



# Kenneth R. Jacobus

MAR 15, 1921 - JUL 17, 2016



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## **Kenneth R. Jacobus**

MAR 15, 1921 - JUL 17, 2016

**K**enneth R. Jacobus, 95, of Decatur, passed away Sunday July 17, 2016 at Decatur Memorial Hospital with his family by his side.

Kenneth was born March 15, 1921, in Pana, to Emile and Mattie (Haynes) Jacobus. Following completion of high school in 1939, he worked for Illinois Bell Telephone Company in Decatur, Springfield, Effingham and Centralia from 1940 until he retired in 1981. He married Betty Jo Hutson on December 6, 1941 in St. Charles, MO. Kenneth left the next day for the Army serving with the signal corps in Iran and Italy during WWII. He held membership in the VFW and American Legion and he was a life member of the Telephone Pioneers of America.

He is survived by two daughters, Paula (Larry) Leighton of Leawood, KS and Diane (Barney) Newberry of South Boston, VA; two sons, Stephen Michael Jacobus of Decatur and David Michael Jacobus of Cerro Gordo; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Betty Jo of nearly 70 years; two brothers, two half- sisters and four half- brothers.

Private graveside services for the life of Kenneth Jacobus will be held at a later date in Lennwood Cemetery in Pana. Memorials may be directed to Wounded Warrior Project P.O. Box 758517 Topeka, Kansas 66675.

The family of Kenneth Jacobus being served by Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home, 2091 N. Oakland Avenue, Decatur, IL. View the online obituary and send condolences to the family at [www.gracelandfairlawn.com](http://www.gracelandfairlawn.com).



## Tribute Wall

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PL

**Paula Leighton** posted:

Thanks SO much for sharing those lovely comments and memories, Patty. You helped make that transition in his life much easier and he enjoyed your visits, meals together, sharing the newspapers, etc. and spoke of you often. I'm sorry I didn't get to meet you, but I was most grateful you were there, and know he missed your company when you moved. He had quite a life with many stories to tell... glad he had such a good listener, and thanks for letting us know. Paula Leighton

July 19 at 10:32 AM

PB

**Patty Bridgman** posted:

I have known Ken since his move to Decatur at the Lincoln Co-op. We spent alot of time talking and eating together. He was funny and a joy to be around and we loved to hear his stories. I feel very blessed to have known and spent time with him. When he had flown back from Washington from seeing the veterans wall ect. he showed pictures and shared his experience with me. We both were crying and he said finally I got a thank you for my service. That meant so much to him. He had a great pride for his family and missed his wife greatly. So many of us there will never forget him as he joined in our cookouts and always had a wonderful story to tell. He will be missed! Patty Bridgman

July 19 at 5:54 AM

PB

**Patty Bridgman** posted:

I was so blessed to have known this man for a couple of years but he was so much fun and had so many good stories I will always think of him and smile. Patty Bridgman

July 19 at 3:33 AM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Kenneth by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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