



Ernest M. Goodrich Jr.

September 22, 2017

Ernie Goodrich was 85 years old when he went home to be with his Lord with his family by his side. He was born Ernest Melvin Goodrich, Jr. on March 10, 1932 in Cleveland, Ohio. He was the oldest of seven children born to Ernest Sr. and Elva (Buelk) Goodrich. Ernie was raised on a farm in Cumberland, Wisconsin and learned the value and importance of hard work and responsibility at a young age and carried these values with him for his entire life.

On March 13, 1950, just three days after his eighteenth birthday, Ernie enlisted in the United States Army. After basic training, Ernie was sent overseas and served with the Second Infantry Division in Korea. Over the course of the next year, Ernie became a war casualty on three separate occasions. After each injury, he was sent back into the line of duty. It was the last injury to the brain that left him 100% disabled and earned him the Purple Heart. Despite having a brain injury that would affect the rest of his life, Ernie remained strong and determined. He did not allow his injury to hold him back. Ernie spoke very little about his time in the Korean War.

Ernie married Rosemary Soler in October of 1955. Together they raised six children, Kathy, Joanne, Terry, Mike, Karen, and Linda in Maplewood, Minnesota. During this time he worked for the United States Postal Service in St. Paul, MN. He was strict and took his role of being a parent very seriously. He was also a loving and devoted dad that put the needs of his children first always. He was committed completely to raising his kids the best way that he knew how. Ernie and Rose eventually divorced but Ernie remained connected to his children.

In 1984, Ernie married Joan Clapp and together they moved to White Bear Lake. They enjoyed 28 years together before her death in 2012. During their time together, they enjoyed traveling and attending church together. It was important for both of them to get both of their families together during holidays and other occasions.

In 1987, after 34 years of working, Ernie retired from the Postal Service.

During his retirement, he took up woodworking and especially enjoyed making clocks for his family members. On any given morning, Ernie could be found at Perkins or McDonalds enjoying a cup of coffee and people watching. He also took great pleasure in taking his children and grandchildren out to eat. Ernie enjoyed the chaos of big family get-togethers just as much as he enjoyed the quiet of bird watching and scripture reading.

He spent the last five years of his life at Waverly Gardens in North Oaks, MN.

Preceded in death by wife, Joan; son, Mike; and five siblings. He will be greatly missed by children, Kathy Peterson, Joanne Goodrich, Terry (Barb), Karen Smith and Linda Knyphausen; step-children, Lori Angelo, Jeff Clapp and Les Clapp; twelve grandchildren; eleven great grandchildren; one great-great grandson; brother, Terry; numerous nieces & nephews, other relatives and friends.

Funeral service 11:00 AM, Saturday, Sept. 30, with visitation one hour prior at New Brighton Christian Church, 1500 - 29th Ave NW. Interment Hillside Cemetery. Special thanks to the staff of Waverly Gardens – Gables. Memorials preferred to Disabled American Veterans.

www.Washburn-McReavy.com

Hillside Chapel 612-781-1999

Cemetery

Hillside Cemetery

2600 19th Ave NE

Minneapolis, MN, 55418-4899

Events

SEP **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

30

New Brighton Christian Church

1500 29th Ave NE, New Brighton, MN, US, 55112

SEP **Funeral Service** 11:00AM

30

New Brighton Christian Church

1500 29th Ave NE, New Brighton, MN, US, 55112

Comments



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ernest M. Goodrich Jr..



September 29, 2017 at 01:13 PM



“ Probably around the year 2000, I was helping him clean his gutters, so I was on the roof and we was in the yard with a bucket that had a rope tied to it. He would throw the bucket up to me, I would fill the bucket with leaves and then slowly drop it down to him with the rope and he went and dumped it and then would throw the bucket back up to me. Well about the 5th or 6th time, he went to throw the bucket and lost his balance and fell over. I said, "wait right there, I'm coming down to help you". He yelled at me telling me, "don't you dare, I am fine"! I stood there on the roof and watched him try go get up. I wanted to go down and help him but he was just not having it and would of been upset if I did. It took him a few tries, but he finally got up and threw the bucket back up and we continued on. I don't know why but I will never forget that. He was a great man and lived a full life.

Jimmy Talbot - September 29, 2017 at 10:56 AM



“ Great story. He's a proud man.

Carole Ann Nenadich - September 30, 2017 at 08:24 AM



“ I was fortunate to spend time with Ernie as he helped me build a cabinet in 98 or 99. He had me do the work and Ernie was very patient with me and made sure I did everything correctly. I have the cabinet and use it all the time. A wise man with Godly principles.

Jeff

Jeff Clapp - September 24, 2017 at 10:41 PM