



John "Jake" J. Heims

December 4, 1921 - January 22, 2013

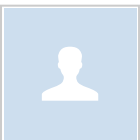
John "Jake" J. Heims, age 91 of Valparaiso, passed away January 22, 2013. He was a U.S. Army veteran of WWII and a POW. Jake retired from US Steel with 30 years of service. He was also Head Custodian for 14 years in the Lake Station Schools and was a lifelong member of Lake Station American Legion Post 100. Jake was preceded in death by his wife Gertrude and granddaughter, Mindi Moehl; brothers - Nolan and Floyd Heims; sisters – Eva Heims, Annabelle Wise and Helen Westerland. He is survived by sons John (Sandy) Heims, Jr. of AR and Gary Noel (Brenda) Heims of Lake Station; daughters Melody (Donnie) Thompson of Kouts, April Moehl and Tammy (Jim) Wright of Valparaiso; 10 grandchildren; 21 great grandchildren; and 2 great-great grandchildren. Funeral service will be held on Saturday, January 26, 2013 at 10 a.m. at Burns Funeral Home, 701 E. 7th St., Hobart, Randy Brechner officiating. Interment at Evergreen Memorial Park Cemetery, Hobart. Friends are invited to meet with Jake's family on Friday from 2-8 at the funeral home with American Legion Post 100 Service at 7 p.m. www.burnsfuneral.com

Tribute Wall



“ For those who may not be able to attend Jakes services here is a little background about Jake:
Jake was a blonde haired, blue eyed , hot tempered man of German ancestry with a Heart of pure gold
He fought many battles in his life winning all but the last, the battle against time, broken bones and disease.
He was a fighter, in world war 2 he carried a 60mm 40 lb. mortar launcher on his back at the invasion of Normandy, surviving the landing only later to be and wounded in his leg being hit by schrapnel, earning him his Purple Heart, sometime later he was captured by the Germans and taken prisoner. He was held captive for 6 months surviving on potato skins and other items most of us would not eat.
After rbeing liberated and returning to the states Jake and his new bride Gert raised five children John, Gary, Melody (my blonde haired blue eyed wife) April and Tammy. Life was good for Gert and Jake they were married for 62 yrs. when Gert passed away In February of 2007.
Jake was always a hard worker retiring with 30 yrs service at American Bridge he worked many years for the East gary school system somtimes holding 2 jobs, a high energy guy. He loved making crafts and for many years with Gert by his side working festivals and craft shows around the area.
As Jakes' life progressed there were more battles to fight, losing a kidney to cancer, having a triple bypass surgery (He wore out 4 pacmakers the 5th being a pacemaker defibulator) One tuff s.o.b.
Father time and brittle bones were enemies Jake could not defeat,although he fought like hell.
Jake is a true American Hero, certainly my hero, and an outstanding member of the greatest generation.
He is gone now, I will miss him terribly ,his soft voice and his crazy sense of humor. I will leave you with one of Jakes favorite sayings. SON OF BITCH###imported-begin##Donnie & Melody Thompson###imported-end##

January 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Sorry I Made an error in my posting about Jakes favorite sayings ,it's supposed to be SON OF A BITCH###imported-begin##Donnie & Melody Thomson###imported-end##

January 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ I don't know where to start. My Dad is a man that could walk into a room of twenty people and leave knowing all of them plus one. He was never afraid to be himself or speak his mind no matter who was around. He taught me right from wrong (but sometimes I didn't listen) and that I could do anything I set my mind to. He was always there for me in good times, and especially hard times to hold me and tell me we can do this together. He will always be with me and my family. Because we will forget his corky smile that always made us smile no matter how sad we were or how much we hurt. I LOVE YOU, I can see that smile now and I'm smiling back.##imported-begin##April Moehl##imported-end##

January 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Sorry When I Posted NUMBERS GOT ADDED. This is what it should say I hope its right this time.
I don't know where to start.
(but sometimes I didn't listen)
I can see that smile now and I'm smiling back.##imported-begin##April Moehl##imported-end##

January 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Dad, you will be my hero through eternity. I remember kissing you good night when I was little. I knew you could do the impossible. A daughter couldn't ask for a better dad than I had. I will miss your funny faces that you would make when you took your teeth out. I will miss the loving ways that you had with Jimmy and Jake. We all are so proud to call you dad and grampa. Good night dad, love you##imported-begin##Tammy Wright##imported-end##

January 23, 2013 at 12:00 AM