



John "Jack" Rain

September 25, 1923 - January 7, 2014

Dateline: Alton

John C. "Jack" Rain, 90, died at 5:55 p.m. Tuesday, January 7, 2014 at Alton Memorial Hospital. Born at home on Elm Street on September 25, 1923, he was the son of the late Clifford C. and Eleanor (Rice) Rain. Mr. Rain was the co-owner of the family grocery store Rain and Rain Grocery. He began working at the store at age 8 and continued until his retirement in 1989. Jack graduated from Alton High School and later from University of Missouri, Columbia where he was a member of the Sigma Nu Fraternity. He served as a Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Army during WWII. He was captured during the Battle of the Bulge on December 23, 1944, and remained imprisoned until April 4, 1945. On December 27, 1946 he married the former Betty M. (Benz) Haycraft in Alton. She survives. Together they celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary two days after Christmas. Mr. Rain was a longtime member of Elm Street Presbyterian Church where he served as a Deacon and Elder. He was currently a member of College Avenue Presbyterian Church in Alton. He was a member of the A-Men Group of Alton High School, the Alton VFW Post 1308, The Shriners International, and a founding member of the North Alton Business Men Group now known as the North Alton Godfrey Business Council. Along with his wife he is survived by two sons, John C. Rain Jr. of Godfrey and Daniel C. Rain of Godfrey, two grandchildren, Rachel Catanzaro (Nick) of Godfrey, and John Clifford Rain III of Alton, two great grandchildren, Benjamin and Noah Catanzaro, and his sister-in-law, Nadine Rain of Godfrey.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a daughter-in-law, Kathie Rain and a brother, William "Bill" Rain. Visitation will be from 4:00-8:00 p.m. Friday, January 10, 2014 at Gent Funeral Home in Alton followed by funeral services at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, January 11, 2014. Burial will be private at Valhalla Memorial Park in Godfrey with full military honors by the VFW Post 1308. Reverend C. Dale Jackson and Reverend George H. Humbert Jr. will officiate. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Shriners Hospitals for Children or the College Avenue Presbyterian Church.

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Tribute Wall



“ *John "Jack" Rain*

January 28, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ *John "Jack" Rain*

January 28, 2023 at 08:19 AM



“ *Dear Betty, It has been some time since you've been to class at Metro Sports but you have never been forgotten. So sorry to hear about your loss. You always talked very fondly of Jack so I know he was a great guy and will be greatly missed. May he now be resting peacefully in our Lord's arms and that you will find peace and comfort in this. I extend my sincere condolences.*

Mary Ann Morris - February 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *My sympathies to your family. I am glad that John & Danny were able to take their Dad on the "Honor Flight" to Washington, DC. a couple of years ago. I was on that flight also with my Dad. I know that both of these WWII veterans were very grateful for the experience. They both served with honor for our country, one was captured and one was severely wounded. May you all have fond memories of your husband and father.*

Wayne Schroeder - January 16, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Dear Betty, John and Dan, I was so very sorry to hear of Jack's passing. I remember his heartwarming smile and how chipper he always was. We grew up with very special parents and neighbors in the best neighborhood. I am sorry that I can't be there to let you know how much he meant to all of us. May God give you strength during this time and courage to continue knowing that he will always be I your hearts and in ours. Love and God bless to all the family.
Becky and Paul and family

Becky Barrett Suhre - January 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ So sorry for your loss. Growing up just a few houses from Jack and Betty, I (Tanya)remember them as two of the nicest people, and of course running to their grocery store for tobacco for my elderly neighbor, Mr. Wooten. We're so sorry that we couldn't make it to the funeral home tonight, but will keep you all in our prayers.

Rich and Tanya Sisk - January 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ John,May your father rest in eternal peace....He and other fathers who served in world war 2 are the REAL HEROES . My sincere CONDOLENCES....DENNY J.

Dennis (Denny} Johnson - January 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ Remember going to the store with my dad when I was a kid and Jack and Bill always there very good people so sorry to hear of your lose God Bless all of you folks

Don Pugh - January 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ *My deepest sympathy is the loss of your loved one.*

Linda Cannon - January 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ *John,*

I am so sorry for you loss. You and your family are in our prayers and have our deepest sympathy.

Sincerely,

Judy and Mark Tungett

Judith Pratt Tungett - January 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ *I am saddened by the passing of Jack he was always a fun guy to be around as a kid growing up. May he rest in peace and may his sprit continue to guide his family, as the get through this time of brevement.*

Ralph Leavell - January 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ *We are sorry for your loss. I remember Mr. Rain from the grocery store when I was a kid. He was so nice! Our prayers are with you at this time.*

Cindy & Joe Paruch - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ I am so sorry to hear about Mr. Rain's passing. Rain & Rains was a solid business in North Alton as was my dad's place, Bob & Del's Service Station. My thoughts & prayers are with you at this difficult time.

Soni (Hise) Sers - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Those we love who pass away live on in us through our memories and our character. My thoughts are with the Rain family. You have my deepest sympathies.

Mark Hammon - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Our deepest sympathy to all of the Rain family. Jack was a wonderful man and will truly be missed by all. We always enjoyed our conversations with him when he walked by our house.

Steve and Cathy Forbes - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ So sorry for your loss, John.
Sending hugs and happy memories.

Sandy & Jerry Austwick - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ John, so sorry for the loss of you father. Hold onto your wonderful memories as they will get you through sad times. I know you will miss him but 90 years is pretty amazing. God bless your family.

Susannch Katelinek McAninch - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GG

“ *My deepest sympathy to all of the family.*

Gaile George - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ *The Staff at Reliance Bank would like to send their heart felt sorrow for the loss of your loved one.*

Reliance Bank - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

VS

“ *So sorry for your loss; 90 years to celebrate will help you through the sadness.
(I am a friend of Dan's from high school days)*

Vera Schaefer - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ *My sincere sympathy to Jack's family.
Jack Rain was such a gentleman and a gentle man!
My parents (Ellis & Sara Peters, longtime members of Elm Street Pres) thought so much of Jack and always called him, "Little Jack".
They often spoke of him being a POW during World War II & how everyone in North Alton prayed for his safe return.
I always liked to him riding with other POW's in the Memorial Day Parade.
You will be missed Jack!
Sue Peters Gorline*

Sue Gorline - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Remembering our many years of friendship, Jack. You will be missed.

John Beard - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ John and family I am truly sorry for the loss of your father. We were just talking about your family and the Hamer family the other day. Just know he is at peace. Our thoughts and prayers with you at this difficult time. Condolences. Rick Crivello and the employees of Bobs Lawn & Garden

The Rick Crivello Family - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ My family and I lived across the street from Jack for about 5 years ('96-'01). Whenever I saw Jack working in the yard or out and about, I'd cross the street to speak with him because he was such a joy to visit. I loved his kind nature, wit and great stories - A True Gentleman. We will keep Jack, Betty and the Rain family in our prayers.

Mike Keenan - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ Sorry to hear of the loss of your father. We are out-of-town and will miss the celebration of your father's life.

Ray and Jan Luken - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ *My condolences to Mr. Rains family.*

When I was a food salesman many years ago and called on Mr. Rains I always found him to be friendly and courteous, it was like calling on an old friend instead of a business call.

All of us who knew him, even if only on a limited bases, know he was a special person and it is a loss for all of us.

Larry Donahue

Larry Donahue - January 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ *Sending thoughts and prayers at this difficult time,*

Kay Williamson - January 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ *Sincere condolences to Jacks family. He was a VERY special person, ain many ways. So kind and thoughtful. When living in Alton before his retirement, we enjoyed trading at his and Bills store. A big asset to the city of Alton, and a good friend to all.*

Ann Weigler - January 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GL

“ *My thoughts and prayers go out to the family. May there be peace in this time of loss. I fondly remember many trips to see Jack at the store and how friendly and helpful he was to me. That is a great tribute to a good man.*

Greg Lister - January 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ It is so sad that my dear buddy "Jack" will no longer be out-and-about in the yard, whenever I am doing my yardwork. Jack was such a dear man and always willing to help. I will always remember the day I came home from a vacation and a dead creature was lying on my sidewalk. Only to find out that Jack Rain sat watching a little mole tear up my yard, until Mr. Rain put a stop to it. What a wonderful individual he was. My sincere sympathy to Betty and the entire Rain Family.

I will miss you.....Beverly

Beverly Macias - January 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM