



# Thurman M. Kitchens

AUG 1, 1922 - OCT 31, 2016



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FUNERAL HOME AND  
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## **Thurman M. Kitchens**

AUG 1, 1922 - OCT 31, 2016

**T**hurman M. Kitchens, 94, of Decatur passed away on Monday, October 31, 2016 in McKinley Court Nursing Home.

Thurman was born on August 1, 1922 in Lee Town, KY the son of Plutarch and Zeffie (Belcher) Kitchens. He served his country proudly in the U.S. Navy during WWII. He married Anna Mary Sunderlik on September 6, 1944. She preceded him in death on June 14, 1998.

Surviving are his son, Steve Kitchens (Delores) of Salem, MO; daughters, Cheryl Whitten (Larry) of Decatur, IL; Terry Tofte (Mike) of Poplar Grove, IL; Sue Lidtke (Randy) of Friendship, WI; brothers, Richard Kitchens of Mt. Pulaski, IL; Ronnie Kitchens (Jean) of Oreana, IL; sister, Wilma Gessford of Decatur, IL; nine grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, one brother, and four sisters.

Graveside service to celebrate Thurman's life will be 2 PM Thursday, November 10, 2016 in Camp Butler National Cemetery with Pastor Mitch Flesch officiating and military rites conducted by Inter-Veterans Burial Detail of Sangamon County.

Memorials are suggested to American Cancer Society.

The family of Thurman M. Kitchens is being served by Moran & Goebel Funeral Home and Cremation Services honored provider of Veterans Funeral Care, 2801 N. Monroe Street, Decatur, IL. View the online obituary and send condolences to the family at [www.moranandgoebel.com](http://www.moranandgoebel.com).



## Tribute Wall

**Thurman M. Kitchens**

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ML

**Michelle Lidtke** posted:

Grandpa was a humble, strong, smart, intelligent and hard working man. A man who built with his hands, grit and his strong faith and empire around him. Grandpa was a man driven to work, work and work some more. He was a man who served our Lord in church three times a week, a man who loved sharing stories, make people laugh; there wasn't a vehicle or passerby that he didn't say hello to. He was a man who loved to travel on any given day. He would fish for endless hours and I loved watching him make the fly fishing lures. The way his wrist would snap and the line whisper to the water as a fish jumps/splashes out of the shimmer of the water. His excitement and peer joy when he snagged one. He was a man with a stern hand, made of steel, he could calm a wild stallion, cuddle an abandoned kitten or coax a stray dog. A man who could whittle the heck out of a piece of wood, jam out on his guitar and harmonica. He loved to carry a tune and was a proud father, brother, friend and Grandfather. My Grandfather was the heart. He will always be remembered by those of us who were blessed to have known and lived him. Although we will miss his smile, laughter, stories, jokes and his love of life. We take validation in the good warm feelings of our memories. GRANDPA I will always miss you. But the loving memories I have will continue to live on. You were my role model, a father figure, my friend, my teacher and most importantly you taught me how to be a strong independent woman. Your gentle guidance and love will carry me through to the end of my days. Until we meet again. I love you. "SORROW COMES IN GREAT WAVES BUT IT ROLLS OVER US, AND THOUGH AT TIMES IT MAY SMOTHER US, IT PASSES AND WE REMAIN WITH THE MEMORIES OF LOVE AND LAUGHTER." RIP Grandpa Ted Kitchens. 10/31/2016

November 10 at 3:19 AM

NP

**Nancy Piper** posted:

I am going to miss you my dear friend. I am so glad that you were in my life, you made everyday better at work. Thank you for your service Ted.. Enjoy Heaven you deserve it. Prayers to the family... Nancy

November 7 at 1:59 PM

NP

**Nancy Piper** posted:

Lit a candle in memory of Thurman M. Kitchens

November 7 at 1:56 PM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Thurman by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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