

A Tribute To Hans H. Goettsch

Brother, Husband, Father, Grandfather, Great-Grandfather and Friend



Davenport, Iowa was Hans' birth place but Bettendorf is where his life he did live. Hans C. & Anna Marie Goettsch never knew how much love their son would give.

February 21, 1927



August 29, 2012

At an early age, Hans became interested in cars and what it took to make them run. He worked with mechanics to learn engine repair and how to get other jobs done.



Hans was proud of his family and enjoyed when together they could be. Christmas was special and he loved being part of their many activities.

When his parents died at an early age, Hans became both father and mother. Fearing they could be separated, he decided to raise, Herb, his little brother.



Restoring classic MG cars and belonging to car clubs they traveled everywhere. He'd help others in their restoration work; he was always willing to share.

Enlisting in the U.S. Coast Guard is how he served his country during World War II. When his service time was over, it was back to Bettendorf to begin his life anew.

"A Jack of all trades" he was labeled. There wasn't anything he couldn't do. Going dancing with their many friends was a special part of their life, too.

While working for J. I. Case, he realized to be happy a move it would take. In 1949 he opened Hans' Skelly Service in Bettendorf at 18th and State.



For Hans saying good bye was not easy, so God put that in His plan. After a night of dancing, in his sleep an angel took him by the hand.

Meeting Dorothy Meinert at a Rainbow Dance would forever change his life. He proposed so she didn't leave for college. On June 17, 1950, she became his wife.



In the Father's house are many mansions that await you and me. If there's an auto body shop in heaven, we know where Hans will be.

God filled their marriage with love and happiness with each bundle of joy. Gretchen, Jennifer, Hans L., Fred, Paul, and George; two girls and four boys.



Hans is now dancing with the angels in that heavenly ballroom far above. A man who to his family and friends he gave of his time and all his love.

Hans' Skelly Service was the spring board for new businesses and the ideas he got. A wrecker service, a body shop, junk yard and Hans' & Herb's Used Car Lot.



"Service to others" was Hans' motto and the way in which his life he would live. The Fire Department, being Fire Chief and an alderman, to his community he did give.

Many examples he gave us as to what life and love are all about. His smile, laughter and gentleness will be missed without a doubt.

He touched many lives and only God knows how many there have been. With faith in Jesus, we know someday "We'll Be Together Again."

Lyle Beaver