



Rhinehart W. Burke

July 2, 1924 - January 17, 2014

Rhinehart W. Burke, 89, of Noblesville, went home to be with the Lord on Friday, January 17, 2014. He passed away peacefully in his home surrounded by his loving family.

He was born July 2, 1924 in Alma, Michigan, a son of the late Rudolph and Teacel O. (Bragg) Burke.

Rhinehart graduated as the Valedictorian of the Alma High School Class of 1942 and in March, 1943 was drafted into the U.S. Army where served during WWII. In 1951 he earned his Bachelor's Degree in English, cum laude, with minors in Art, Spanish, Education and General Science from Alma College in Alma, MI. He was a talented artist and started at age 16 by painting a mural in his home church which led to murals in banks, department stores and many private homes. His love of art continued throughout life. He also wrote beautiful poetry and prose and enjoyed playing the French horn, piano and violin. He taught for nearly 20 years, mostly junior high and high school in Michigan and California and college in Oklahoma. He married the love of his life, Rebecca A. Newby, on January 6, 1967. He did free lance artwork from 1967 – 1970 for the Pilgrim Holiness Church Advocate and for many private clients including the Tee Pee Restaurants in Indianapolis. In 1970, he joined Best Lock Corporation in Indianapolis as a draftsman and greatly enjoyed his career there retiring in 1995. He was a member of the Alma Pilgrim Holiness Church in Alma, Michigan and in recent years attended Hinkle Creek Friends Church in Noblesville.

He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Rebecca A. Burke; three sons, Rhinehart W. Burke II and Rudolph R. Burke both of Noblesville and Raphael J. (wife: Belinda) Burke of Carmel; two grandchildren, Elizabeth and Noah Burke; three sisters, Josephine Miller of Chambersburg, PA, Bonnie (husband: Ward) Sipes of Spring Arbor, MI and Sharon (husband: Loren) Beck of Ithaca, MI; a sister-in-law, Barbara Burke of Brady, NE and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by an infant son, Benjamin R. Burke, in 1970; his twin sister, Julia Swett and his brother, Ted Burke.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at the Hinkle Creek Friends Church, 21617 Hinkle Road, Noblesville, with Pastor Robert Stubbs and Rev. Ward Sipes officiating. Burial will follow in Summit Lawn Cemetery in Westfield with Military Honors provided by contingents from the U.S. Army, American Legion and V.F.W.

Friends may call from 4 – 8 p.m. Monday, January 20, 2014 at the church. Arrangements are entrusted to the care of Sproles Family Funeral Home in New Castle. You may send the family a personal condolence at www.sprolesfamilycares.com.

Sproles Family Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Rhinehart W. Burke.

Tribute Wall

CW

“ Praying that the memories you hold near and dear bring peace and comfort to you now and in the days ahead. May God's love fill your heart with each remembrance.

Carol Church Walker - January 26, 2014 at 07:09 PM

LC

“ The service was wonderful. I was disappointed that I was not able to join you for lunch. I had work obligations to attend too unfortunately. I think the Funeral directors did a nice job. I was at the graveside, but left in a hurry because of the cold weather conditions. Prayers for comfort and peace. So comforting to know that Rhinehart is with Jesus.

Lori Chambers - January 21, 2014 at 09:25 PM

JL

“ He was a great man and we will miss him! To know him was to love and deeply respect him. Our prayers are with his sweet family.

Jim & Patty Limbrock - January 21, 2014 at 01:40 PM

G.

“ I am so sorry for your loss. May "the God of all comfort" (2 Corinthians 1:3,4) comfort and soothe your heart. His promises, found in the Holy Scriptures, can offer much hope. It assures us at John 5:28,29 that our loved ones will be remembered and brought back to life in the resurrection. Please allow God's Word to strengthen you and help you to endure this most difficult time.

G.Ford - January 20, 2014 at 04:29 PM

RR

“ Dear Burke Family, We want to express our sincere sympathy to each of you in the loss of your precious loved one. We first came to know you in 1986 when we went to UBS and Rick taught in the academy. Your sons were fine and well behaved children. We remember the good times we had at your farm with our 2 small children. You made us who also came from from the Alma, Mi area feel welcomed to our new home in Indiana. You are in our prayers.

Rick and Teresa Robinson - January 20, 2014 at 03:47 PM

RT

“ So sorry for loss! May God be near to you!! Sending love and prayers!!!!

Ruth Thomad - January 19, 2014 at 07:56 PM

NR

“ Dear Ones,
What a wonderful September day it was when I met all of you at the Sumner Reunion at Westfield Friends Church. The memory of Rhinehart singing "Jesus Saves" while Patty played the piano is a treasured memory. What wonderful and true words!
Jerry and I continue to send our love and prayers.

Nyla Roush - January 19, 2014 at 04:11 PM

AW

“ I met him few years ago got to spend time getting to know all the family. He had such a precious spirit .i watched kids come up to him and love on him. showing him their toys making them laugh as he spent time with them. He was so precious spent several hours getting to know him talking about his art .you could tell how much hr loved his wife they just fit. those two found that special love that is so rare. Thank you for letting me meet all your family. And extending mine. So nice that now i have extended family to love .you have healed a hurt i never thought would get mended. my family loves yours very much. you will be so missed.

anna wethington - January 19, 2014 at 04:00 PM

MS

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your family at this time of the passing of a precious man!

Monte & Mary Stetler - January 19, 2014 at 01:47 PM

SH

“ Dear Sister Burke and family, We have some special memories of our time at Westfield and the fun our boys (Derek and Scott) had with your boys. We are so sorry for your loss. May God comfort each of you in a special way. Heaven looks sweeter everyday.

Steve and Joann Hickman - January 19, 2014 at 11:41 AM

JM

“ I recall the day I met Rhinehart. I was a teacher in the Academy at Union Bible College. He brought Rhiney to enroll in my class. Thus began a friendship with Rhinehart and Becky that has spanned the years and miles! He was a wonderful, Christian gentleman! My children loved him, too!

Jimmy and Jonna (Barrick) Marsh - January 19, 2014 at 08:10 AM

JD

“ So sorry to hear of Rhinehart's passing...he was such a kind man and I always enjoyed visiting him and Becky as a child. ..I vividly remember him taking us to see the creek behind the house where I almost stepped on a snake...he calmly picked a weed and tickled the snake with it and the snake swam down the creek. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Janelle marsh deaton - January 19, 2014 at 12:47 AM