



Norman Bowen Akin

January 27, 1924 - June 25, 2019

Norman Bowen Akin, age 95, of Versailles, passed away Tuesday, June 25, 2019, at the Good Shepherd Care Center in Versailles. He was born January 27, 1924, in Fortuna, a son of the late Bernie and Cecil (Bowen) Akin.

On May 16, 1944, he was united in marriage to Kathryn E. Vogt, who preceded him in death on June 18, 1982. On January 14, 1984, he married Peggy L. Haley who preceded him in death on October 5, 2004. Later, he married his surviving wife, Laura Rhodes on April 27, 2007.

Norman graduated from Fortuna High School in 1942 as the salutatorian of his class.

He was a World War II veteran who proudly served his country in the United States Army from 1943 to 1946.

After the war, he went to work for the Studebaker dealership in Versailles, exhibiting his mechanical abilities and problem solving skills. As his family grew, he and his wife, Kathryn, became the proud owners of Akin Hardware, a family owned business that provided customers with almost any tool they needed and a cold soda from their vintage soda machine. Norman also became the Maytag sales and repairman for the Versailles and surrounding communities, where he was known for his dependable service. Even after his retirement he presented his friends and neighbors with solutions to many of their mechanical needs.

Later in life as part of their retirement, Norman and Peggy enjoyed traveling south to spend the winter with new found friends that became extended family over the years. They also provided local businesses with handmade wooden pens and computer generated calendars, never losing touch with the present.

Norman's God and faith were first place in his life. He was a member of the Trinity Baptist Church where he served in many capacities through the years. He and Laura regularly met for Thursday breakfast and prayer with a group of faithful friends in the community.

In addition to his wife, Laura, he is survived by his children, Vicki Akin of Kansas City North, Missouri and Kenny Akin and wife Sheila of Rockford, Illinois; daughter-in-law, Sue Akin of Versailles, Missouri; grandchildren, Ryan Akin and wife Tiffany, Suzanne Hall and husband Corey, Jason Akin, Landon Akin and Justin Akin; great-granddaughters, Landri Hall, Anna Akin, Ella Akin and Mila Akin and many friends. In addition to his parents and wives, he was preceded in death by his son, Larry Akin and his brother, Fritz Akin.

Funeral services will be held at 3:00 p.m., Friday, June 28th, at the Kidwell-Garber Funeral Home in Versailles with Reverend Gary Patterson officiating. Graveside services and interment with full military honors will follow in the Versailles Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m., Friday, at the funeral home. Memorial contributions are suggested to Trinity Baptist Church.

Arrangements are under the direction and care of the Kidwell-Garber Funeral Home of Versailles.

Cemetery

Versailles Cemetery

550 Clay Road

Versailles, MO, 65084

Events

JUN **Visitation** 02:00PM - 03:00PM

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Kidwell-Garber Funeral Home - Versailles Chapel
207 North Monroe St., Versailles, MO, US, 65084

JUN **Service** 03:00PM

28

Kidwell-Garber Funeral Home - Versailles Chapel
207 North Monroe St., Versailles, MO, US, 65084

Comments



“ Kim Davidson lit a candle in memory of Norman Bowen Akin



Kim Davidson - June 28 at 01:35 PM



“ Cindy Bolton Coulter lit a candle in memory of Norman Bowen Akin



Cindy Bolton Coulter - June 28 at 09:10 AM



“ your families are in our thoughts and prayers

David and Debbie McCollom - June 28 at 12:50 AM



“ Jerry Garber lit a candle in memory of Norman Bowen Akin



Jerry Garber - June 27 at 10:00 PM



“ ESTA Caviness lit a candle in memory of Norman Bowen Akin



ESTA Caviness - June 27 at 09:16 PM



“ I remember going in the Hardware store with my Dad and looking at ALL the different things, Sorry for your loss he was always smiling and made everyone feel good!

ESTA - June 27 at 09:17 PM



“ Beverly Chastain lit a candle in memory of Norman Bowen Akin



Beverly Chastain - June 27 at 07:01 PM



“ What a longtime ,wonderful friend .Norman was one of the 1st friends my parents , (Bill and Jo Patton)met when we came to Versailles 54 years ago .what a life well lived ..and Legacy you have ..Prayers ,love and condolences to your family .Love Bill and Penny.



Penny Patton Haile - June 26 at 09:52 PM



“ Norman had one of everything in his store. I would come up with some crazy idea and go to Akins Hardware, we would talk it over. Then we went in the back room and built it. He was a good man, and a good friend. I have great memories of Norman, and I sharing ideas in the back room of the Hardware Store. I'll miss you Norman. God speed .

