



Norris Dean "Punk" Kerkhof

September 26, 1930 - September 20, 2016

GREENFIELD – Norris Dean “Punk” Kerkhof, age 85, of Greenfield, passed away Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at Hancock Regional Hospice. He was born on September 26, 1930 as the son of Lawrence and Leone Kerkhof.

Norris graduated from Maxwell High School in 1948. After high school, he attended Purdue University where he was a member of the Purdue Glee Club. He married Jacqueline Eva Willard on November 12, 1949 at the home of James and Helen Willard. Norris was a farmer for 67 years and he was the owner of Ag-B Inc. from 1964 to 1980. He was Chief Pilot and Director of Operations for Royal Airways in Naples, Florida. He was also a charter pilot for Shelbyville and Franklin airports, Dura Charter and Royal Airways. Punk was a certified instructor for private, commercial and instrument pilot licenses and this was one of his most rewarding passions.

He built a home in Bonita Springs, Florida in 1979, then in 2001 he relocated his winter home to Arcardia, Florida where he and his wife have enjoyed the company of their friends and the sunshine at Desoto Village.

Norris is survived by his wife, Jacqueline Kerkhof of Greenfield; sons, James (Christl) Kerkhof and Raymond (Pam) Kerkhof, both of Greenfield; daughter, April (Max) St. Jago of Greenfield; sister, Martha Jane (Gene) Crider of Greenfield; brother-in-law, Dr. James E. (Patricia) Willard of Frankfort, Illinois; five grandchildren, Kelly (Kevin) Hohman of Hayden, Colorado, Kevin (Amanda) Kerkhof of Lafayette, Brandi (Brandon) Albea of Lebanon, Chad (Lisa) Kerkhof and Nicholas (Melanie) Kerkhof, both of Greenfield; thirteen great-grandchildren, Tyler, Owen, Alexis, Charli, Allison, Harper, Ellen, Megan, Rowan, Aimery, Gideon, Cyrus and Henrick; and several nieces and nephews. Norris is preceded in death by his parents, Lawrence and Leone Kerkhof; in-laws, James and Helen Willard; great-granddaughter, Megan Elizabeth Kerkhof; two sisters-in-law and their husbands, Patricia (Don) Vail and Genieve (Jack) Vail.

We appreciate all the prayers and kind words shared during this time. We would like to

express our gratitude to the emergency staff, the ICU staff, the hospice staff, Dr. Gardner, Dr. Failing and Dr. Hittle for the loving care you gave Punk and our family. God bless all of you.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, September 25, 2016, from 2:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. at Erlewein Mortuary & Crematory, 1484 W. US Hwy. 40, Greenfield, IN 46140. A funeral service will be held on Monday, September 26, 2016, at 11:00 a.m. also at the mortuary. Pastor David Woods will be officiating. Burial will follow at Park Cemetery in Greenfield.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent directly to the Hancock Regional Hospital Foundation, Attn: Hospice, 801 N. State St., Greenfield, IN 46140, or envelopes will be available at the mortuary. Friends may share a memory or send a condolence at www.erleweinmortuary.com or email condolences to sympathy@erleweinmortuary.com.

Cemetery

Park Cemetery

621 South State Street
Greenfield, IN, 46140

Events

SEP 25 **Visitation** 02:00PM - 06:00PM

Erlewein Mortuary & Crematory - Greenfield
1484 West US Highway 40, Greenfield, IN, US, 46140

SEP 26 **Funeral Service** 11:00AM

Erlewein Mortuary & Crematory - Greenfield
1484 West US Highway 40, Greenfield, IN, US, 46140

Comments



“ Norris was my instructor at the Shelbyville airport for a few years and I got at least three certifications by his teaching. Even all these years later as I am now close to retiring, I still use a number of the techniques he taught me. He was a great instructor and great person. Of course I'm very sorry to hear of his passing, but at least he was able to do a whole lot of good for a lot of people during his time here. He will be missed.

John Schmidt - October 05, 2016 at 01:47 PM



“ Ray, Jim and Family, I was very sorry to hear about the passing of your Dad! Even though I never got to know him personally, I would often see him on the lawn mower cutting grass on the side of the roads. And, I always marveled that a man of his age could be so active. Having lost my Mother a few months ago, and having lost my Dad about 10 years ago, I can tell you there will always be a void and you will always miss them but you will also have many precious memories that you will never forget. It is always amazing to me how something that happens triggers a memory about my Mom or Dad and I pause to "Thank" them and remember what they did for me. The best thing they taught me was to be a person of character and I know from knowing you that that is exactly what your Dad taught you. God Bless!!

Bobby Keen - September 28, 2016 at 08:29 PM



“ Jim, Ray and Family, Peggy and I were so sorry to hear about the passing of your Dad. Having just lost my Mother and having lost my Dad some 10 years ago, I know the void, but precious memories you have. We didn't know your Dad well but we would see him out often cutting grass on the side of the road. I always marveled that a man of his age was still so active. Our thoughts and prayers are with you! Bobby Keen



Bobby Keen - September 27, 2016 at 06:17 PM



“ So sorry for your loss Jim and Ray My deepest sympathy and prayers

Sheila Harris McNeely

sheila harris mcneely - September 24, 2016 at 08:05 PM



“ Remembering fondly our families connections over the years. My sincere sympathy to Jackie, Jim, and Ray, and your families.

Mrs. Lowell Marsh



Erlwein Mortuaries - September 24, 2016 at 01:41 PM



“ I grew up next to the Kerkhof's and have many happy memories from that time. Punk will be missed in the community by all. Keeping the family in my thoughts and prayers.

Debra Dobbins Young



Debra Dobbins Young - September 22, 2016 at 04:03 PM



“ We have known Norris since 1978. We are Florida friends with both him and Jackie. They always treated us like family and he will be sadly missed. He was a one of a kind person who was always straightforward, down to earth, with a heart of gold. We loved his stories about farming and flying. Sending heartfelt condolences to the entire Kerkhof family.

The City Slickers..Cal & Barb. (who knew John Deere didn't own all the farms in CT)



“ To a good man and a great family. Punk taught me much, that I can do what ever I wanted. He was tough but always had your best interests at heart. Punk, you will be missed much but I guarantee you will continue to guide all whom you will still come into contact with ahead. Will see you again some day. You will always be thought of and ever appreciated. Thank you and be at peace.



Bob Denker - September 21, 2016 at 11:44 PM



“ May it bring comfort that my Dad Leroy Dawson will be welcoming his good friend with a big smile and open arms. Bless their hearts. Your family will be in my thoughts and prayers. Kathy Dawson Millis



Kathy Millis - September 21, 2016 at 04:19 AM



“ Kathy, I was thinking the same thing. Warms my heart. Will be thinking of the family today and days ahead...

Susie Dawson Rea - September 21, 2016 at 09:28 AM



“ It was great to be married for 56 years. God blessed your family with children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. I remember your wedding. Leon and I was there . It was a beautiful wedding. I remember when you had Leon and I for supper. We had so much fun. Leon knew Punk being in the same school. You and Punk made a good team. I will always remember the time you welcomed me into your home while I was in Florida. He had to go to the dentist while I was there and how he even laughed after having teeth pulled and drove thru terrible traffic. He was so interesting talking about farming and his family. He was on the computer ordering seed (I think). You and your family are in our Prayers and thoughts. May God be with you through this sad time and while you go along in your life. I know April will support you as well as the other children and spouses. Love you Jackie.
Gerry

