



Clair Eugene, "Gene", Irish

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Clair Eugene "Deacon Gene" Irish, age 84, of St. Augustine, passed away on June 5, 2014 at a rehab center in Jacksonville. He was born in LaHarpe, Ill., and grew up in Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin. He served his country in the U.S. Army before the Korean War and married Virginia Mae Born in 1953. For over 30 years he worked for Borden Dairy Co., starting as an apprentice cheese maker in Wisconsin and retiring from a management position in marketing in Columbus, Ohio. He later owned and operated his own cheese brokering business. Gene was a lifelong catholic and was deeply influenced by the Charismatic Renewal Movement and Cursillo in the early 1970s. He felt led into the ministry and became an ordained Deacon in June 1976. He enjoyed leading prayer groups and other renewal activities. He moved to St. Augustine in 1994 because of its deep roots in the Catholic church, and served as a Deacon at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine, joyfully volunteering his time to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, meals on Wheels program and the St. Francis House. Above all, Gene loved his family and deeply loved and enjoyed God. He is survived by his children, Patricia Pound (Kevin) , Lawrence Daniel Irish, and Kimberly Irish; siblings, Patricia Irish Sweeney (Bud), Sharon Lindsay Corken (Dick), Mary Lindsay Engel (Ken), Gregory Lindsay (Connie), and grandchildren, Tricia Pound, Ryan Pound (Heather), Keri Pound, Jonathan Pound, Cody Hefter, Jeremiah Stoney; and 2 great

grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his father, Clair C. Irish, his mother, Maxine M. Butler, and his stepfather, Sheridan Lindsay. A funeral mass will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 10, 2014 at St. Anastasia Catholic Church with Father Tim Lindenfelser officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations in Gene's memory can be made to: Catholic Charities, P.O. Box 53, St. Augustine, FL. 32085, or to Mandarin Presbyterian Samaritan Fund, 11844 Mandarin Road, Jacksonville, FL. 32223. St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall

JM

“ I am a community volunteer and I was sorry to hear of the loss of Clair. Death is never an easy experience to go through. It is only natural for us to want to live forever with the ones we love in perfect conditions. This will happen as promised at Revelation 21:4. This will mean that we really do have the hope of conditions changing. For more information, please feel free to visit www.jw.org.

J. McNeal - June 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM