



Dr. Carl J. Stewart

August 6, 1919 - April 8, 2015

Bloomington - Dr. Carl J. Stewart passed away peacefully at Bloomington Hospital on April 8, 2015, with his children at his side. Carl was born on a farm in Monroe County in the Lake Monroe area on August 6, 1919, to George & Maude Stewart. He married Ruth Hall when his U.S. Navy ship was in port in Charleston, S.C., on Oct. 19, 1944. She preceded him in death in 2003. Surviving are his daughter, Jeana (Tom) Kapczynski of Ellettsville, and son, Daniel (Fran) Stewart of Bloomington, 4 grandchildren: Heidi Kapczynski (Gary) Deitche of Brownsburg, IN ; Eric (Tiffany) Kapczynski, of Columbus, IN; Kathryn Stewart (Adam) Grissom, of Indianapolis; and Hannah Stewart of Modesto, CA; 4 great-grandchildren: Kayla, Emilee, & Tyler Deitche, and Reese Kapczynski; and his beloved cat, Fluffy.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, brothers Clarence, Gilbert, William, Albert, Harold Stewart and sisters Lessa Ross and Bernice Phillips.

Carl always told how he wore many hats in his long life. He earned Masters & Doctorate degrees at Indiana University and was an educator before and after WWII. As Deputy Superintendent of the Monroe County School System he coordinated

the construction of the current Bloomington South High School. He went on to become Chancellor of Northwood University in West Baden, IN, in the historic "dome".

During WWII, he served as an officer in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Ancon which was a flag ship at the Normandy Invasion on D-Day in 1944, and also at the Invasion of Okinawa in 1945.

He was honored to talk with Senator Bob Dole at the WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C. on an Honor Flight in 2009.

In 1955, he and his wife built the Starlite Drive-in Theatre south of Bloomington and owned it until 2002.

In 1958, he was the Charter President of the Northside Exchange Club in Bloomington. He went on to become President of the Indiana Exchange Clubs and held offices in the National Exchange Club. He received the Kentucky Colonel Citation and Sagamore of the Wabash for his leadership in the merger of Indiana-Kentucky District Exchange Clubs in 1966. He was honored to give the Covenant of Service and sit at the head table with President Gerald Ford at a National Exchange Club Convention. While living in West Baden, he also was Charter President of the Springs Valley Exchange Club in 1968, and he and his wife were instrumental in starting the Orange County Pumpkin Festival which is still held each fall. In 2005, he was named a Berkey Fellow by the National Exchange Club. He remained a faithful member of Northside until his passing. He was honored by the local club with a Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his many contributions to Exchange.

Carl & family also operated Stewart Real Estate in Bloomington in the 1970's. He was President of the Board of REALTORS and also the Bloomington Chamber of Commerce.

He was a member of the Clear Creek Christian Church where he served as elder for many years.

He was a devoted father and in 1962, he was named the Bloomington and Indiana "Father of the Year". In 1997, he was honored to be inducted into the Monroe County Hall of Fame.

The funeral service will be Saturday, April 11, at 3:00 pm at Allen Funeral Home with Rev. Glenn Hughes officiating. Visitation will be Friday, April 10, from 3 - 7 pm and 2 - 3 pm Sat. prior to the service at the funeral home. Burial will follow at Clear Creek Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be given to the Clear Creek Christian Church Building Fund (5405 S. Rogers St., Bloomington, IN 47403), or the Southern Indiana Exchange Clubs Foundation, Inc. (P.O. Box 1521, Bloomington, IN 47402).

Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.allenfuneralhome.org.

In an interview for the family in 2008, Carl was asked "What advice about life do you want others to remember?" He replied "Faith, Love, Hope - if you have faith that cures about everything. Hope keeps you from being in despair. Love - share what you have with others, but also be the recipient of

love which is better because you receive that from others. I like for kids to be optimistic. When the Germans bombed buildings in WWII, the British put up a sign "keep up your faith - the sun will shine again". That has guided me most of my life."

Tribute Wall

TA

“ I'm so sorry for your family's loss. God promises to be close to the brokenhearted. PS 34:18. I hope you find comfort in God's promise & in the many wonderful memories you made & shared together. You have my condolences.

Tara - October 26, 2015 at 04:00 PM

RE

“ I just received the obituary for Dr. Stewart and I just had to send a note to let you know my thoughts and prayers are with you. Dr. Stewart was the best my Mother (Esther Johnston) was best friends with your Mother Ruth ... I connected with him when he had the Starlight and again when I attended BHS I also remember you both coming to me when I was at Reece and Co. I enjoyed knowing you and just wanted to let you know how much your family has always meant to me Sincerely Reece Johnston

Reece Johnston - October 26, 2015 at 04:00 PM

JO

“ Carl and my father worked together on the building of Bloomington South. His son Dan and I were friends and went to high school together. So sorry to hear about your loss.

John

John McCutchen - October 26, 2015 at 04:00 PM

DA

“ My condolences to Mr.Stewarts family. Mr.Stewart was my Assistant Principal at the old Bloomington High School in 1959,60,and 61.He was always very pleasant and nice to me and although I didn't know that he owned the Starlight Drive In,I enjoyed many weekends there. May God be with the family and give them strength in their time of grief.

David Wampler - October 26, 2015 at 04:00 PM

D&

“ Dr Stewart was a wonderful man who loved his Lord,served his country, and loved teaching in every way possible!He was the last classmate of my mother Dorothy Waterford Smith who passed on to celebrate last fall for Smithville High School. Their year was 1936; he was double promoted and always reminded her she was voted the prettiest girl in their class We enjoyed him as BHS grads and CCCC friends. He will be truly missed as tremendous influence in this world. God bless you. So sorry we missed each of you to celebrate his homegoing--he' s in great company in heaven with all our parents who loved and respected him and Ruth Both were amazing people filled with love,wisdom,and service to and for others!

David &Vonda Hittle - October 26, 2015 at 04:00 PM

FM

“ I have many fond memories of Dr. Stewart who was assistant principal at BHS when I graduated in 1961. He was so very considerate and encouraging. I didn't know that he and the family owned the Starlite Drive In - lots of good memories from that as well. Deepest sympathy to the family. Fred Miller

Fred Miller - October 26, 2015 at 04:00 PM

VI

“ Sorry for the loss of this remarkable man. He was a dedicated educator and was highly respected by all who knew him. I am grateful to have crossed his path during my MCCSC days. I am sorry that I will be unable to make it to the visitation. My sincere condolences to the entire family.

Vicki Shedd - October 26, 2015 at 04:00 PM

EL

“ Mr. Stewart was such a remarkable man and I am just grateful that your family got so much quality time together over the last years. May his memory be for a blessing.

Elisabeth Jacobs - October 26, 2015 at 04:00 PM

JO

“ I graduated with the class of 1953 from BHS he was one of our sponsors. He was my favorite teacher. I saw him at the grocery not to many years back and he still remembered my name. With all students he had over the years, I think that was remarkable.

Joan Ray - October 26, 2015 at 04:00 PM