



Francis Keith Ransom

July 3, 1925 - March 28, 2019

Francis Keith Ransom, 93, of Ventura, died Thursday, March 28, 2019, at Oakwood Care Center in Clear Lake.

Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 2, 2019, at Ward-Van Slyke Colonial Chapel, 101 N. 4th St., Clear Lake, with military honors provided by the Clear Lake VFW Post 4868 honor guard. Burial will be at Elmwood-St. Joseph Cemetery in Mason City.

Visitation will be from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Monday, April 1, 2019, at the funeral home in Clear Lake.

Family suggests memorial contributions to the Ventura Fire Department.

Keith was born July 3, 1925, the son of Edmund and Marion (Aitchison) Ransom in rural Clear Lake. He married June Matzen on September 6, 1942, in Bethany, MO, and to that union five children were born.

Keith graduated from Mason City High School in 1943. He joined the United States Army Air Corps and served during World War II. He later would return to Ventura, where he was a partner in Ransom Brothers Garage before owning and operating Ransom Garage, both in Ventura. He helped create the Ventura Protection Association (Ventura Fire Department) and served as chief for 60 years. In the 1970's he was a partner in Best Way, which developed and manufactured farm equipment. In 1967, he followed his true love of farming and continued until his last crop in 2017.

Keith was a long standing member of the Ventura and Clear Lake Lions Club. He and June were very active in their younger years, dancing, traveling with friends, bowling and riding snowmobiles. When he wasn't working on the farm, Keith cherished the time spent with his family.

Keith is survived by his wife of 76 years, June Ransom of Ventura; four children, Nancy

(Ken Wilhelm) Gerardi of Columbia, MO, Duane Ransom of Ventura, Julie (Gary) Holloway of West Plains, MO, and Doug Ransom of Clear Lake; five grandchildren, David (Debbie) Gerardi, Sara (Keith) Wallace, Amanda (Steve) Kellett, Shane (Allena) Holloway and Delishia (Matt) Williams; ten great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; two step-granddaughters; six step-great-grandchildren; a sister, Ruth Norris of Mason City; and a sister-in-law, Marjorie Walls of Clear Lake.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Gary Ransom; siblings, Don (Lucille) Ransom and Lois (Lynn) Hubbard; and three brothers-in-law, Charles “Chuck” Norris, Donald Walls and Paul Matzen.

Cemetery

Elmwood-St. Joseph Cemetery
1224 South Washington
Mason City, IA,

Events

APR	Visitation	05:00PM - 07:00PM
1	<hr/>	
	Ward Van Slyke Colonial Chapel	
	101 N. 4th Street, Clear Lake, IA, US, 50428	
APR	Funeral Service	10:30AM
2	<hr/>	
	Ward Van Slyke Colonial Chapel	
	101 N. 4th Street, Clear Lake, IA, US, 50428	