

Arthur John Isringhausen

Jerseyville | Thursday, January 14 2010

Arthur John Isringhausen, 91, died at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, January 14, 2010 at his residence. He was born in Nutwood on June 18, 1918, the son of the late Fredrick "Fritz" and Mary Magdalene (Goppel) Isringhausen.

He first married the former Mary Margaret Ballard on Dec. 23, 1939 in St. Charles, Mo. Together they were the loving parents of two daughters, Alvina Rose and Bette Ruth, and shared almost 44 years together before her death on May 27, 1983. He then married Jean on May 10, 1985 at the Fieldon United Church of Christ and they have been blessed with 24 years together.

Arthur was the founder of Federal Steel and Supply located on Old St. Louis Road in East Alton, IL. He was president of the company for 40 years before retiring in 1983, however maintained the vice presidency until 2006. He served in the U.S. Army for three years during World War II as the Germany Plant Engineer and two years during the Korean War. He participated in building the first communication tower between Europe and Washington, DC during his time in World War II. He is a charter member of the Eagles Lodge #2747 in Jerseyville, and was a member of the American Legion where he has served as Commander, President of the Memorial Association Board for over 40 years, and President of the Executive Board since its inception. He was also a member of the VFW, Masonic Lodge, and the former Moose Lodge all of Jerseyville.

Art currently owns a farm in Jersey County continues to assist in its operation. He has been a lifetime member of the Fieldon United Church of Christ, serving on the church council for 12 years and on the building & grounds committee. The Family Life Center of the Fieldon United Church of Christ was a longtime dream of Arthur's. He felt the children of the Fieldon community and surrounding areas needed a place to go and play instead of in the streets. The first thoughts were of a playground but after many conversations with other church members it was decided that a building would be more appropriate. With that idea, help, hard work and dedication, along with donations from many, the dream of the Family Life Center became a reality.

He also had a passion of hunting & fishing, which took him to the Colorado Mountains, hunting for deer and elk in Wyoming, and moose hunting in Alaska. He was part owner of the Ute Uela lead mine in Lake City, Colorado for several years and enjoyed spending time in that area. He and his wife, Jean, went on a couple adventure trips to Alaska, later purchasing a camper in which they enjoyed many trips to various locations throught the United States, where the enjoyed many new friendships along the way.

Surviving are his wife, Jean Isringhausen of Jerseyville; a daughter & son in law, Alvina & Paul Isringhausen of Jerseyville; five stepchildren & their spouses, Cliff & Dorothy Coats of Jerseyville, Keith Coats of Pontiac, Mo., Claude & Ruthi Coats of Wyoming, IL., Kathy (Hayn) and Victor Baalman of Meppen, and Mark & Lisa Hayn of Fieldon; three grandsons & their spouses, Paul & Gena Isringhausen of Fieldon, Jeffrey & Diane Isringhausen of Vandalia, and Kent & Lynn Isringhausen of Jerseyville; 17 step grandchildren & their spouses, April & Travis Winters, Kris

and Cathy, Andy, Adam, Courtney, Kate, Addie, Vicky and Penney Coats, Natasha & Audrey Bishop, Kristin Baalman, Marybeth Garner, Stephen M.R Hayn, Alex & Eric Williams, Miranda and Kyle Starks, and Rachele Cox, Kyle & Kelsey Baalman; eight great grandchildren, Lucas, Joshua, and Margaret Rose "Maggie", Austin, Whitney, Blake, Isaac, and Avery Isringhausen; six step great grandchildren, Anna & Claudia Coats, Kiarra and Jayce Meza, Ava & Natalie Williams, Destiny Cates and Ralieigh Hale; a sister in law, Gertrude Isringhausen of Jerseyville; two brothers in law & their spouses, Eddie Joe & Brenda Shelton of East Alton and Bob & Carol Shelton of Valley City, IL.; two sisters in law & their spouses, Dora & Harold Baird<