



Mr. Claude Leroy Gauldin Sr.

August 21, 1926 - March 6, 2019

Claude L. “Butch” Gauldin, a resident of Willow Springs, passed away early Wednesday morning while at his residence. Born August 21, 1926 to Edmund and Lucy (Boulware) Gauldin in Ashland, MO, he was 92 years old.

Claude grew up in Willow Springs and attended the local schools. He graduated from Willow Springs High School in May of 1944. He began working with the Postal Service while he was still in school. In August, 1944 he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and proudly served his country until he was discharged in July, 1946. When he returned home, he resumed working for the U. S. Postal Service and retired in 1981 as Postmaster after 38 years of service. He was married to Louise Hanks on April 21, 1953 in West Plains, MO. To this union, five children were born. He and Louise were long-time members of the First Baptist Church in Willow Springs. Claude, or “Butch” as he was known, served in many capacities; he was a 61-year member of the Ingomar Lodge No. 536 A.F. & M. in Willow Springs where he was a 32nd degree Mason, a member of the Scottish Rite, and the Shriners. He served on the School Board in Willow Springs; he obtained his pilot’s license and he loved to scare his children with his acrobatics. He was well known in the area as a farmer and would willingly spend his time on his tractor on the farm and was always eager to lend a helping hand to a neighbor. He raised Hampshire show hogs; and was so proficient at it that he and Louise, along with Bob and Jackie Hinds, traveled to Japan to promote Hampshire hogs. The Japanese

farmers also visited here to learn more about the show hogs. It has been said that the most important part of Mr. Gauldin's life was his love of family and spending time with them. His children agreed that he was a great father. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends, and all who knew him.

He is preceded in death by his parents, and two brothers; Edmund Gauldin, Jr. and Robert Gauldin.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years; his children, Gwen Parker of Edgar Springs; Nita Ray of Rolla; Vicki Kanne of Marionville; Leroy Gauldin and his wife, Deb of Willow Springs; Rhonda Gately and her husband, Dean of Edgar Springs; nine grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great-grandchildren. Further survivors include two sisters; Marguerite Wehmer and Betty Stringer both of Willow Springs and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Mr. Gauldin will be held Monday, March 11, 2019 at 1:00 P.M. at the First Baptist Church of Willow Springs with Pastor Joel Hinds officiating. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in Claude's memory be made to: Mark Hinds Benefit and may be left at the funeral home or West Plains Bank. Arrangements are under the direction of Willow Funeral Home, LLC. On-line condolences may be left at www.willowspringsfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Willow Springs City Cemetery

State Rte DD
Willow Springs, MO 65793

Previous Events

Service

MAR 11. 1:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church
402 N Harris Street
Willow Springs, MO 65793
(417) 469-3295
<http://firstbaptistws.org>

Tribute Wall



“ James And Jean Worley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Leroy Gauldin Sr.



James and Jean Worley - March 16, 2019 at 01:42 PM



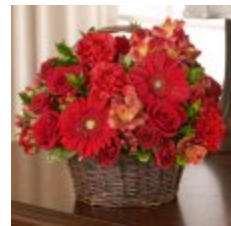
“ Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Mr. Claude Leroy Gauldin Sr..



March 09, 2019 at 03:09 PM



“ Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- All Red was purchased for the family of Mr. Claude Leroy Gauldin Sr..



March 08, 2019 at 11:23 AM



“ My thoughts an prayers are with the family Mary Sue Meal



Mary Sue Meal - March 08, 2019 at 10:14 AM



“ *Kristine Biehl lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Leroy Gauldin Sr.*



Kristine Biehl - March 08, 2019 at 05:11 AM

BB

“ *Mr. Gauldin was always polite and kind. I have always enjoyed my visits with Mr. Gauldin at Town and Country, while he was buying scratch off's, this of course was very often, as he loved his chances!*
Bill Biehl

Bill Biehl - March 07, 2019 at 07:41 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss. Sending love from Licking to all, especially Aunt Rhonda Gately to Sara and Emma Taber.*



*In Deepest Sympathy,
David, Tammy, Sara and Emma Taber*

Tamatha Keeney-Taber - March 07, 2019 at 01:49 PM

NY

“ *Royce & I want to extend our sympathies to Louise & the family. We were good friends of Gwen & Nita in high school. I know Claude will be missed by all.*

Netta Harris Yardley

Netta Yardley - March 07, 2019 at 10:09 AM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Mr. Claude Leroy Gauldin Sr..*



March 07, 2019 at 09:18 AM



“ *Don And Joyce Nielsen said they'd be ready ti play pitch in heaven. Lots of fond memories playing cards. Thoughts and prayers for your entire faniky*

shirley alter - March 07, 2019 at 08:33 AM



“ *All of us here at the MoDOT office in Willow Springs will sure miss this sweet man. He and Louise would bring us Avon and visit. He always called me Smiley. There is no doubt that he is celebrating at Jesus feet. We sure love and will miss you always. Our love and prayers to all the family and friends.*

Barb Schumacher - March 07, 2019 at 07:23 AM



“ *Ronda Kupitz Anderson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Leroy Gauldin Sr.*



Ronda Kupitz Anderson - March 07, 2019 at 07:09 AM



“ *Our sympathy is with you all, it has been such a sad winter, the loss of such a sweet man will leave so much sadness in so many hearts. Love, Bob and Kristine.*

Kristine Biehl - March 07, 2019 at 05:25 AM

SG

“ *My condolences to the family. My prayers are with you.*

Sharon Frame Gay - March 06, 2019 at 09:51 PM

BL

“ *Louise and family. I am so sorry to learn of Claude. Please know my thoughts and prayers surround each of you.*

Betty Losh - March 06, 2019 at 09:42 PM