



Reynold "Renny" Oas

Life Story

Reynold "Renny" Gilbert Oas, Jr., died January 13, 2006, at his home in Paw Paw, not far from where he was born on May 2, 1930 to Reynold and Pauline (Cushing) Oas. As an engineering student at the University of Michigan, he was president of the Vulcan Honor Society and a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. He received his BSE (Civil) in June 1953 and married his soul mate, Donna Jean Billington, a week later. Renny served proudly as a Lieutenant J.G. in the U.S. Navy on a "Willie Victor" Super Constellation. He lived in Texas, Minnesota, Rhode Island, Florida, Virginia, Maryland, Louisiana, Parchment and Portage before returning to his childhood home in Paw Paw. He worked as a Professional Engineer in the construction industry. He was a member of the McGowan/Johnson American Legion Post #68, Kalamazoo Rotary, and the St. John Bosco Knights of Columbus. As an avid runner and tri-athlete, he participated in hundreds of events around the country. He traveled to England, Ireland, France, Germany and Costa Rica in the real world, and Narnia, the Middle Earth, and Wildcat Island through his love of reading. He loved the outdoors, and looked forward to turkey and deer hunting seasons. Cremation has taken place. Friends may spend time with the Oas family Monday from 5:00-8:00 PM at the Life Story Funeral Homes, 60900 M-40 South of I-94 Paw Paw, 657-3870. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Tuesday at 10:30 AM at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Paw Paw. Interment St. Mary's Cemetery. Renny was preceded in death by his parents, three sisters, Gretchen Lindauer, Anne Szalkowski and Susan Oas. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Donna, six children: Terrence (Elizabeth) Oas of Durham, NC, Catherine (Michael) List of Seattle, WA, Daniel (Denise) Oas of Kansas City, MO, John (Kim) Oas of Cleveland, OH, James (Beth) Oas of Rancho Cucamonga, CA, and Julia (Don Gloop) Oas of Racine, WI, eleven grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. Donna and Renny celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary with all their children and grandchildren present. To commemorate this milestone, a shelter was built at Lawless Park in Cass County. Also surviving are Renny's devoted dog Brandi and cat Marmalade. To archive a memory or make a memorial contribution to The Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra or Wellspring/Cori Terry Dancers, please visit his personal web page at www.lifestorynet.com