



Joseph Bernard Means

November 3, 1927 - May 24, 2020

On Sunday, May 24, 2020, Joseph Bernard Means, 92, of Hoopeston, IL, was welcomed to his heavenly home while surrounded by his family. He was born in Danville, Illinois, on November 3, 1927, the son of Earl and Katherine (McElhaney) Means. He married Frances Marie Reece on January 29, 1949. She preceded him in death.

He is survived by four children: Linda Means, Hoopeston; Stan Means, Travelers Rest, SC; Loretta (George) Sebastian, Phoenix, AZ; and Teresa (Jim) Moyer of Fishers, IN; four grandchildren—Jared (Lyndsey) Means; Megan (Thomas) Sneed; Travis (Eunike) Sebastian, and Daniel Moyer; five great grandchildren—Nora Katherine Sneed, Harper Jane Sneed, Hattie Elise Means, Jackson Samuel Means, and Caroline Susannah Means. He is also survived by one sister, Jean Marie Glass, and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, one son, three brothers, two sisters, and one daughter-in-law.

Joe started working at Joan of Arc during high school and continued working there for another ten years. Desiring to become a teacher, he enrolled in Danville Junior College and took night classes while working full-time—a pattern he followed for many years until he had earned a master's degree and an administrative certificate. Joe began his teaching career at Bismarck and remained there for over three decades. He truly loved teaching, coaching spelling and literary teams, and keeping scores for hundreds of ballgames. Joe challenged, inspired, and encouraged students and others to do their best.

His faith was his anchor in life. For over seven decades, he was a faithful member of First Baptist Church, serving as teacher, deacon, and Sunday school superintendent. Until his health failed, he attended every service.

During the past thirty-two months many have provided love, encouragement, and comfort to him and his family: his Hospice team (Rick Hawkins, Marj Abrajano, Tracy Messer, Vicky Eichelberger, Mike Peterson, Deborah Slack, and Valerie Foster); special caregivers (Pam Barker, Shirley Hall, and Rosalie Hickman), and Don Dean, a long-time friend, who

visited him each week. His family, church family, hospice team, and friends brought joy to his life, and he to theirs.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to First Baptist Church, 323 E. Seminary, Hoopeston, IL 60942 or Carle Hospice 206A W. Anthony Drive, Champaign, IL 61822.

An outdoor visitation will be held 11:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. Saturday May 30, 2020 at the First Baptist Church Gymnasium, 323 E. Seminary, Hoopeston. A family graveside service will be held at Floral Hill Cemetery. Friends and extended family are encouraged to line North Market Street at 12:45 P.M. Saturday May 30, 2020, to greet the family as they proceed to the graveside rites.

Cemetery

Floral Hill Cemetery

Hoopeston

IL, 60942

Events

MAY **Visitation** 11:00AM - 12:30PM

30

First Baptist Church Gynmasium

323 E. Seminary, Hoopeston, IL, US, 60942

Comments



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Harold E. (Ed) Means, Jr. - May 30 at 09:16 AM



“ See you later, uncle Joe. God bless.

Harold E. (Ed) Means, Jr. - May 30 at 09:14 AM



“ I remember him in jr high. He had a hidden sense of humor. Good teacher enjoyed my time in school with him teaching prayers be with you Martha (Rutan)Jones

Martha Jones - May 29 at 05:25 PM



“ Linda, I'm so sorry for your loss! We loved taking care of him & your mother during the years when Denny was their Primary Caregiver. His sense of humor always brought a smile. You were always such a devoted daughter. Hard to say goodbye to your parents. Praise God you will see them again.

Love in Jesus,

Mary Ritter, RN

Mary Ritter - May 27 at 11:07 AM



“ Lit a candle in memory of Joseph Bernard Means



Valarie (Mathews) Hinkle - May 27 at 09:20 AM



“ I'm so sorry to hear about Joe! Him and his lovely wife have been my neighbors for 40 years! First down the street on Main St and then to the back of me on Seminary! Two of the sweetest neighbors ever! My deepest sympathies and prayers are certainly with you all for peace and comfort during this very difficult time! He has reunited with his loved ones and is now in the presence of Jesus Christ! Praise God



Sally Birch - May 27 at 02:50 AM



“ Mr. Means was my teacher at Bismarck in the early 80's. I sat in his classroom when I realized how much I appreciated the English language. He was important in my life. I'll never forget how much he meant to me and the things I learned in his class. I'm so sorry for your loss. Catherine Harper

Catherine Harper - May 26 at 10:44 PM



“ I worked with Joe at Bismarck. He was such a nice person and a real jokester! Everyone he met became a friend He made life better. Your family was so blessed to have you!

Peggy Hill - May 26 at 07:46 PM



“ Joe was such a great man. I first met Joe as my teacher at Bismarck. I got to know him better when I joined the First Baptist Church in Hoopeston. I loved him like my own family. He was a great hugger . He used to say “I got a kiss for ya” then he would give me a Hershey's Kiss. He was such a kidder. I will miss him dearly.



Becky Tomblin - May 26 at 06:49 PM