



Duane C Day

April 6, 1922 - January 6, 2015

Duane C. Day died peacefully in Omaha on Tuesday, January 6 at the age of 92. Visitation will be Thursday, January 8 from 6 pm to 8 pm at O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home. A funeral service is scheduled Friday, January 9 at 10:30 am at First United Methodist Church officiated by Reverend Gary Main. Burial will be at Riverside Cemetery in Gibbon following the service with military honors conducted by the Navy Honors Team in conjunction with the American Legion Post 52 and VFW 759. A luncheon for family and friends will be held at the Eagles Club post burial.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorials be made to Disabled American Veterans (www.DAV.org). Online condolences may be submitted to www.osrfh.com. O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. The family would like to thank the caregivers of Good Samaritan Society of Kearney and Millard for the outstanding attention they provided their father and brother.

Duane was born April 6, 1922 in rural Gibbon, NE. He married Ilene Geisert and, together, had four children. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy to serve our country during WWII where he became seaman 1st class on the USS Washington, a battleship assigned to the Pacific war theatre. During those three years the crew fought in fifteen major battles, sank more tonnage than any other battleship and never lost a man to the enemy. Admiral Lee commanded his task force from the bridge where Duane's signal post was;

even in his last weeks, Duane would tap Morse Code to impress his children. After the war, Duane farmed and worked construction. He was among the first to be hired when Eaton Corporation opened in Kearney because of his welding expertise. He retired from Eaton Corporation after fifteen years, proudly having never taken a sick day. He is said to have been capable of keeping any and every machine in the plant in operating condition. Like so many WWII Veterans, because Duane enlisted in the Navy, he was unable to complete high school. However, it was the proudest day of his life when, in December, 2000, his military service was recognized by Operation Recognition making him an honorary graduate by awarding him his high school diploma from Kearney Senior High School. After retirement Duane pursued his hobby of restoring antique and classic cars full time. He enjoyed traveling nationally and internationally. He especially looked forward to attending his USS Washington Navy reunions biannually. He was a member of a local car club, the Elks, Eagles, Legion, Moose and VFW service organizations.

Duane is survived by his children; Delbert of Denver, CO; Gary (Tamara) of Omaha, Carolyn Fenstermacher of Kearney, Cindy Close (Jeffrey) of Palm Springs, CA, a grandson, Scott Fenstermacher (Lori) and two great-granddaughters, Jaina and Shelby Fenstermacher of Springfield, IL, two sisters; Corinne Olmsted (Robert) of Kearney, Janice Gentry (Boyd) of North Platte, and one brother, Dennis (Sandy) of Gibbon.

He was preceded in death by his parents Dewey and Laura (Kirk) Day, three sisters; Zelda Burvanis, Osa Kelsey, (Ida)Jane Luther and one brother; Forrest.

Cemetery Details

Riverside Cemetery

45400 85th Road
Gibbon, NE

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 8. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Homes and Cremations
4115 Ave N
Kearney, NE 68847
(308) 234-3500
info@osrfh.com
<https://www.osrfh.com>

Funeral Service

JAN 9. 10:30 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
4500 Linden Drive
Kearney, NE 68847

Tribute Wall



“ *Duane C Day*

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *Delbert, Gary, Cindy, Carolyn, and family...so sorry to learn of Uncle Duane's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Hope to make it up there this summer and visit with you and all the family. Until then, we hope you are well and safe. Love, Buck and Marla Kelsey*

Buck and Marla Kelsey - January 10, 2015 at 09:24 AM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you at the loss of Duane, I remember Duane and Dora and activities of the Kearney Car Club, also visiting with My Aunt Ilene and Uncle Lenord Emery from Hill City about both Duane and Dora. What a delightful couple with many pleasant memories. Bobbi Berkheimer Hazard, NE bobbib@nctc.net*

Bobbi Berkheimer - January 08, 2015 at 01:29 PM



“ *I remember him gather when the family was together. He will always be remembered.*

Cindy Heidecker - January 07, 2015 at 07:31 PM