



John Akotchik

March 17, 1933 - February 23, 2009

John P. Akotchik was born on March 17, 1933 in Irvington, New Jersey to the late John M. and Pauline (Goy) Akotchik. He grew up in Newark, NJ and attended school there. John entered the US Air Force in 1951, serving his country for 20 years mostly as a Flight Engineer. He received the Metal of Honor from Taiwan, preventing the spread of communism. During his military service, John served in Korea and Vietnam. John was united in marriage to Ellen Theis on September 10, 1957 at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Buckman, MN. He was a life member of the NCOA, Little Falls American Legion Post #46, Little Falls VFW Post #1112 and St. Mary's Catholic Church. John enjoyed spending the winter in the Kenedy and Panna Maria area of Texas. He also enjoyed fishing, reading, traveling and spending time with his family.

John is survived by his wife, Ellen Akotchik of Little Falls, MN; daughters, Sue Evanoff (Jim) of Roseville, MN and Debbie (Tim) Condiff of Baxter, MN; sister, Anna Sutton of Newark, NJ; 9 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

John is preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Carrie Niebergall, Laura Herbert and Helen Purcell; brother, Alex Biley. Pall Bearers will be Shawn Wickwire, John Theis, James Evanoff, Dick Knopik, Loren Meyer, and Neil Meyer.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 2. 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church - Little Falls
305 4th Street SE
Little Falls, MN

Service

MAR 2. 11:30 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church - Little Falls
305 4th Street SE
Little Falls, MN

Tribute Wall



“ *John Akotchik*

January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ Good bye John and thanks for the wonderful memories.

I first came to know you when Sue invited me up to visit what are to be my future in-laws. Unfortunately, it was the time when Grandpa Theis just passed away and you were in the hospital. Like a military sergeant, you thoroughly interrogated me making sure I would make the grade for your daughter. Golly, I must have passed!

Before your first stroke: you always were quick witted, never afraid to say what is on your mind, having off-the-wall sayings like “Happy Bull” and loved to tell or listen to a good Pollack joke. Also, you were a proud man who made great sacrifices like supporting your mother when you were young, serving in the Air Force as a mechanic for C-4 planes, and most of all for your family.

On April 27, 1985 I married Sue. I remember during the reception, that you actually picked me up by the collar and said: “Son-in-law, we need to have a talk!” What could I do! My feet were barely off the ground and you carried me 25 feet! I said: “Yes Sir!” And some time later after the reception, I saw a photograph of me changing film in my camera while you snuck up behind me with a butcher knife in your hand, with a sinister grin and a cigarette in your mouth ready to stab me like in the horror flicks!

Thank you John for helping me with household projects like building a swing set for the children and putting in new copper plumbing lines in our house.

Sadly, I am going to miss playing cribbage and chess with you. You had an un-canning luck of beating me consistently in cribbage: no matter how big of a lead I had on you, somehow you would get great hands to beat me on the final leg. We would always play for one dollar and I think the final tally is greatly in your favor.

Finally, your suffering is over. I can't imagine the constant frustration you must have had with the affects from your first stroke: cannot

Speak your thoughts clearly, split vision, and so on. Yet you manage somehow to cope with it.

God Bless you John and remember to pray for us.

Jim##imported-begin##Jim Evanoff##imported-end##

February 28, 2009 at 11:22 PM



“ *Gramps~*

*It was an honor knowing you. I loved spending time, hearing stories, and playing games with you. Thanks for all the time I got to spend with you. Love ya, and miss ya. *hugs and kisses*##imported-begin##Sara Evanoff##imported-end##*

February 28, 2009 at 09:52 PM



“ *Good by Sneeze!*

I enjoyed the times my father took me to the flight line and watching those big black nosed airplanes. I enjoyed all the Shirley Temples you bought me at the NCO club and let me shoot pools with the other Air Force brats.

John served his country proudly!##imported-begin##Sue##imported-end##

February 28, 2009 at 09:47 PM



“ *I love you Grandpa. I will miss you.##imported-begin##Joe Evanoff##imported-end##*

February 28, 2009 at 09:43 PM



“ Grandpa Akotchik will always be in my heart. All the memories we went through together. At Paul Bunyan, Fort Ripley, bowling , and being with him in the holiday's in the summer time and also the time in 2006 where I went down to Texas to visit him. May he rest in peace.##imported-begin##Michael Evanoff##imported-end##

February 28, 2009 at 09:41 PM



“ I will always remember you in my heart.##imported-begin##Daniel James Evanoff##imported-end##

February 28, 2009 at 09:35 PM