

*Carr, Harold Stelman 1919 - 2008*



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**Harold Stelman Carr**

Born September 18, 1919, Harold Stelman Carr, 88, passed from this life August 22, 2008, in Akron, Ohio.

There to greet him on the other side were his dear children, Gary Joseph, Larry Allen and Susan Lorraine Carr; his parents, Clifton and Ethel (Cooper) Carr; his brothers, Donald, Roy, Orville and Alfred Carr and his sister, Pauline Heater.

Left to mourn his passing are his wife of 61 years, Mary Ethel (Wagner) of The Village of St. Edwards, Akron; daughters, Jeanette Carr, Cleveland Heights, Ohio and Ruthann (Jeff) Carr, Palmyra, Va.; son, Andrew Carr, Loudonville, Ohio; brother, Frank (Sharlene) Carr, Akron; sister, Velma Faller, Cumberland, Md; grandchildren, Rudy Benjamin Robinson, Minneapolis, Sarah Ann Robinson and David Aaron Robinson, both of Akron, Katie Carr, Loudonville, Ohio, Bobbie Jo Stover, Norristown, Pa.; and great-grandson, David Benjamin Robinson, Akron.

Harold died shortly after suffering a stroke at The Village of St. Edwards where he lived for almost six years. A part of "The Greatest Generation", Harold served from February 1942 to December 1945 in the U.S. Army, 82nd Airborne, 13th Division, 326 Glider Regiment, Medical Detachment. He was in Paris on V-E Day.

Harold was born at Elk in Tucker County, W.Va., the oldest of eight children. He quit school after the 7th grade to work on a neighbor's farm to contribute to his family's income. He moved to Virginia where he worked as a nurse's aid before joining the Army. Like many native West Virginians, Harold relocated to Akron after World War II to get a job in the rubber industry. He worked at B.F. Goodrich, met his wife-to-be on a blind date and married her eight months later on January 24, 1947. In 1949, Harold began his long career as a truck driver, retiring in 1978 from Chief Motor Freight, Cleveland.

Mary and Harold had six children, sons, Gary and Larry died in infancy; Susan in 1995. Harold joined St. Mary's Catholic Church on June 5, 1981, after being an honorary member of sorts during the years Mary was an active member and his children attended school. He also joined the Holy Name Society.

Harold enjoyed bowling and church activities with his wife Mary. With his brothers, Harold loved hunting and fishing in the mountains of West Virginia and buying and fixing cars. On a good day you could get him to play cards.

On the West Virginia farm on which he was raised, Harold built a cabin that his children, grandchildren and great-grandchild enjoy and cherish to this day.

In June 2004, Harold was awarded an honorary high school diploma at Copley High School as part of a government program that recognized those who served in World War II without having graduated. At his celebratory dinner afterward, Harold's son, Andy, asked him if he'd decided what to do with his life - go to college or get a job? Harold smiled one of his slow grins, shrugged his shoulders and returned to his room at St. Ed's.

Harold was a man of quiet strength and dignity. Family, country and doing an honest day's work were of the utmost importance to him. We miss him dearly.

Calling hours are from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, at Dunn Quigley Funeral Home, 811 Grant Street. Mass will be held 10 a.m. Monday at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Akron. Additional calling hours 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Lohr & Barb Funeral Home, Parsons, W.Va. Graveside services to take place Wednesday at Bright's Chapel, Elk, Tucker Co., W.Va. Memorials may be made to Father Hilkert's St. Mary's School Fund, c/o St. Mary's Catholic Church, 750 S. Main St., Akron, Ohio 44311.