilma, Wallace Flynn, Cecil Flynn and his wife Maxine and Willis Flynn, all of Shenandoah; three sisters Marie Athen and her husband Don of Shenandoah, Hazel Blakeley of Denver, CO, and Audrey Flynn of Omaha, NE; brother-in-law, Lyle Chryst and his wife Norma of Sidney, NE; double nieces, Barbara Kunze of St. Joseph, MO, and Donna Morey of Iowa City, IA; and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held on Monday, November 25, 2002, at the Hackett-Livingston Funeral Home with the Rev. Paul Brigham giving the words of comfort. Caring for the flowers were Betty Engle, Betty Greever, Gerri McComb and Elaine Spargur. Attending the memory register was Maxine Flynn. Casket bearers were Tom Berrier, Claude Engle, Jr., Mike Flynn, James Martin, Richard Perkins and Nick Rengstorf. The American Legion Post #88 of Shenandoah presented the flag. Interment was in the Rose Hill Cemetery. The Hackett-Livingston Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.