



Lawrence "Jack" N. Colsch

February 11, 1925 - September 24, 2014

Lawrence "Jack" N. Colsch, age 89, of Richland Center died Wednesday, September 24, 2014 at the Tomah Nursing & Rehabilitation Center. Jack was born on February 11, 1925 in Iowa the son of George and Anna (Neumann) Colsch. He joined the Navy at the age of 17 and was stationed at Pearl Harbor. His ship the USS Abner Read was sunk by Japanese Kamikaze off Samar on November 11, 1944. He survived this Kamikaze attack where he had to stay afloat in the water for 3 hours. In 1934 he moved from New Albin, Iowa to Waukon, Iowa where he met his future wife. On June 28, 1946 he married Ruth E. Paris and she later died on January 29, 1998. They ran the Hilltop Bar in Eastman, WI for 18 years. He sponsored many Softball teams and Pool teams during that time. Jack loved playing Euchre and did so up until his death.

Survivors include his 6 children, Elmer Colsch of Dodgeville, Jackie Scott of Muscoda, Jerry Colsch of Nashville, Tennessee, Barbara Knight of Sextonville, Darrell (Patricia) Colsch of Ferryville, Lawrence (Leanne) Colsch of Wauzeka, WI, 19 grandchildren, several great grandchildren; a brother Charlie Colsch of California; other relatives and friends.

Jack was preceded in death by his parents; brothers and sisters Laura Jean Colsch, Elmer Colsch, Margaret (Hershey) Pratt, Esther (Roy) Svebakken, Mable (Bill) Haller, Marie (Merle) Lubka; sister-in-law Hazel Colsch, sister-in-

law Ethel Lange; brother-in-law Ray (Helen) Paris; two great grandsons Eden Lawrence "Bubba" Durst and Dominick Streicher.

He would like to give a Special Thank-you to Benadette Maglish, Jeff Maglish, Sue Carter and Barb Fish for the care and friendship they gave Jack. Also to his Grandson Larry (Annette) Colsch from Fennimore, WI, for all the good ...
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He would like to give a Special Thank-you to Benadette Maglish, Jeff Maglish, Sue Carter and Barb Fish for the care and friendship they gave Jack. Also to his Grandson Larry (Annette) Colsch from Fennimore, WI, for all the good memories. Granddaughter Bobbi Jo (Duane) Durst from Ithaca, WI for all the medical help the last few years and always have a plate set at the table on Holidays for him. Granddaughter Kryssi (Bryan) Streicher, Monona Iowa for the many trips to Lacrosse and the love and care given to Jack. Great Grandson Jonathan Kansier, a big Thank You for the memories and all the laughter and teasing you gave to Jack. He really enjoyed that.

Upon Jack's request no formal funeral services will be held. The Clary Memorial Funeral Home in Richland Center, WI is assisting the family with arrangements. On line condolences can be made at www.clarymemorialfuneralhome.com

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Tribute Wall

SB

“ My father also served on the USS ABNER READ and saved the life of a fellow sailor by giving his life jacket to the injured, non-swimmer when the ship was hit by a kamikazi and sunk on Nov. 1, 1944, just 6 weeks after I was born. My father is still alive and I'm compiling a lot of information regarding the Abner Read for him. I am very proud of him and all the men who served our country and particularly these brave men who participated in this battle of Leyte Gulf.

Sharon Behrendt - December 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM



Sharon: I would love to connect with you and share information regarding the USS Abner Read. Michael Davis m49j52@yahoo.com

Michael Davis - February 02, 2018 at 11:52 PM



Sharon, I would love to connect with you and see your info on the war. I am on Facebook or email Kryssistreicher@gmail.com

Kryssi Streicher - June 21, 2024 at 02:53 PM

MH

“ My dad (Max Davis) served with Mr Colsch during World War II aboard the USS Abner Read. I am anxious to contacting family. My dad is one of the few living survivor so the Abner Read. I would be pleased to visit with family members.

Michael Davis
Elgin, NE 68636-0312
m49j52@yahoo.com

Michael A Davis - Elgin,, NE - My dad was in the Navy with him - November 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ *Sorry for your loss, will be thinking of the family. Tammy*

TAmmy Cannoy-Bender - Richland Center, WI - family friend - October 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ *So sorry for your loss! Prayers are with his family!*

Karen McGee - Lone Rock, WI - October 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ *Sorry to hear about Jack he was a great man! Thank you to his granddaughter Lauren for making sure he went to DC on the honor flight he was so happy he was able to go!*

John - Eastman, WI - Friend - October 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM

VU

“ *Last time we saw Jack is when we brought Ethel up to see Ruthie they were sisters. Ruthie had lung cancer and didn't have much time left. It was winter and the roads were very bad. Morris took Ethel up to WI and we agreed to take her back home. So we drove up after Verdale got off from work that night. So we drove in the dark both ways. Sorry to learn of your loss. V&B*

Verdale & Berniece Marquardt - Evansdale, IA - Jack was our uncle - October 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GK

“ *We wish to express our sympathy to the Jack Colsch family. We will remember all the good times, playing ball, playing pool and playing cards with Jack and family.*

Gaylord and Elizabeth Kramer and the Kramer family.

Gaylord Kramer - September 27, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Jack was a great friend to me and my first husband. His brother in law and sister Ray and Helen, got us together. We played cards. and Burnie and Jack ,just sit and laughed and told stories. Always came around to pick up cans, and even came and picked up a large old fashion tub from our home. He had one hard time doing that....Always a smile on his face... Such a great and loveable man. Haven't seen him in years, but thought of him often. May he rest in peace. and condolences to all the family. In fact two of his great granddaughters are also my granddaughters. :Love you Lexi and Kaili

Judy Christopherson Stovey - Gays Mills, WI - Friend - September 27, 2014 at 12:00 AM

VF

“ I always enjoyed playing cards with Jack.

We would always talk about his grandchildren, especially Bubba and Ellie Durst.

Jack will be missed by his family and friends,

Virginia Wiedenfeld - Richland Center, WI - friend - September 26, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BJ

“ My heart is heavy with sadness over the loss of my good friend Jack. He was a gentleman and a true American hero. He fought a courageous battle with his health, but never let on he was hurting, In the mist of all his physical suffering Jack would turn his concerns to the people close to him, Always wanted to know how YOU were doing. My father passed 3 years ago and Jack stepped in and became that father figure in my life. My world became a lot smaller upon his passing. Last year Jack accepted Jesus into his heart and God set His table for Jack,,,, My friend Jack believed that he wasn't leaving home ... But he was finally going home. I can never thank Jacks Family enough for sharing their father with me and my son. Jack... Rest in peace with your beautiful wife Ruth. We love you and already miss you. God bless you.

bernadette maglish - richland center, WI - friend / care giver to Jack - September 26, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ until next time gpa and great gpa Jack from Jennie Kelsey and Alexis

Jennie Colsch - portage , WI - granddaughter - September 26, 2014 at 12:00 AM