



John Paul Stevenson

May 21, 1934 - July 1, 2017

JOHN STEVENSON

John Paul Stevenson, 83, Stover, died July 1, 2017 at Golden Age Living Center.

He was born May 21, 1934 in Lewiston Illinois, a son of John H. and Gertrude E. (Pierce) Stevenson. In 1954 John married Betty McDaniel of Macomb, Illinois and had two sons, John J. Stevenson and Randall E. Stevenson. On May 3, 1969, he married Shirley Hallam and had one son, Paul.

John graduated High School in 1952 at Valley Senior High School in Fairview Illinois. Soon after high school, John worked at Caterpillar in Peoria Illinois, and was later employed at the Illinois Electric Porcelain Company of Macomb, Illinois. Having grown up on a farm his hard work ethic and skills as a mechanic lent well to a job as carnival operator in the state of California during the 60's. After returning to Missouri, John was employed by Parkhurst Manufacturing Co. of Sedalia painting trailer and truck frames then later by Fischer Manufacturing Co. in Tipton building pool tables. After Spalding closed the pool table factory, John was employed by GW Lumber Co. in Stover as a ban saw operator. He raised chickens and goats on his farm in Stover and sold eggs. By 1980, John began his one woodworking and furniture manufacturing business specializing in children's furniture which he continued on passed retirement. His pieces were original designs including gliders,

picnic tables, porch swings, gliders and much more. He designed and built his own home and out buildings. He also designed a removable plumbing system that resisted damaged from freezing, repaired and maintained his own vehicles, and cut his own wood.

John's high value on independence lead him to be very self-reliant, yet he was eager to help others and careful to remember birthdays and holiday treats for the grandchildren. He was a fun lover and favored family get together activities.

Survivors include two sons, John J. and Randall E.; wife, Shirley; three grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John H. in 1958 and Gertrude E. in 2002 and son, Paul in 1968.

A family service will be held at a later date.

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