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Kleppinger Funeral Home

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William Eugene Butts - Beloit, KS.

William Eugene "Gene" Butts, 91, formerly of Jewell, KS passed away Saturday, September 9, 2017 in Hilltop Lodge, Beloit, KS. He was born February 14, 1926 in Jewell, KS to Reuben L. Butts and Mary (Hoffer) Butts. Gene graduated from Esbon High School in 1944. Gene served in the Army until April 1947. Following his discharge, he worked 43 years as a heavy equipment operator for the Jewell County Highway Department.

On January 18, 1948, he was united in marriage to June Abram. In January, they would have celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary. To this union, four sons were born: Nick, Steve, Mark and Jack.

Gene loved to take part in the lives of his sons, being involved in their sporting events and especially Boy Scouts. He was a Boy Scout leader for 26 years. Gene served in many capacities of the Jewell Christian Church including church board secretary, deacon, elder, trustee, Sunday School Teacher and others. He also enjoyed many summers of ice cream socials and friend and extended family.

June and Gene enjoyed Good Sam's Club camping for several years after retirement. They spent a few winters camping in Arizona and also enjoyed trips to Hawaii, Alaska, the Rose Bowl in California and many other sites of the 50 states.

He was called many names: William, Bill, Eugene, or Gene. He always said he didn't care what you called him, as long as you didn't call him late for dinner.

Eugene is survived by his wife, June of Hilltop Lodge; brother Tom Butts of Arvada, CO; sister Lucile Ozmun of Beloit, KS; four sons: Nick Keiss (Yvonne) of Haysville, KS; Steve Butts (Connie) of Jewell, KS; Mark Butts (Becky) of Kearney, NE; five grandchildren: Adam Butts of Jewell, KS; Warren Keiss (Rachel) of Wichita, KS; Erin Johnson (Tyler_ of Urbandale, Iowa; Renee Charles (Jimmy) of Clearwater, KS; Laura Walters (Kyle) of Atchison, KS; eight great grandchildren: Addilyn, Asher, Elias and Albert Johnson; Kathlyn, Karis and Kaiden Charles; and Tristan Walters, and a host of nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his mother, father, sisters Myrtle Keller, Bertha Clark and Zona Smith; Brothers Clarence, Robert and Lewis; and infant son Jack.

Memorials may be given to the Jewell Christian Church or Solomon Valley Transportation.

Visitation will be Monday, September 11, 2017 from 4 pm to 7 pm at Kleppinger Funeral Home Jewell, KS. Funeral services will be Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 11 am at the Jewell Christian Church, Jewell, KS.

Kleppinger Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.