



Jesse B. Childress Sr., 80, of Rantoul passed away peacefully on Monday, Feb. 21, 2011, at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. He was surrounded by his wife and loving family.

A funeral Mass will be said at 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 25, at St. Malachy Catholic Church, Rantoul, with Father Steven Bird officiating. Burial will follow in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Rantoul.

Visitation will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 24, with a Rosary at 4:30 p.m., at Lux Memorial Chapel, 1551 East Grove, Rantoul.

The son of the late Jessie P. Childress and Velma (Taylor) Childress McCallister, Jesse was born on July 17, 1930, in Tennessee and lived his adult life in Rantoul.

He married JoAnn Barbara Quinlan on Feb. 8, 1958, at St. Malachy Church.

Survivors include his wife; a son, Jess (Tracy) Childress of Gifford; and two daughters, Lisa Fiedler and Jennifer Polsky, both of Rantoul.

Also surviving are grandsons, Jesse Childress of Gifford, Kristofer Fiedler, Kenny Richmond, Brandon Jones and Jacob Polsky, all of Rantoul; granddaughters, Amanda (Anthony) Warner, Jessica Johnson, Josie and Shelby Fiedler of Rantoul, Ashley and Peyton Childress of Gifford; great-grandchildren, Benjamin and Ava Warner, Alexis Coffey, Abby Combs, and Rhianna Richmond of Rantoul. Also surviving are a brother, Archie (Carol) McCallister, and two sisters, Virginia Brunner and Jerry (Bob) Stiger.

Besides losing his father at age 5, Jesse was preceded in death by his mother; stepfather, Roy McCallister; sister, Shirley Childress Schoonover; and brothers, Kenneth and Larry McCallister.

Jesse worked in sales for Burklund Distributor, retiring in 1996. After retirement, he worked for Roessler Construction Co. and Rantoul IGA. You might also remember Jesse from Tim's Pharmacy.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy where he served honorably during the Korean Conflict aboard the ship USS Philippine Sea.

He was a member of St. Malachy Catholic Church and the Rantoul Knights of Columbus. He valued his faith and family above all else. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him. His interests included fishing, music, playing cards, sports and gardening.

Memorials can be made to St. Malachy Church or the donor's choice.