



James Russell Donham

October 2, 1930 - July 26, 2013

James R. "Jim" Donham, 82, an 18 year Wenatchee Valley resident, passed away on Friday, July 26, 2013 at Central Washington Hospital, following a sudden illness.

He was born on October 2, 1930 at Devils Lake, North Dakota. He spent his early childhood living with his maternal grandmother in a log cabin on the Turtle Mountain Chippewa reservation. At the age of twelve, he went to live with his mother Mary Lou (Vivier) Donham, and stepfather, James Russell Donham, who adopted him in his teens. Throughout his junior high and high school years, he made a number of moves with his family that included Daytona Beach, Florida and various areas of California and Minnesota. After returning to Belcourt, North Dakota, he played for the Belcourt High School football team. After graduating high school, he entered the U.S. Air Force and served during the Korean Conflict. Following his honorable discharge, he entered Coyne Industrial College in Chicago and following formal training and apprenticeship became a Commercial Union Electrician.

He was married to Patricia Theresa Hanrahan on June 20, 1953 in Chicago. They made their first home in the suburb area of Alsip, Illinois, later moving to Oak Lawn, Illinois.

Jim worked as an electrician for the IBEW Local # 134 in Chicago for 15 years before moving in 1972 to Lake Holiday, Illinois where he worked for IBEW Local # 176 out of Joliet, Illinois. He remained working with the Local 176 for twenty years before returning to Chicago and the Local 134 for his last four

years. He retired in 1995 after 40 years of service with the IBEW. The following year, they moved to Washington to make their home in Cashmere. In 2007, they moved to East Wenatchee.

He was a member of Holy Apostles Catholic Church in East Wenatchee, American Legion, Post 10 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He enjoyed going dancing with his wife of 60 years. He was an avid snow skier through his 70's. He especially loved family parties.

Jim is survived by his wife, Patricia T. "Pat" Donham, East Wenatchee; two sons and daughters-in-law, Neal R. & Debbie Donham, Stanwood, WA and Bruce J. & Nancy Donham, Bothell, WA; five grandchildren, Stefanie Donham, Burlington, WA, Staci Marshall, Marysville, WA, Neal Donham, Lake Stevens, WA, Grace Donham and Hannah Donham both of Bothell, WA and four great grandchildren: Devin & Camrin Marshall, Marysville, WA, Brennan Donham, Lake Stevens, WA and James Henry Day, Bothell, WA. He was preceded in death by his parents, an infant son, Michael James Donham, and two grandsons, Augustus James "Gus" Donham and Clifford Roy Donham.

A Celebration of Life gathering will be announced. You are invited to view his tribute and leave a message for the family online at www.HeritageMemorialChapel.com. Arrangements are in the care of Heritage Memorial Chapel, East Wenatchee.

Tribute Wall

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“ Pat, We are so sorry to hear of Jims passing. Jim was a founding leader in our council. He was our first Grand Knight. He will always be remembered for his good works and his charity. I am the current Grand Knight and have always looked to Jim as a mentor. We say the rosary the first friday of each month, 5:30 at St. Francis Xavier in Cashmere today and will dedicate todays rosary to Jim and you. Know that the Knights will keep you both in our prayers.
GK Tony Hillock

Knights of Columbus Council 13597 - August 02, 2013 at 01:43 PM

G1

“ We are sorry to hear of Jim's Passing He will be missed. Let us at Vfwpost 10445 know if we can be of any assistance.

Gregory Walters (VFW POST 10445) - August 01, 2013 at 01:16 PM

ND

“ Dear Grandpa,
I have shared so many amazing moments in my life with you. You will always be in my heart. I look forward to seeing one day. You where my only grandfather and I will always love you. To my grandmother and family you our in my prayers.

Neal J. Donham - August 01, 2013 at 12:14 AM

RP

“ Pat and family,so sorry to hear of Jims passing. Enjoyed being with him at our many Knights of Columbus meetings and gatherings we had. Know that we are praying for your healing and comfort. Rich and Sandy

Rich Poole - July 31, 2013 at 05:48 PM