



REED BANKS

November 1, 1921 - July 7, 2015

BANKS, Reed, Age 93, of Monroe, Ohio passed from this life to the next on July 7, 2015. He was born November 1, 1921 in Wolfe County, Kentucky to the late Goebel Banks and Donie (Tester) Banks. Reed was preceded in death by his wife of 68 years, Marilyn (Johnson) Banks. He is survived by daughter Carol (Thomas) Setter of Cincinnati; son, Larry (Lynda) Banks of Monroe; and daughter, Janna Banks of Monroe. He is also survived by four grandchildren: Ryan Setter of Cincinnati, Sean (Kate) Setter of Cincinnati, Darren (Amy) Setter of Portland, Oregon and Jaime (Andy) Young of Monroe, as well as four great-grandchildren. Also surviving Reed are brother, Bill (Opsie) Banks of Trenton, Ohio; sister, Marie Banks Mynhier of Anniston, Alabama; and brother, Jack Banks of Middletown, Ohio. After graduating from Trenton High School in 1940, Reed got a job at Armco Steel. When the US entered World War II in 1941, Reed enlisted in the Army the next day. He served until the end of the war in Europe and North Africa as a member of the Army Corps of Engineers, building bridges to facilitate troop movement. He earned many commendations including the Bronze Star for Bravery. He rarely talked about his service in World War II but was a lifelong patriot. After the war, Reed returned to his job at Armco, retiring in 1970 after 30 years of service as a crane operator. In addition, Reed and his wife Marilyn were the founders and long-time owners of Reed's Center variety store and laundry in Middletown, Ohio. After their retirement from Reed's Center, they enjoyed traveling, camping, and attending a variety of bluegrass shows where they

made many close friends. Additionally, Reed portrayed Santa at Towne Mall in Middletown during the holiday season for more than twenty five years. With his natural beard, twinkling blue eyes and lively personality, he encouraged people of all ages to embrace the spirit of Christmas. Many local families likely have pictures of Reed as Santa with their children in their photo albums. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, July 11, 2015 at Herr-Riggs Funeral Home, 210 S. Main St., Middletown, Ohio 45044. Visitation is at 9:00 a.m. followed by the funeral service at 10:00 a.m. with Rev. Norman Coleman III, officiating. Burial at Woodside Cemetery immediately after, with Military Services by Middletown Combined Honor Guard. The family requests that anyone wishing to make a memorial contribution in Reed's name contact the Wounded Warrior Project at woundedwarriorproject.org. Arrangements by Herr-Riggs Funeral Home, 210 S. Main St., Middletown. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.herr-riggs.com

Tribute Wall



“ *REED BANKS*

September 13, 2022 at 09:07 PM



“ *Sorry for your loss. Prayers for your family.*
Carol Hall Fortener

carol hall fortener - July 12, 2015 at 11:11 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Allen and Caprice Beyersdoerfer - July 11, 2015 at 07:34 AM



Braiden, one of two grandchildren fortunate enough to have met Santa Reed Banks. :-)

Allen and Caprice Beyersdoerfer - July 11, 2015 at 07:37 AM

AB

“ We are so sorry for your loss. The world is less bright without this wonderful man. How blessed we are to have the privilege of knowing this Greatest Generation soul! One of the many things we miss are what Reed & Marilyn called the "panic calls" they gave us. While preparing the camper for a bluegrass festival or show, they'd discover something not working correctly with the RV. They'd call us and say, "We're leaving for a show and we need you to fix something right away!" Most times, it was actually a quick fix, and off they went to share their love of life with others. We are thankful to have two pictures of grandchildren with Santa Reed. There are countless treasured memories we have of Reed & Marilyn. May God bless you with peace during this difficult time.

Allen & Caprice Beyersdoerfer - July 11, 2015 at 07:23 AM

DL

“ Very sorry for your loss. We will always remember Reed as our favorite Santa. He made it real, especially for our kids. God bless you.
The Lawson family.

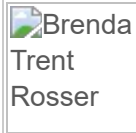
Doug Lawson - July 11, 2015 at 12:21 AM

BR

“ *Brenda Rosser lit a candle in memory of
REED BANKS*



Brenda Rosser - July 10, 2015 at 09:37 PM



“ Our lovely and wonderful neighbor, the world will not be the same without your warm smile and generous nature. You will be missed by so many. Like others, your time spent as Santa was the most wonderful for my children growing up. At times when I would see you walk the neighborhood, I would tell my grandson, there goes Santa! The greatest thing about that, he believed me. All that knew you, loved you. Rest in Peace our dear friend. We know that you are smiling upon us.

Forever in Our Hearts,

James & Brenda Rosser

Brenda Trent Rosser - July 10, 2015 at 09:34 PM



“ Seems like I spent my childhood doing laundry at Reed's Center, Reed always made it feel like a safe haven; running around folding towels! Thanks for the good memories :)

Teresa Songer Webb - July 10, 2015 at 06:52 PM



“ In 2002, Mr. Reed was the Santa that my daughter was photographed with and it has always been my favorite picture. Thanks for sharing your loved one!
Janet Evick Hogan

janet Evick Hogan - July 10, 2015 at 06:36 PM

BR

“ Betty King Roberts lit a candle in memory of
REED BANKS



betty king roberts - July 10, 2015 at 05:03 PM

BR

“ Betty King Roberts lit a candle in memory of
REED BANKS



betty king roberts - July 10, 2015 at 05:02 PM

PH

“ Paula Harr lit a candle in memory of REED
BANKS



paula harr - July 10, 2015 at 04:52 PM

JH

“ Joyce And Kim Hall lit a candle in memory of
REED BANKS



Joyce and Kim Hall - July 10, 2015 at 04:42 PM



“ *Donna Soule Wilkinson lit a candle in memory of REED BANKS*



Donna Soule Wilkinson - July 10, 2015 at 03:24 PM



I worked at Reeds Center in 1969 to 1970 while my husband was in Vietnam. I was 18 and they took such good care of me. RIP Reed until we meet again.

Donna Soule Wilkinson - July 10, 2015 at 03:43 PM

PH

I've known Reed since I was small.He came in the store I work at so often and always had some sort of precious trinket he would give to me.I will miss him.

paula harr - July 10, 2015 at 04:51 PM