



## Val Gene "Dago" Evischi

June 29, 1934 - September 30, 2016

Val Gene Evischi, 82, of Wamac, IL passed away Friday, September 30 at his home with family by his side. He was born June 29, 1934, in Centralia, son of Ugo and Elda (Hoeinghaus) Evischi. He eloped with Martha (Sanders) Evischi on June 26, 1959, in Bonnie, IL and his bride of 57 years survives in Wamac. Val is survived by two sons: Orlando and wife Oliva of Aurora, IL; and Deland and wife Pam of Centralia, IL: six grandchildren; Francesca and Julianna of Aurora, IL; Kenneth Valgene of Nashville, TN; Lainey of San Antonio, TX; and Charlie and Elle of Centralia, IL. He is also survived by two nephews: Jerry Evischi and wife Andrea; and Donnie Evischi and very special friend Sandra: two nieces; Lurinda Venezia and husband Larry of Bloomington, IL; and Kathleen Eller of Alma, IL; several cousins, great nieces, and nephews; and very close friends Ken Smudrick and Boomer Means of Centralia. He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Mondo Evischi, and two sisters, Irma Ganswind, and Vera Schaub. Val Gene was a lifelong resident of Wamac/Centralia. He graduated from Trinity Lutheran Grade School and Centralia Township High School. He served in the US Army for two years from 1957-1959. He retired from the Illinois Central Railroad in 1997 after 42 years of service. He was quite the handyman and mechanic. He loved small engines and was in the lawn mower repair business for 50+ years up until his health wouldn't allow him to work any longer in his favorite sanctuary, his garage. He was an avid St. Louis Cardinals baseball and Centralia Orphans fan and is no doubt already having a lively discussion on both subjects with brother

Mondo. He was a loving husband, father, and grandpa who was so proud and supportive of his sons and grandchildren in all of their endeavors. He was an avid outdoorsman who taught his boys to hunt and fish at an early age and to appreciate the great outdoors – from the family camping trips to Carlyle Lake and the Kaskaskia River to the annual extended family deer hunt down in Golconda in the Shawnee National Forest. His love for deer and turkey hunting was only overshadowed by his passion for crappie fishing. He loved his little blue truck which bore the most appropriate bumper sticker, “Have a Crappie Day”. He never once met a plate of biscuits and gravy that he didn’t like – and so appropriately had some of his very favorites from the Corner Café right before the Lord called him home. He will be dearly missed by family and friends. Per Val’s wishes, private family graveside services will be held at a later date. Burial will be in Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetery in Centralia. The Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home in Centralia is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting [www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com](http://www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall

JF

“ You All are in Our thoughts & prayers . So very sorry for your loss. God Bless.

Janet Finley-Huffman - October 07, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ Our deepest sympathy to Martha and family. He was a great man. He always had stories to tell and could make us laugh. Danny really looked up to him a lot and I'm sure will keep watch over everyone down here. I'm sure he's catching the crap out of some crappie up there! We love you and if you ever need anything please don't hesitate to ask.

Love Danny and Melissa - October 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AK

“ So sorry to hear about ValGene.Hard to believe he was 82.My prayers go out to all his family especially Martha.God Bless you all.

arline kerins - October 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ Martha, so sorry to hear of Val Gene's passing. You and the families have my deepest sympathy.

Tammie Easley Frank - October 04, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ Martha Sorry to hear of Val Gene passing. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers

Sue Diesen - October 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM

D)

“ *Sending our condolences to you, Martha & your family. Sorry for your loss. In our thoughts & prayers. With sincere sympathy.* ”

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**Donna & Allen & family ( Roper-Queen )Wooters** - October 02, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GG

“ *Very sorry to learn of Val Gene's passing. My sincerest sympathy to Martha and the entire Evischi family* ”

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**Gary Gherardini** - October 02, 2016 at 12:00 AM