



Kornelius Albert Kooistra

November 23, 1927 - February 17, 2017

Kornelius (Corny) Kooistra, 89, of Rapid City, passed away peacefully on Friday, February 17, 2017 surrounded by his loving family at Munson Medical Center. Kornelius was born on November 23, 1927 in Mancelona, to Aries and Irene (Vanniman) Kooistra. He grew up in Mancelona and graduated from Mancelona High School. He was drafted while still in high school, and received a deferment to finish high school at his mother's insistence. He had the patience of Job. After high school, Kornelius served in the United States Army Air Force during the occupation of Japan, where he took aerial photos. Kornelius retired from Munson Medical Center where he spent 33 years working in the lab, assisted with autopsies and also transported donor organs. He was a member of the VFW post 15023 and 7126. His hobbies included gardening, farming, deer and raccoon hunting, and ice fishing. He was also involved with Boy Scouts and made maple syrup. Kornelius was a jokester and loved his family. He is survived by his loving wife of 56 years Donna, children Teresa (Chuck) Driggett, Barbara Kooistra, Leroy Kooistra and Kimberly (John) Barnes, 12 grandchildren; Sarah (Joe) Carson, Abram (Ashley Clark) Amidon, Danny (Katie) Driggett, Jackie (Chris) Kibbe, Mary Ellen (Carl) Bluhm, Albert Carr, Jamie (Tony) Howe, Paula (Tommy Coronado) Carr, Jessica (Ryan) Kelly, Courtney (Tommy) Tufford, Taylor and Trenton Kooistra, and 25 great grandchildren, sisters; Alzora Merrilot, Hilda Buller, Louise (Todd) Kuyper and Elsie Coger. Many extended family and friends will remember him fondly. Kornelius was preceded in death by his parents, sisters;

Helena Arnold and Mary Otto. Visitation will take place from 1-3 pm on Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at the Kalkaska Funeral Home, with the funeral service beginning at 3:00pm. Pastor Steve Packer will officiate. A luncheon will follow at the Church of Christ hall in Rapid City. Memorial contributions may be given to the family or a charity of your choice. Arrangements entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Final Visitation

FEB **22**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Kalkaska Funeral Home
152 S Cedar St
P.O. Box 1457
Kalkaska, MI 49646

Service

FEB **22**. 3:00 PM (ET)

Kalkaska Funeral Home
152 S. Cedar
Kalkaska, MI 49646
(231) 258-3346

Tribute Wall

SD

“ To the family of Kornelius, my thoughts and prayers are with you. I just learned of his death today. I have good memories of your parents from my youth. Your dad seemed like a quiet man to me, and your mom, Donna always had a smile. My heart goes out to each of you as you continue life's journey without his physical presence, but with all of the warm, happy memories to comfort you now and in the future. Susan DePeel

Susan DePeel - March 05, 2017 at 09:37 AM

JA

“ We will miss Kornelius tremendously. Such a sweet man with a huge heart. Thoughts and prayers to Donna and the rest of the family.

Dale, Tom, Karen, Cindy, Connie, Jan, Shannon and Jessica

Jan - February 24, 2017 at 01:35 PM

CO

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Courtney - February 22, 2017 at 07:03 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Kornelius Albert Kooistra.*



February 21, 2017 at 05:46 PM

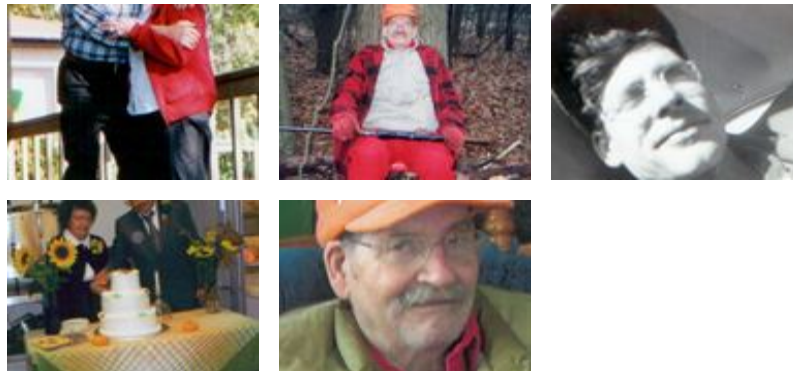


“ *There aren't many good men left, and the world has one less now. Mr. Kooistra was the definition of a good man. He raised a wonderful family, and in my 53 years, I never heard anyone say anything bad about him. To his family, my heart is broken for you. I know how much his children loved him, and I hope they hold Dear the memory of his love for them. You can't replace a man of such character, but realize how lucky you were to have him in your lives. He leaves behind a legacy of honor thru his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. My thoughts and sympathy to each and everyone of you!*

Daniel Goen - February 21, 2017 at 04:17 PM



“ *51 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Kalkaska Funeral Home - February 21, 2017 at 10:54 AM

GC

“ Gary & Judy Carrigan purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Kornelius Albert Kooistra.



Gary & Judy Carrigan - February 20, 2017 at 10:30 AM

CY

“ Uncle Korney was such a kind and wonderful man, I will always remember spending time at his house with Aunt Donna, him and my cousins. You will be missed very much RIP.



Cyndi - February 20, 2017 at 09:03 AM