



Richard W. Jensen

December 17, 1933 - November 14, 2017

HAMLET-Richard W. Jensen, 83, passed away Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. in his home surrounded by his loving family.

Richard was born December, 17, 1933 in Walkerton, IN to Carl and Ruth (Soice) Jensen and lived in the area all of his life. On September 3, 1955 in Hamlet, IN, he was married to the former Patricia Vieting, who survives. Also surviving are two sons, Wayne (Cathy) Jensen of Kimmell, IN and Ken Jensen of Hamlet; three granddaughters, Angie (Ron) Gibson of Ligonier, Vickie (Mike) Goodwin of Hobbieville, IN and Alivia Jensen of Muncie; five brothers, Paul Jensen and Fred Jensen, both of Hamlet, Pete Jensen of LaPorte, Earl Jensen of Lakeville and Alan Jensen of Plymouth; and two sisters, Rita Palm of Knox and Janis Smith of Plano, TX. He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers; and three sisters.

Richard was a former employee of Rockwell Windows in Knox. He was a U.S. Army veteran, serving in Germany and a member of the Hamlet American Legion Post #356. He was also a member of St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Hamlet and the Starke County Historical Society. He was a former member of the Starke County Conservation Club and the Fletcher Cemetery Association, serving as president and had been active in the Oregon-Davis High School Building Trades.

Richard was the curator of his own military museum, which was open to the public and had many visitors, including annual visits from the Oregon-Davis High School History classes. He was a master craftsman in the field of woodworking. He loved hunting, fishing, gardening and was well known for his quick wit and sense of humor. He touched many lives and was beloved by all who knew him.

Funeral services will be Saturday, November 18, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. CST at the St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Hamlet, with Dr. Joseph Loftis officiating. Burial with a military graveside service will follow at Fletcher Cemetery. Friends may visit Friday from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. CST at Rannells Funeral Home, Hamlet Chapel and Saturday at the church one hour prior to the service. Memorial contributions may be given to St. Matthew Church, the Starke County Historical Society or the Hamlet American Legion Post #356.

Tribute Wall

JG

“ Steve and I enjoyed getting to know Richard at Mike and Vickies's wedding! He was lots a fun...I know he will be missed alot!

Janice Goodwin - April 29, 2018 at 06:20 PM

DH

“ Tom and I have loved being you and Rich's neighbors on Dallas Lake. We've enjoyed the warm friendship through the years. Rich's hilarious story about the infamous Rocket will always be a favorite. His museum was amazing. The loving relationship you had is an inspiration for everyone. May the wonderful memories you shared for 62 years ease your sadness through the days ahead. ??

Dee Herman - April 29, 2018 at 06:20 PM

D(

“ Loved Richard he was the kindest person always recognized and had a hug for me even when we hadn't seen each other in years! Blessing to Pat and boys may his memories bring comfort and today he is probably setting up a conservation building in Heaven. Debbie Boudreau

Debbie Boudreau (Rowles) - April 29, 2018 at 06:20 PM

ZL

“ So sorry for your loss, Pat, but be comforted in knowing he is no longer suffering. God bless!

Zeke & Mary Loeck - April 29, 2018 at 06:20 PM

RM

“ Pat and family, Our deepest sympathy to you at this difficult time. May your family, friends, faith and wonderful memories of Rich give you peace and comfort. Sincere sympathy, Ron and Margo

Ron and Margo Martin - April 29, 2018 at 06:20 PM

DB

“ Richard W. Jensen

Dann Bailey - April 29, 2018 at 06:20 PM

AA

“ Pat and family, my heart aches for you. The Angels are welcoming him with open arms. Such a good man leaving wonderful memories for all who knew him. Blessings to all--Anna

Anna Anderson - April 29, 2018 at 06:20 PM

KJ

“ So, I really only knew this uncle by a story I was told when I was little. As a youngster he built a "rocketship" in his garage, added some radio components, torched it up a bit and then well after dark took it to the local golf course and scuffed up the turf and banged it against a tree and left it. The groundskeeper found it the next morning and called the sheriff, news of it gets around and people start calling in that they saw bright lights, heard the explosion etc. Well, the FBI gets notified and they investigate! So about 15 years ago while watching a rerun of X-files I remember this story. So I google Project Blue Book and the small town and sure enough I found the declassified documents with pictures! I did some sleuthing and found Richards address and sent it to him! A few years later I got to visit him, and a few other of my relatives I hadn't seen since I was 7 or 8, and he had a whole museum of war and space stuff in his basement. The report was there on the wall along with autographed photos of astronauts of the shuttle program, one of which I remember being signed with, "Leave the rocket building to us" NASA

Kara Jensen - April 29, 2018 at 06:20 PM