

John Jr

Alton | Saturday, October 18 2014

John E. Billingsley Jr, 81, passed away Saturday, October 18, 2014 at his home. He was born July 20, 1933 to John E. Billingsley Sr. and Vivian Bernice (Jackson) Billingsley.

He married Cerilla Farley April 22, 1955.

John was Korean War Veteran and served in the infantry. He was the recipient of a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart. He looked forward to taking his wife trout fishing every year at Montauk. He also enjoyed traveling and reading, especially westerns. He was retired from Laclede Steel.

He is survived by three sons and daughter in law, Scott Billingsley and Douglas Billingsley and companion, Tammy, all of Alton and Berry and Camille Billingsley of Joliet; three daughters and two son-in-laws, Lisa and Wendell Aulabaugh of Alton, Cheryl and Gary Barnard of Godfrey and Valarie Crotchett of Jerseyville; eight grandchildren; a step-granddaughter; 12 great grandchildren and was anxiously awaiting the arrival of a new great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his wife; Cerilla Billingsley; parents; step father, George "Red" Zak; one granddaughter, Sara Mahan and sister, Betty Rethorn.

Visitation will be 4-7 p.m. Tuesday, October 21, 2014, 2014 at Paynic Home for Funerals in Rosewood Heights, where services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday. Burial will follow at Upper Alton Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Parkinson's disease research at the National Parkinson Foundation.