



Roger E. Bechdolt

December 19, 1925 - December 11, 2019

Roger E. Bechdolt, 93, formerly of Celina, passed away at Otterbein, St. Marys, on December 11, 2019 at 8:30 pm. He was born on December 19, 1925 in Highland Park, Michigan, to Jesse and Etha (Deutsch) Bechdolt; both preceded him in death. He married his true love Evelyn Stelzer on April 21, 1951. She passed away in November, 2015.

He was dedicated to, and delighted in, his many family members. His survivors include a daughter, Sharon Bechdolt (John Okonek), Glenview, IL; sisters-in-law Alice Dirksen, Celina, Kate Hedrick, Coldwater and Bonnie Stelzer, Mason, OH; brothers-in-law, Bob (Eileen) Stelzer, Coldwater, Tom Stelzer, Celina, Ken Stelzer, Olathe, KS, and Ralph (Nicki) Stelzer, Celina; beloved family, Susan (Tom) Kirk, Celina, Jessi Poppe, Celina, April (Tom) Payne, Cincinnati, and Amy (Neil) Peacock, Citrus Hts, CA; and many other nieces and nephews that were very dear to him.

He was preceded in death by his beloved sister, Mary Louise Poppe; brothers-in-law, Arnold "Bozo" Stelzer; Al Dirksen, Tom Hedrick, and Virgil Poppe; and two sisters-in-law, Judy Stelzer and Pat Stelzer.

Roger was graduate of Celina High School, and Miami Jacobs Business College in Dayton. He was very proud to have served in the US Navy as a young man and was in the Pacific during World War II assigned to the USS Dutchess, an attack transport ship. For many years, he ran Bechdolt & Son Western Auto Store on Fayette Street in Celina with his mother, Etha. The store was locally famous for being the source of many of the toys that Santa delivered on Christmas Eve. When they closed the store in 1960 after some 24 years in business, Roger sold mutual funds and then went to a career at the First National Bank, where he worked for many years. Later, he sold real estate before retiring for travel, time with family and winters in Melbourne Beach, Florida.

Roger was a lifelong member of St. John's Lutheran Church. He was a member of several service clubs, notably Sertoma, the Masonic Lodge and the Elks. He was a loving and dedicated husband, father, brother, uncle, great uncle and great-great uncle. He loved

spending time with family and friends, particularly days spent boating on the lake and or playing cards. For many years, Roger enjoyed spending winters in Florida in a beautiful spot between the Indian River and the Atlantic Ocean, with his friends and beloved wife, Evelyn. We will miss his cheerful optimism, kind nature and his sweet smile.

Visitation hours will be from 1-4 pm on Sunday, December 15, 2019, at Cisco Funeral Home, Celina, immediately followed by a service and a celebration of his life at the funeral home with Pastor Jeff Gramza of St. John's Lutheran Church presiding.

Burial will be private at Swamp College Cemetery on Monday morning.

Contributions can be made to St. John's Lutheran Church and/or Grand Lake Hospice.

Please leave a condolence to the family @ www.ciscofuneralhome.com

Cemetery

Swamp College Cemetery
6496 Karch Rd
Celina, OH, 45885

Events

- DEC**
15

Visitation

Cisco Funeral Home - Celina
6921 State Rte. 703 E., Celina, OH, US, 45822

01:00PM - 04:00PM
- DEC**
15

Service

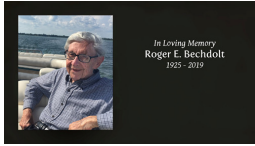
Cisco Funeral Home - Celina
6921 State Rte. 703 E., Celina, OH, US, 45822

04:00PM

Comments



“ An external video has been added.



Cisco Funeral Homes - December 15, 2019 at 11:13 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Roger E. Bechdolt.



December 14, 2019 at 11:25 AM



“ I was so sorry to hear of your dad's passing. I was blessed to have spent time with him when I worked at Otterbein St. Mary's. He attended my exercise classes regularly and always came in with a smile...a very sweet and gentle man.

Monica Sowards - December 14, 2019 at 07:01 AM



“ With Deepest Sympathy and Condolences & Prayers for his family and friends Member from St John Lutheran Church his smiling face will be missed a great guy to be around and to talk to!

St John Lutheran Church Member, Garry Alan Gray

Garry Alan Gray - December 15, 2019 at 12:04 PM



“ Such a sweet, gentle, and loving man. Roger always had a kind word to say and a smile on his face. May you find comfort in knowing he will get to spend the Christmas holiday with Evelyn and Jesus. What a glorious event it will be!

Bob and Julie Wendel - December 13, 2019 at 10:49 AM



“ So sorry. Thinking of you and keeping you in our prayers.always enjoyed talking with Roger.

ralph and susie weitzel - December 13, 2019 at 06:32 AM



“ Sharon--I am so sorry to hear of your father's passing. I have only lovely memories of his calm kind nature. It was so good to see him a few years ago at my brother Doug's funeral. Although I was grieving my brother, Roger made the atmosphere feel a little lighter. We had a nice chat about you and Evelyn and Doug and it was really pleasant. I am so glad we connected that day.

I know how shocking it is to realize that both of your parents are gone. They are the ones who have known you for ever and it's hard to imagine life without them.

Let me know if I can be of any help. Best to you and John. Do let me know if you come to visit New York, and I will do the same when in the Chicago area.

For now, I send my love to you and your dad. I will celebrate him in my mind forever.

Michele Temple - December 12, 2019 at 11:14 PM



“ From Ken Stelzer purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Roger E. Bechdolt.



From Ken Stelzer - December 12, 2019 at 08:43 PM