



Harry Edward Mundwiler

JUN 29, 1928 - SEP 22, 2023



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COMPLETE FUNERAL SERVICES

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Harry Edward Mundwiler

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Decatur- Harry Edward Mundwiler, 95, of Decatur, IL, died on September 22, 2023, in Decatur, IL.

Services will be held on Friday, September 29, 2023, at 11:00AM at Graceland Fairlawn Funeral Home.

Visitation will be one hour prior to the service with burial following the service in Graceland Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, it is requested that memorials be made to the Decatur Genealogical society.

I was born in Decatur, Il on June 29, 1928, the son of William Jennings “Bill” and LeElla Mundwiler. At

age 11, I was baptized on March 24, 1939, by Rev. William T. Nicols at the First Christian Church, 411

N. Church Street in Decatur. I was a member of the old YMCA from 1939/1970 when it was a brick

house at 151 West Prairie Street. I was a skate boy at Ragsdale’s Roller Rink, 480 East North Street for

\$2.00 a week, then Pontiac Bowling Alley at 437 North Broadway; I set duck pin for 4 cents a game.

My favorite picture of myself was taken August 14, 1945, on “VE” Day when I was 17, on top of the

Transfer House roof with my leg up and holding an American Flag, waving at the photographer to get his

attention to take a picture. This picture can be found in several places: in the Muller Museum, in the

Macon County Historical Museum on North Fork Road, the Decatur Genealogical Society Library, in



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Decatur Public Library in the local history room in storage, a plaque with other pictures which is outside by the west door of the Transfer House, in archives of the Herald and Review, Decatur, IL. Also, in the A Pictorial History Through 1950, and several pictorial history books of old Decatur. I joined the Army on September 14, 1948, and was a 6 year and 15 days Army Veteran. I was in Korea during the war from February 11, 1952, to March 3, 1953. I was the first white man in an all-black company of QM Salvage Company located Chuncheon, Korea. The fellows in my company thought I was a special investigator. I reached Corporal status on May 10, 1954, at Fort Hood near Killeen, Texas. 46th Engineer Battalion Company A. There were so many cpls, we all did KP. As a proud veteran, I am the son of a World War I veteran; and my brother, uncle, and brother-in-law served in World War II. I purchased 5 bricks for my relatives with our names and military information, which are located at the veterans "Freedom Walk" on the northeast corner of the Macon County Courthouse lawn. I also purchased two eight-inch bricks that are at the WWII Memorial by the Civic Center for my brother and uncle, as well as purchased four American flags through Graceland Cemetery, which will be flown on all Memorial Days for my dad, brother, uncle and me. I started working at the city water department on June 1, 1955, as a meter service man. I was on the service truck for 14 years, 6 months, and 16 days. I turned the water off and on for repairs and when people were moving in and out. I was on call 24 hours a day for emergencies. I also read when the other



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water meters were behind. My last job was as a building and ground custodian, and filling in for the operator when he was gone. I retired from the City of Decatur Water Department on December 21, 1988, after 33 years, 6 months, 20 days of service. I was interested in photography. My dad even made a dark room for me. I started working on November 1, 1954. I did a lot of photography jobs and later gave it up; a long story. My dad and I were in the Decatur Photography Club and won several awards in newspaper and magazine contests. May 16, 1971, I sold all of my dark room equipment and my 4x5 Linhoff camera with 4 lenses, and many camera accessories. June 18, 1980, Mother and I joined the Decatur Genealogical Society for the life membership, where I left genealogy, my journal, and health journal. Also, I had my DNA done in 2006. 1970, my mother and I joined the Family Motor Coaching Association (FMCA); my registration number 3545. My dad, mother, and I went to lots of rallies and was a member for over 12 years. Also, I was an avid member of the Winnebago Club since 1970 as a charter member. The WIT number was 143, later the number changed to 000143 because of the computer age. I took my parents on many Winnebago rallies. I have lived in my motor home and pulled a car since 1989, which would be a total of 28 years traveling and spending my winters in Arizona and other places. I have been to 42 Grand National Rallies in Forest City, Iowa. I was an avid ballroom dancer, but the little hole in my heart valve is bigger now, and I get exhausted so easily; that ended my dancing for now. Born single, stayed single; why



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make one woman

miserable when I have all these widows, divorcees and single woman to dance with. I

was a member of

the Loners on Wheels Singles Club starting in May of 1991 for 26 years. I attended a lot of rallies and am

a paid up, still non-active member. Also, I joined the Winnebago Singles Club. For many years, I have

been voted an honorary life member of the Winnebago Itasca Travel Singles Club.

My relatives knew I was at Paul's at 999 N. Water Street early in the mornings for coffee and to call or

come in if there was an emergency. After 67 years, I stopped going to Paul's on September 25, 2012.

Up to September 10, 2015, I did all my own grease jobs, changing of oil, and filters on my motor home. I

had to stop earlier doing the same on my car, when I was 87 years old, too old and weak to do my own

work.

April 13, 2017, I sold my motor home back to Lichtsinn RV Sales in Forest City, Iowa, where I bought it.

From there, a driver came and gave me a check for it and drove it away. I waved goodbye with no regrets.

In review, I had four new trailers and turned over two; also, I had owned 6 new Winnebago motorhomes.

The saying is, I hung up my keys of RVing of 62 plus years. I moved into my new home at Randall

Residence of Decatur for senior living at 1455 W. Mound Rd. All on the same day as selling my RV. The

saying is, I turned the page in my life to a new chapter. I cannot believe 28 years living in my motor home

is was all over in the blink of an eye; that is so sad.

Surviving are my nephews, Larry E Mundwiler and Gary Wiley, all of Decatur;



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nieces, Nancy L. Kelly of Oakley, IL, Diane K. (Thomas A.) Schaub of Decatur IL and Karen J. (Michael) Hoyt of Arizonia, great-nephews, great-nieces and many cousins, in-laws and best friend of the family, Sonja Songer.

My parents, big brother, William Junior "Bill" Mundwiler, sister, Wilma L. Wiley, two brothers-in-law, sister-in-law preceded me in death.



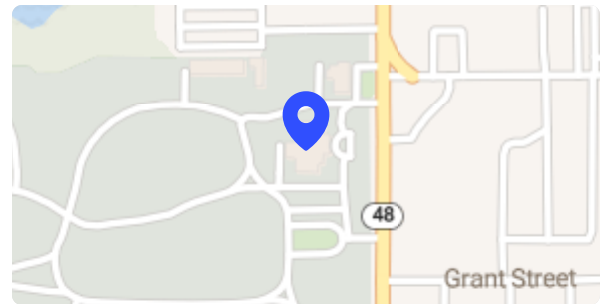
Events

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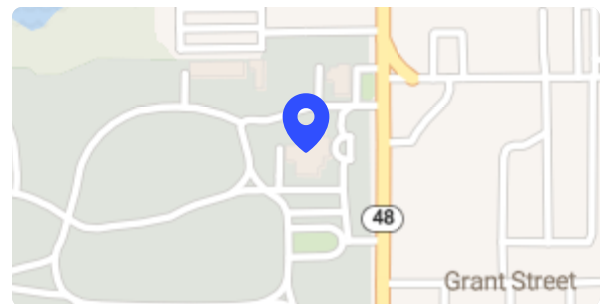
Visitation

- Friday**, September 29, 2023
- 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM CT
- Graceland Fairlawn Funeral Home**
2091 N. Oakland Avenue, Decatur IL 62526



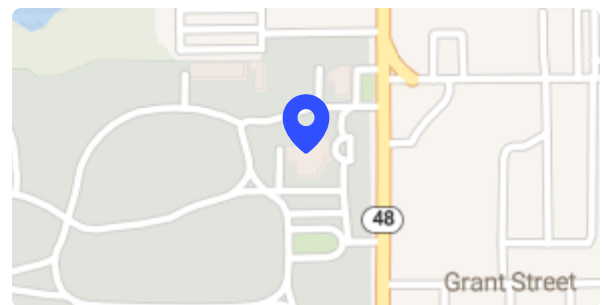
Service

- Friday**, September 29, 2023
- 11:00 AM CT
- Graceland Fairlawn Funeral Home**
2091 N. Oakland Avenue, Decatur IL 62526



Burial

- Friday**, September 29, 2023
- Graceland Cemetery**
2091 N. Oakland Avenue, Decatur IL 62526





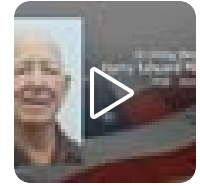
Tribute Wall

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Graceland Fairlawn shared a **Video**.



September 27 at 8:44 AM



Cindy Pritchard October 4 at 1:05 PM

I loved dancing with Harry.



Sonja L. Songer posted:

Harry was a month to the day younger than my dad. My dad passed in December and Harry wanted to come to the visitation and service for my dad but ended up in the hospital himself. Harry made his 95th birthday and we will celebrate his life and love of family, friends and faith 3 months to the day after his 95th birthday. God bless you Harry. Friend of the family Sonja

September 27 at 3:57 PM



Marcia Moore lit a candle in honor of Harry.

I met Harry at Randall Residence when my mom lived there. I loved talking to Harry and he always told me he was gonna write his own obituary. He was the sweetest guy and I was so sorry to hear he had passed away. Love you Harry. RIP



September 26 at 2:55 PM



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Sandy Morris lit a candle in honor of Harry.

Always enjoyed talking Harry. He was never without an interesting story. Always a gentleman.

September 25 at 12:00 PM



Cheri Hunter September 28 at 4:49 AM

Harry & His mother were Life Members at the Decatur Genealogical Society. Always participated in our events. Harry was a "One of a Kind". Interesting, knowledgeable, funny, generous, I will miss seeing him at the library Cheri Hunter



Greg Spain September 26 at 8:24 AM

Occasionally in life, we meet those "Characters" that make a lasting and forever impression. Shorty was certainly one of those. I knew him for over 40 years and anytime I saw him we would exchange kind words, speak of family etc. Myself and old friends often speak of him in fondness and laughter. Rest in Peace you little rascal. Greg and Donita Spain



Don Giger September 25 at 4:02 PM

Worked with Harry (shorty) for five years at the Decatur water Department. He was a great guy, always helping when he could.



Jolene McCoy September 25 at 3:41 PM

We will miss u Harry, especially at the Genealogy Library!! Jolene McCoy



Media

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Cindy Pritchard October 4 at 1:05 PM

I loved dancing with Harry.



Memories only last if you share them

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



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