



Walter Davis Straight

June 26, 1925 - September 30, 2019

Walter Davis Straight, 94, of Columbia passed away on Monday, September 30, 2019.

A graveside service with full military honors will be held at Yarrow Cemetery, in Yarrow, MO at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 5, 2019

Walter was born on June 26, 1925 in Adair County, Missouri to the late Asa and Lovie (Clifford) Straight. Walter grew up on the Straight family farm and attended the Methodist Church in Yarrow where he also attended the country school. He graduated from the South Gifford, MO high school where he sang with the Rise and Shine Quartet along with his older brother Paul Straight who preceded him in death on July 31, 2001. The quartet became known locally and performed regularly on KIRX radio, which in turn furthered his love for singing and remained a favorite hobby of his throughout his entire life. Walter went on to attend Northeast Missouri State Teachers College before being drafted into the Army where he was stationed at camp Fannin, Texas as a platoon sergeant.

Upon returning from his military service he met Waunettia J. Kerr and the two were united in marriage on January 24, 1954. Together they raised three sons: David E. Straight, Mark W. Straight and Eric D. Straight. In 1955 Walter went to work for MFA Oil Company and worked his way through the ranks to become the Vice President of Sales and Service. While working at MFA he also maintained his cattle farm where he raised Registered Polled-Herefords and was a successful tobacco farmer. Following his retirement in 1990, Walter's focus in life became his prize-winning cattle, many of which won awards at the Boone County Fair where they were shown by local kids involved with the 4-H program.

Walter is survived by two sons: Mark Straight and Eric Straight; one granddaughter Elizabeth D. Perkins (Straight) and husband Joe Perkins; and one great granddaughter Grace E. Perkins.

He was preceded in death by his wife Waunettia Straight and one son David E. Straight.

Arrangements are under the direction of Parker-Millard Funeral Service and Crematory;
12 East Ash Street, Columbia, Missouri, 65203; (573) 449-4153. Condolences may be left
online for the family at www.ParkerMillard.com

Cemetery

Yarrow Cemetery

Yarrow, MO, 63501

Events

OCT 5 **Graveside Service** 02:00PM

5

Yarrow Cemetery

Yarrow, MO, US, 63501

Comments



“ I knew Walter from working with him under the tobacco program at USDA. He always had a smile (he had a cut out smile in his pocket). You could tell that Walter truly enjoyed life. He could recite you a poem, his favorite about the man in the looking glass, sing you a little tune or just put a hand on your shoulder and give you a kind word. He was truly a thoughtful, kind man and a joy to be around. So sorry for your loss, but what a life well lived.



Cindy Driskill - October 05 at 08:14 AM



“ Walter Straight was one of the best men I ever met and I am a better man because of him. Integrity, honesty and loyalty were only a few of the great attributes my dear friend possessed. I will remember him always. Craig Lamm

Craig Lamm - October 04 at 11:10 PM



“ I met Walter when I worked for the MFA Exchange Division. He was always cheerful and great to work with. I made a reference to Walter one year when I spoke at The MFA Oil Company annual meeting. I told the audience when I smoked my favorite tobacco was Sir Walter Straight Tobacco. It brought a huge laugh from the audience. The loudest of course was from Walter. What a fun guy he was.



Keith McLaughlin - October 04 at 08:36 PM



“ I want to express my condolences to the family. I had the pleasure of many conversations with Walter after he retired from MFA Oil Company. Walter was full of life and certainly had a love for MFA Oil. I keep a couple of sheets from a notepad of Walter's in my desk drawer. Always reminds me of the kind of the hard work a lot of men and women, like Walter, put into MFA Oil to carry us to the 90 years we are at today and encourages me to do the right thing to keep it going for the next group of employees that will be here when I am gone as well. Walter was a good man and it was my pleasure to know him.



Tom May - October 03 at 09:44 AM