



## George Grant Whitney Jr.

October 18, 1930 - March 31, 2012

George Grant Whitney, Jr. age 81, of Laurie, passed away Saturday, March 31, 2012, at Lake Regional Health System in Osage Beach. He was born October 18, 1930, in Sioux City, Iowa, the son of the late George Grant, Sr. and Josephine Dirr Whitney.

On August 29, 1954, in Allegan, Michigan, he was united in marriage to Patricia Ann Cook, who survives of the home.

George was a national accounts manager for over 40 years for U.S. Gypsum.

He was an Air Force veteran serving in the Korean Conflict, attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant.

George was a member of the Ozark Chapel United Methodist Church serving on the Board of Trustees, the Osage Community Elks Lodge 2705 in Laurie where he was honored twice as "Elk of the Year" and served as Past Exalted Ruler, and the American Legion Zack Wheat Post 624 in Sunrise Beach. He served on the Board of Directors at the West Lake Clinic, was a board member for the Gravois Road District, and was active in the Cam-Mo Ambulance District.

He was a master woodcraftsman. Each member of his family treasures the

wood crafted gift they received from him. George's dream came true when he was able to retire early and build his home at the Lake of the Ozarks. He was also known to have remodeled several homes in the lake area. In addition, he designed and built the West Lake Christian Church in Laurie, and designed and remodeled the Osage Community Elks Lodge 2705 and the West Lake Medical Center, both in Laurie. Especially proud of his work at the Elks Lodge, his family has over 125 years and three generations of Elk membership.

In addition to Patricia, his loving wife of 57 years, he is survived by his children, Steve Whitney and wife Gwen of Sunrise Beach, Missouri, Karen Ann Benakis and husband John of Linn Creek, Missouri, and Sara Ann McElwee and husband Dale of Camdenton, Missouri; six grandchildren, Lauren Whitney Neal and husband Jordan of Maricopa, Arizona, Whitney Lyn Benakis of Columbia, Missouri, Joseph Cope of Camdenton, Missouri, Steven Whitney III of Lake Tahoe, Nevada, Andrew Whitney of Sunrise Beach, Missouri, and Nicholas Benakis of Springfield, Missouri; and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, April 6, at the Ozark Chapel United Methodist Church in Laurie with Reverend Rick White officiating. Graveside services and interment will follow in the Garber Memorial Estates Cemetery in Laurie with Curt Penney, Robert L. Cook, David Taylor, Al Vasey, Tom Schweiger, Kim Gilpin, Roger Sinclair, and Carrol Sinclair serving as casketbearers. The family will receive friends from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., Friday, at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are suggested to the Osage Community Elks Lodge 2705.

Arrangements are under the direction and care of the Kidwell-Garber Laurie/Sunrise Beach Chapel.

# Cemetery Details

## Garber Memorial Estates

417 Silvey Rd.  
Laurie, MO 65038  
(573) 374-7688

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Ozark Chapel United Methodist Church  
305 N. Main St.  
Laurie, MO 65038

## Service

APR 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

Ozark Chapel United Methodist Church  
305 N. Main St.  
Laurie, MO 65038

# Tribute Wall

GH

“ *Final Tribute to a Fallen Veteran*

Gene Harbula - April 08, 2012 at 11:09 PM

RB

“ *Ray Bellus lit a candle in memory of George Grant Whitney Jr.*



Ray Bellus - April 07, 2012 at 07:57 AM

RB

*George was a great man and a lovely family man. I will miss you !!*

Ray Bellus - April 07, 2012 at 07:59 AM

GK

“ *George and I worked together at USG for many years. And over those years I grew to admire and respect George and we became friends. He showed me that you should treat customers like you would want someone to treat your family. Always tell the truth, even if it is not in your best interest at the time. Customers may not buy from you ever time but they'll always let you back in the door. Everyone considered George a trusting friend. On this Good Friday, may God welcome George into heave with his only Son.*

*Gerald J. Kopkash  
Cary, IL*

Gerald J. Kopkash - April 06, 2012 at 01:18 PM

SB

“ Uncle George is greatly loved and will be greatly missed! He could always make me laugh and I never seemed to have enough time with him, Aunt Pat or my fun to be with cousins-Steve, Karen and Sara! I treasured the times we traveled to see his family and will treasure my memories through the legacy he left behind. His kindness in attending my wedding in Michigan, will long be remembered! I love you all and my prayers are with you as you grieve and celebrate this wonderful man's life! Sally Barber

---

**Sally Barber** - April 06, 2012 at 10:11 AM

SK

“ Sheri Knott lit a candle in memory of George Grant Whitney Jr.



---

**Sheri Knott** - April 06, 2012 at 07:43 AM

SK

Steve, I just learned of your Dad's passing. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and Gwen.

---

**Sheri Knott** - April 06, 2012 at 07:45 AM

AW

“ Our deepest sympathies during your time of loss. Please know that we are here for you. With Love, Amy and Bryan

---

**Amy Ward** - April 06, 2012 at 07:26 AM



“ We met George in 1994 in Allegan when we saw him to purchase his Dad's Avion trailer. I remember him as a very nice down to earth kind of guy.

*Leo and Shirley Banaszak Jr  
Fennville , Michigan*



---

**Leo Shirley Banaszak** - April 05, 2012 at 04:22 PM

CR

“ Christina Robinette lit a candle in memory of George Grant Whitney Jr.



---

**christina robinette** - April 03, 2012 at 04:16 PM

KR

“ Katie Revelle lit a candle in memory of George Grant Whitney Jr.



---

**Katie Revelle** - April 03, 2012 at 03:01 PM

NB

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



---

**Nicholas John Benakis** - April 03, 2012 at 11:50 AM

NB

*Love you grandpa, you have made me and our family strong people and will continue to live if your light.*

**Nicholas John Benakis** - April 03, 2012 at 11:51 AM

SA

*“ We have so many wonderful memories of our times with George & Pat. Our thoughts and prayers are with Pat and all the family during this time. Don & Shirley Applebaugh*

**Shirley Applebaugh** - April 03, 2012 at 10:18 AM

DC

*“ During this most difficult time, we would like to extend our condolences to the family for your loss. Merle and Donna Cross*



**Donna J. Cross** - April 03, 2012 at 09:27 AM

JB

*“ My thoughts and prayers are with all of you in your time of sorrow. May your memories bring you comfort and may his memory be eternal. Jo Benakis*



**jo benakis** - April 03, 2012 at 09:11 AM

BL

“ *Becky LaRock lit a candle in memory of George Grant Whitney Jr.*



---

**Becky LaRock** - April 02, 2012 at 01:08 PM

DC

*During this most difficult time, we would like to extend our condolences to the family for your loss. Merle and Donna Cross*

---

**Donna J. Cross** - April 03, 2012 at 09:26 AM