

Baseball Hall of Famer Mel Cook Dies

COMFREY - Melvin "Mel" Cook, age 82, of rural Comfrey, MN died on June 28, 2013, at his home.

Visitation will be on Monday from 4 to 8 pm and will continue on Tuesday from 7:30 until 10 am at the Church of the Japanese Martyrs, Leavenworth.

Interment will be at the Japanese Martyrs Catholic Cemetery, Leavenworth, MN.

Arrangements are with the Sturm Funeral Home in Sleepy Eye, MN.

On line condolences may be left for the family at www.sturmfh.com

Mel was born on September 13, 1930 in Mulligan Township the son of George & Barbara (Nowak) Cook. He farmed on the home farm his entire life. He was a skilled carpenter and built most of the buildings on the farm site. Mel married Marie A. Windschitl on April 16, 1956 at Japanese Martyrs Church in Leavenworth.

He was an active member of the Japanese Martyrs Church where he served on numerous boards. He was a member of the Minnesota Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame inducted in 1987. He also was a member of the Board of Directors for Stark Farmers Mutual Insurance and an agent for 42 years, active member of Leavenworth Baseball Assoc, as a player, coach and board member since 1944.

Mel played Western Minnesota League Baseball for Sleepy Eye from 1950-1958. He enjoyed traveling, sporting events, his kids, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and morning coffee at Hardee's.

He is survived by his children; Dawn (Dave) Nazarenus of New Richland, Denise (Jerry) Osborn of Madelia, Dora of rural Comfrey, Greg (Stacie) of North Mankato, Darla (Steve) Remus of Sleepy Eye, Danelle "Nellie" Wersal (special friend, Steve) of Clements, Rick (Laurie) of Springfield, Douglas (Melanie) of Springfield, Deanna "Annie" (Darren) Huisman of Rochester, Jason (Michelle) of Granite Falls, grandchildren & spouses; Kelly & Erik Rubottom, Tyler (Kayla) Nazarenus, Deidra "Dede" Osborn, John Osborn & special friend, Amanda Beto, Joshua, Shayla & Nicholas Cook, Sam (Jennifer) Remus, Vanessa Remus, Sydney & Karrah Remus, Kristen (Dominic) Facile, Dusten (Breana) Wersal, Ryan (Brittany) Cook, Alex, Taylor & Carter Cook, Jennifer & MaKenna Cook, Tessa & Anna Huisman and Sebastian Cook great-grandchildren; Sonia & Fiona Rubottom, Alaina Beto & Tryis Korbin Osborn, Jackson & Maxwell Remus, Daveon, Kaylynn & Taliah Facile and Leah Wersal, brother, Donald "Duke" Cook of rural Comfrey, sister-in-laws, Marlene Windschitl of Sleepy Eye & Bernetta Windschitl of Cold Spring, brother-in-law, Pete (Lois) Windschitl of Comfrey, and many nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, Marie in 2008, and sister, Della in 2000.

