



## Paul William Prior Sr

June 10, 1921 - January 2, 2018

Paul William "P.W." Prior Sr., 96, a New Castle resident, passed away Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at his home with his wife, Marian, by his side.

Mr. Prior, long time President and Chairman of the Board of Henry County Savings and Loan and Ameriana Bank, was a decorated Navy combat pilot who served his country admirably in the Pacific Theater during World War II.

Upon returning home, he began his long and distinguished banking career in Louisville, KY with Citizens Fidelity Bank and Trust. Before joining Henry County Savings and Loan, P.W. was Chief Executive Officer of Fidelity Federal Savings in Seymour, IN. While leading Henry County Savings and Loan, he was also active in banking on both the National and State levels having served as President of the United States League of Savings Institutions where he met frequently with President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of the Treasury, Donald Regan, as well as members of Congress. During his tenure, Mr. Prior visited nearly every state in the nation and addressed banking conferences in both Japan and Great Britain. On the state level, he served as President of the Savings and Loan League of Indiana and as a Director of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis.

P.W. was also active in numerous civic organizations including a Director of the Indiana State Chamber of Commerce, founding member of the New

Castle/Henry County Economic Development Commission, a Director of the Henry County Hospital Foundation, a Director of the Board of Associated Colleges of Indiana, a Trustee for the First Presbyterian Church and a member of the New Castle Rotary Club. He was also instrumental in locating the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame to New Castle.

Mr. Prior was twice named a Sagamore of the Wabash (by Governors Orr and Bayh) and a Kentucky Colonel (by Governors Patton and Brown). He was also named Citizen of the Year both in New Castle and Seymour.

Above all, Mr. Paul W. (P.W) Prior Sr. was the consummate gentleman.

P.W. was born on June 10, 1921 in Huntingburg, IN, a son of the late John Edward and Goldie (Seay) Prior.

He is survived by his wife, Marian; a daughter-in-law, Carolyn Prior; a brother-in-law, William "Tooter" Harlow and several nieces and nephews.

Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his two sons, Paul W. "Bill" Prior and Roger A. Prior.

Graveside service will be held at 11:00 am on Wednesday, June 20, 2018 at South Mound Cemetery in Section 6 alongside the Prior Memory Garden.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Henry County Community Foundation for the Prior Memory Garden.

You may send the family a personal condolence at [www.sprolesfamilycares.com](http://www.sprolesfamilycares.com)

The Sproles family and staff is honored to serve the family of Paul William

Prior Sr.

# Cemetery Details

## South Mound Cemetery

505 Bundy Ave.  
New Castle, IN 47362  
(765) 521-6850

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

JUN **20**. 11:00 AM (ET)

South Mound Cemetery  
505 Bundy Ave.  
New Castle, IN 47362  
(765) 521-6850

# Tribute Wall

BB

“ Hi Marian,

*I'm very sorry for your loss.*

*I first met Paul in 1977 when I joined the Indiana League and worked with the late Dick McKasson. Also, having worked for the League for 23 years, I can honestly say that Paul was my all time favorite person who served as Chairman of the League. Paul was always a gentleman, a great spokesman, and a talented leader who accomplished much during his life. I'm sure you were very proud of him and feel blessed to be his wife.*

*Bill Buschmeier*

*p.s. In 2016, I too lost the love of my life, Myra, to whom I was married for 47 wonderful years.*

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**Bill Buschmeier** - January 09, 2018 at 08:49 AM

GM

“ *My father was F. Pat Myers from Seymour and our family owned company was, and still is, Kocolene Development Corporation. Pat served on the Fidelity Federal board of directors for years with Paul. I can attest that there was nobody my father had a higher degree of respect for than Paul Prior. My father passed in 1993 and my mother (Dorothy) in 2013. May the knowledge that Paul touched so many lives in such positive ways provide you comfort and peace in your time of loss.*

*Gary Myers*

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**GARY F. MYERS** - January 08, 2018 at 11:18 AM

HB

“ Paul Prior will be missed by many people in the New Castle community because he touched so many lives in a very positive way. Our thoughts and prayers are with Marian during these difficult times. Herb & Judy Bunch

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**Herb & Judy Bunch** - January 06, 2018 at 09:56 PM

DR

“ I remember the Prior family from when I worked downtown at Beall's clothing store. Both he and Mrs. were very personable and I really enjoyed waiting on both of them. Upon reading his obituary he led a very full life. My sympathy to his family.



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**Donna Ragan** - January 06, 2018 at 07:51 PM

JC

“ Marian, I was so sorry to read of the passing of Paul. I have wonderful memories of Paul when I worked at First National Bank before I was married. You had a very long life together. I'm so sorry for your loss. Jane Pfenninger Carter

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**Jane P Carter** - January 05, 2018 at 10:33 AM

BM

“ *Mr. Prior offered me my first job opportunity when graduating from college in 1973 and I was still an employee at the bank at the time he retired.*

*Mr. Prior was loyal to his employees and conducted bank business with the utmost integrity.*

*Many folks may not know this but those of us who worked for him can attest to this:*

*During the late 1970's and early 1980's during a time of a serious economic downturn with high local unemployment, many can thank the decency of Mr. Prior for helping them keep their homes through those hard times. If I might paraphrase his policy, it went something like this:*

*"Anyone who has fallen upon hard times through no fault of their own and are willing to work with the bank to develop a modified payment plan and is willing to do the best they can will not be put out of their home".*

*Nothing told me more about Mr. Prior than the way he treated those folks during those rough times.*

*Mr. Prior will be missed. He has already been missed at the bank for many years. He was from the Old School and probably the Best School, where your word meant everything.*

*When it comes to integrity in business as well as in life, caring for his employees through both good and hard times, and conducting his life as a gentleman, Mr. Prior has few equals.*

*Bob Myers  
Ameriana Bank Staff Appraiser  
1973 through 2004*

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**Bob Myers** - January 04, 2018 at 05:07 PM

SC

“ *As Paul's barber I always enjoy his stories about his life and how must he loved his blue eyed wife and how they met.He was also a good friend.*

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**Stephen Clearwater** - January 03, 2018 at 10:53 PM