



Don Ernest Youngmark

October 8, 1921 - September 22, 2015

Lt. Col. Don E Youngmark USAF Ret. age 93 of Dixon died Tuesday Sept. 22, 2015 at Heritage Square Health Center in Dixon. He was born Oct. 8, 1921 in Dixon the son of Ernest and Lorraine (Link) Youngmark.

He married Winifred Loftus Aug. 1, 1946 in Dixon. She preceded him in death Aug. 8, 2015.

Don is a 28 year veteran of the United States Air Force. His career began in WWII as a B-24 pilot in the Pacific. He was recalled to military duty during the Korean conflict where he piloted B-50 aircraft. In 1958 he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for saving the lives of his crew after the B-47 he was piloting exploded shortly after takeoff. He received the Legion of Merit for rescuing a downed pilot in Viet Nam while serving as a forward air control pilot. He went on to serve as a Titan I and Titan II missile commander and a squadron flight commander. He retired from the USAF in 1970.

He then began his second career in Dixon as the director of Lee County Housing Authority. He continued his career with the housing authority as the Director of the Aurora Land Clearance Commission in Aurora, IL. He and Winnie Ann retired to Clearwater, FL in 1980 where they lived until returning to Dixon in 1990.

Don is survived by 3 sons Jerome (Harriet) Youngmark of Rosemount, MN; John (Tiffani) Youngmark of Dixon; Robert (Stephanie) Youngmark of Dixon, one daughter Mary Ann (Bill) Hine of Ft Lauderdale, FL: daughter in law Mary Jo Youngmark of Oswego, 18 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren, sisters

Charlotte Zuend of Dixon and Kathryn (Don) Vaile of Baltimore, MD.

He was also preceded in death by his parents, two sons Edward and Thomas Youngmark, a brother David Youngmark.

Funeral services will be on Tuesday Sept. 29, 2015 beginning with a 10:30 AM prayer service at the Jones Funeral Home in Dixon followed by a 11:00 AM Mass of Christian Burial at St Anne Catholic Church in Dixon with the Rev Antoni Kretowicz officiating.

Burial will follow in Oakwood Cemetery with military honors by the Dixon Combined Veterans Group.

Visitation will be on Tuesday from 9:00 to 10:30 AM at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers memorial has been established to the Dixon Veterans Memorial Park

Cemetery Details

Oakwood

416 S Dement Ave
Dixon, IL 61021

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **29**. 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Jones Funeral Home, Dixon
204 South Ottawa
Dixon, IL 61021
Ph: 815-288-2241
info@thejonesfh.com
<https://www.thejonesfh.com>

Service

SEP **29**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Anne Catholic Church
1104 N Brinton Ave
Dixon, IL 61021
(815) 288-3131
http://www.stanneschooldixon.org/st_anne_parish.htm

Tribute Wall



“ *Don Ernest Youngmark*

October 08, 2023 at 11:30 AM



“ *Don Ernest Youngmark*

December 31, 2022 at 02:40 AM



“ *Don was a strong-hearted man with whom I worked in B-47 operations. His flying skill, sense of responsibility, and dedication to the Strategic Air Command mission greatly impressed me and our fellow fliers. He was truly a leader..*
Henry Zeybel, Lt Col, USAF (retired)

Henry Zeybel - January 30, 2021 at 07:45 AM



“ *My heart goes out to all who loved my Grandpa Don as much as I did. I'll always remember thw funny stories he told and how he would (try to) whistle as he drove. I'm glad he and Grandma Winnie are together now. You will both be greatly missed.*
Love,
Kristen

Kristen Youngmark - September 25, 2015 at 06:43 PM



“ *We're very sorry for your loss.*

Jane (Slothower), former classmate, and Andrea Mills

Andrea Mills - September 25, 2015 at 08:36 AM

DV

“ *My memories of my uncle Don were of his heroic acts he did while in the military. After hearing them it put me in the direction of the Marines! I had wanted to be part of the brotherhood that he described, loyalty, discipline, and laying it on the line for your brother at arms!!! His soul will be one that will be missed and never be replaced, a true American hero!!!*

God bless

P.s.

Please say hi to my son Christopher when coming thru the gates of heaven. He has been standing guard since September of 2010

Donald D. Vaile - September 24, 2015 at 02:18 PM