



Robert Neal Robinson

February 4, 1921 - March 27, 2020

(Robert) Neal Robinson

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99 years, 1 Month, 23 Days

Our dad was the best. He has always been our hero from the time we were very young. He faced many challenges his whole life but never gave up. He always strived to be better. He is one of the last WWII Veterans, a very good man, a faithful and devoted husband, a teacher, a student, a mentor, an awesome father and a jokester! Everyone loved him and wanted to be around him. He had a sparkle in his eye that always made you think he was up to something, We were blessed to learn many valuable lessons from him during his lifetime.

Born on February 4th, 1921 on a farm between Anthon and Merville, IA, to Hazel B. and Lester J. and raised during the Great Depression by a single Mom. He graduated from Merville High School in 1939. He and his brother faced many hardships, but the brotherly bond was strong and lasted till his death in 2003. On July 4th, 1942 he married Gladys Yvonne Peterson. Shortly after that he was drafted to the US Army, and was stationed in France and Belgium during WWII. He was a 1st Sergeant and an anti aircraft gunner, Which resulted in severe hearing loss in his later years. He also fought in a Golden Glove League during that time. He returned home on January 8, 1946 and had two Children, Sheryl and Dennis. In 1953 Gladys died of a brain tumor leaving a 2 1/2 year old and a 5 year old. In 1955 he married Lucilla Ann Staley and had 4 more children, Mark, Marcia, Joe and Jon. He worked for his Mother and step father running their construction sand and gravel business until 1967 when he took a Civil Service test and accepted a job with

the city in Kansas City, MO. He commuted back and forth for a year, and the family joined him in 1968. During that time he joined the Police Reserves and was highly respected by his police peers.

In 1975 he moved his family to Crystal MN and became their Superintendent of Streets until his retirement in 1986. Over the course of years he got his pilots license, flew his own plane, took many college courses and perfected his woodworking skills. There was nothing the man couldn't do. He tore an old house down, and built a new one with the materials from that house, totally by himself. He worked on cars, liked to fish, hunt and camp. In 2018 at the age of 98 he purchased a deer license and plotted out exactly where he could go and hunt from the back of his pickup. He loved to cook and was always eager to try new recipes. Every year he made his own pumpkin pies, many times from pumpkins he baked and used instead of canned. He also planted peppers and tomatoes every summer, and made his own horse radish. Collecting and reading old cook books was a favorite past time in his later years.

He recently made a wooden stool for his great grandson, sitting in his bed and having someone else do the running. His plans were made to create another one when he got ill. He always thought anyone could do anything they put their mind too. If he ever saw something along the side of the road or curb, it always came home with him because he knew he could make something out of it. He never threw anything away for that reason.....
"Just in case someone might need it"

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, 6 children, 11 grandchildren, 17 great grand children, a brother, Tom Comstock, nieces and great nephews, and many many good friends. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Mother, Hazel Comstock, Father, Lester Robinson, Wife, Gladys, Brother, Harvey Robinson, Son in Law, Ed Kenney.

Cemetery

Fort Snelling National Cemetery

7601 34th Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN, 55450