



Heinz G. Puff

April 13, 1922 - October 20, 2017

Heinz Gerhard Puff, age 95, died October 20, 2017, at Lake Shore Assisted Living. Heinz, along with his wife, Caroline, who preceded him in death in 2014, were longtime residents on Little Spider Lake in Arbor Vitae. Heinz was born in Dresden, Germany and came to the United States as a young child. He grew up and attended school in Milwaukee, became an Army soldier, and fought in World War II. He spent 39 months in the South Pacific, being awarded a number of service medals, and returned to Milwaukee following the war. He served a career as a Milwaukee police officer before retiring to Arbor Vitae. He and his wife, Caroline, loved the area, enjoying fishing, snowmobiling, and other northwoods activities. Also, they enjoyed traveling, making a number of trips to Europe. For many years in retirement, Caroline was proprietor of The Fair Exchange in Woodruff (at the corner of 51 and 47), and Heinz drove school bus. Heinz and Caroline had two children, Carol Puff Payne, who lives in England, and Gary Michael Puff, who died in 2006. Like his father, Gary served in the military and as a Milwaukee area police officer. Daughter Carol Payne and her husband, Stephen, have two children, Benjamin Payne and Oliver Payne. Benjamin and his wife, Nicola Molendo-Payne have two children, Roni and Franki. Oliver and his wife, Phillippa, have one child, Ethan. Gary's wife is Nancy McConnell Puff and Gary's children are Daniel Puff, Kevin Puff, and Kristine Hinnens. Kristine has two children, Madelyn and Cooper. Also, Heinz is survived by one nephew, Steve Kern and his wife Debbie. Heinz lived a life devoted to his country, his dear wife,

Caroline, and his family and friends. A book about the life of Heinz, titled "Puff," was published in 2013. A memorial service for both Heinz and Caroline Puff is being scheduled for a future date when family members from England are able to attend.

Tribute Wall

A#

“ Warmest Thoughts Are with You in your time of sorrow, may you be blessed with friends who care, faith that uplifts, and memories that comfort. Our Deepest Sympathy. American Legion Milwaukee Police Post #415

American Legion Post #515 - December 01, 2017 at 07:42 AM

TM

“ I never knew Mr. Puff but my dad used to talk about him all the time. My dad, Bud Meyer, worked with him as a police officer at district five in Milwaukee. My dad and Mr. Puff both enjoyed fishing and were both WWII veterans. I think they formed a bond as a result. Dad died in 2013 at age 91. My condolences go out to the family but it sound like he also had a long wonderful life.

Tom Meyer - November 23, 2017 at 03:17 PM

DJ

“ Heinz was by far and away my favorite of all my grandfather's friends. I remember spending a lot of the summer in 1994 listening to his stories. As a 13 year old his stories have always stayed with me.....wow what a life he lived. I'll never forget you Heinz and the whiskey pulls you would give me when my grandpa went to the bathroom....ha.....rip!!

Chad Sagstetter

djdj - November 06, 2017 at 01:27 AM

CE

“ My parents Cliff and Elaine Lashua lived right next door. I am sad to hear of Heinz's passing. I will always remember Heinz and Carol as being lots of fun. Heinz had always a good story to tell. We are so glad to have known such special people and for Mom and Dad to have such great neighbors!

Curt and Karen Erdmann - October 25, 2017 at 10:40 AM

KN

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of Heinz. Heinz and Carol were wonderful neighbors of my parents Very cherished memories forever. Kathy(Lashua)and Jim Nielsen

Kathryn Nielsen - October 23, 2017 at 10:35 PM