



John "Jack" Riley

December 24, 1923 - February 26, 2011

BLISSFIELD – John F. “Jack” Riley died Saturday, February 26, 2011, at Lutheran Village at Wolf Creek under the care of Hospice of Northwest Ohio. He spent his last day surrounded by his loving family.

Jack was born December 24, 1923, at Toledo, Ohio, the son of Frank and Marie (Smith) Riley. As a boy Jack enjoyed fishing and trapping along the River Raisin and hunting. He was an Eagle Scout. While in high school he played first base for the Blissfield High School baseball team earning three varsity letters and football, earning two varsity letters as well as playing the clarinet for the Blissfield High School Band. Following graduation in 1941, Jack attended Michigan State University. On June 18, 1943, he was inducted into the United States Navy. He served in the Pacific Theater during World War II as a radioman on the USS Dennis and USS Gasconade and, while on board the USS Dennis, was a part of the Battle for Leyte Gulf. Following his discharge in 1946, he returned to Michigan State University and graduated in 1949. While a student at MSU, he was inducted into the history honorary fraternity, Psi Sigma Alpha. Following graduation, he attended the University of Michigan Law School where he met Patricia “Pat” J. Williamson. They were married August 25, 1951, in Bay City, Michigan. Jack transferred to Detroit College of Law where he graduated in June 1953. Following graduation, Jack and Pat returned to Blissfield where he began the practice of law following in the footsteps of his grandfather, John A. Riley, who began the practice of law in 1888, and his father, Frank J. Riley. Jack served as Blissfield Village

Attorney from 1957 until his death. Jack was active in his community. He was Past President of the Blissfield Rotary Club, Past President of the Blissfield Alumni Association, Past President of the Lenawee County Bar Association and the first President of St. Peter Catholic Church Council and was a Trustee of the Schultz-Holmes Memorial Library in Blissfield. He served on the Board of Directors of Jipson-Carter State Bank from 1961 until 1984, serving as Chairman of the Board of Directors from 1983 to 1984. In 1984, he joined the Board of Directors of Blissfield State Bank and served there until 2007. Jack was also a member of the Blissfield American Legion and River Raisin Sportsmen's Club. Jack was a member of Light of Christ Catholic Church, St. Peter's Campus, where he served as an usher for 50 years. He was an avid hunter and fisherman and enjoyed the out of doors and his trips to Drummond Island for deer hunting and fishing at Higgins Lake, Michigan with his children and grandchildren.

Jack is survived by his wife of fifty-nine years, Pat, his son and law partner, Frank (Donna) of Blissfield, daughter, Kathleen of Sylvania; daughter-in-law, Pam of Grosse Ile; granddaughter, Alexandra of Blissfield, grandson, Blaine of Ann Arbor; and granddaughter, Brianna of Grosse Ile; step grandson, Derek Baugh of Mt. Pleasant, S. C.; and step granddaughter, Rene Teater of Adrian. Jack was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, Edward, and a son, John W. Riley.

Mass of the Christian burial will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 2, 2011, at Light of Christ Catholic Church, St. Peter's Campus with Msg. Dennis Metzger as Celebrant. Burial will follow at Pleasant View Cemetery. Visitation will be held at Wagley Funeral Home, Tagsold Chapel on Tuesday from 2 to 8 p.m. with a Rosary at 7:30 p.m.

Contributions may be made to the Blissfield Fire Department, The Schultz-Holmes Memorial Library, Hospice of Northwest Ohio, Lutheran Village at Wolf Creek, or the charity of the donor's choice. Condolences are welcome at www.wagleyfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Service

MAR 2. 11:00 AM (ET)

Light of Christ Catholic Parish
309 South Lane Street
Blissfield, MI

Tribute Wall



“ *John "Jack" Riley*

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *Dear Frank, Donna & family, With deepest sympathy to you and your family at this time of sorrow. May God Bless you.
Larry & Janis Wilt###imported-begin##Larry & Janis Wilt###imported-end##*

March 10, 2011 at 03:33 PM



“ *I am so sorry to hear Mr Riley passed away. He was a pillar in the community & will be greatly missed. I have know him and his family all my life. He is now with John & enjoying heaven. May God bring us peace in both our loses.##imported-begin##Ellen Bowman Toohy##imported-end##*

March 06, 2011 at 08:34 PM



“ *We are sorry for your loss. Jack was a fine person and we remember him as a true friend.
With deepest sympathy,
Bruce and Lois McCormick##imported-begin##Bruce and Lois McCormick##imported-end##*

March 06, 2011 at 12:50 PM



“ Dear Riley Family,
Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers.
Our Sympathy###imported-begin###Harold, Kileen & Kallen
Mohr###imported-end##

March 02, 2011 at 06:06 AM



“ Frank and Kathie,I was so sorry to hear of your dads passing. I
always had a great time with him when he came into the Knapp
Motors. Always a gentleman and made everyone feel
important.Also miss the both of you.Will say a prayer for
him.###imported-begin###Ken Kruzynski###imported-end##

March 01, 2011 at 09:16 PM



“ Kathy and family, You have my condolences. Know that my prayers
are with you.###imported-begin###Brenda Powell###imported-end##

March 01, 2011 at 03:46 PM



“ Pat, Frank, Kathie So sorry to here about Jack!!He was a good man
he did so much!!He was so nice to take time on his walks home
from the office just to stop and talk!!!!Pearl St was a great place top
grow up great friends !!Your in our prayers always !!!!Todd April
Mitchell and Family###imported-begin###Todd Michell###imported-
end##

March 01, 2011 at 02:57 PM



“ Pat, Frank and the entire Riley family, our thoughts are with you at this time of loss. Jack will be missed by so many people. He was a Blissfield institution who served the community, his church, and his family so well. What an excellent example he has always been. Frank & Brenda Baker###imported-begin###Frank & Brenda Baker###imported-end##

March 01, 2011 at 10:00 AM



“ Pat, Kathy, Frank and families, We were so sorry to hear of Jack's passing and wanted to extend our sincere sympathy to each of you. We will remember Jack as a well respected professional, a wonderful family man and a devoted community member. May you all find peace in your wonderful memories of this kind man.###imported-begin###Dwight and Carolyn Klump###imported-end##

February 28, 2011 at 08:08 PM



“ Frank and family,so sorry to hear of your loss, you are in my thoughts and prayers.###imported-begin###Mike Chittenden###imported-end##

February 28, 2011 at 07:37 PM



“ Frank, Pat and families,

We were sorry to hear of Jack's passing. The bar has lost a truly good attorney and fine gentleman. We know you are all experiencing a great loss and hope that you can somewhat console yourself with the fact that Jack is, indeed, taking a place in a "supreme" court.##imported-begin##Henry H. and Nancy Newlin##imported-end##

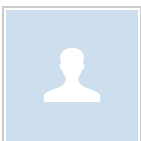
February 28, 2011 at 07:04 PM



“ I'm sorry for your loss. Always liked Jack, he will be missed. Whenever I saw him, he would remember me and speak to me, and would have a smile.

Blessings to all the family at this difficult time.##imported-begin##Sally (Goetz) Schwamm##imported-end##

February 28, 2011 at 04:58 PM



“ We lost a great man and i was proud to know him May he and John rest in peace blessings to all kathie o'neill##imported-begin##Kathie O'Neill##imported-end##

February 28, 2011 at 01:17 PM



“ Dear Frank & family,
May your almighty faith and your fathers precious memories get you
through this deeply sad time.
Blessings to all,
Mike & Pam Feeney & family##imported-begin##Pamela
Feeney##imported-end##

February 27, 2011 at 10:25 PM