

Willard "PaPa Bru" Bruens

BIRTH 5 Jan 1926
Illinois, USA

DEATH 9 Dec 2008 (aged 82)
Hoopeston, Vermilion County, Illinois, USA

BURIAL Floral Hill Cemetery
Lovejoy Township, Iroquois County, Illinois, USA

MEMORIAL ID 32152886



Photo added by Richard Longfellow



Added by RWCNAC



Added by Steven Baker

Willard 'PaPa Bru' Bruens

Willard "PaPa Bru" Bruens, 82, of Hoopeston, died at 9:36 a.m. on Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at his home.

Willard was born on Tuesday, January 5, 1926 in Crescent City Township, the son of Henry and Johanna Luecht Bruens. He married Maurine E. Longfellow on Saturday, January 28, 1951 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Woodworth, Illinois. She died on Sunday, November 16, 2003.

He is survived by three daughters: Deborah (Kevin) Tyler, Sandy (John) Bray, and Janie (Allen) Baker, all of Hoopeston; one son Steve (Teresa) Bruens Sr., of Wellington; nine grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren; one brother Don (Catherine) Bruens, of Milford, one sister Henrietta Lynch, of Colorado. He was preceded in death by his parents, a granddaughter Tara Tyler and one brother Lester.

Willard worked for Vermilion Iron and later John Deere foundry in Hoopeston.

He was known for his skillful knowledge, and meticulous restoration of hardwood floors which he continued doing up until his death.

He was a member of the Good Shepard Lutheran Church and the Hoopeston Ira Owen Krueger American Legion Post 384.

He was inducted into the Hall of Fame at Fast Lanes Bowling Alley in Hoopeston, he was a little league coach for many years, he also played fast pitch softball, he enjoyed bowling, horseshoes, gardening, and was an avid Chicago White Sox fan.

His greatest love was spending time with his family. He loved his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

He served in the United States Army towards the end of WW II. Wolfe Funeral Home in Hoopeston handled the arrangements with visitation on Thursday, December 11, 2009 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm and 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Funeral

services for Bruens were conducted on Friday, December 12, 2009 at the Good Shepard Lutheran Church in Hoopeston. Burial with Military honors took place in Floral Hill Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to Carle Hospice or an organization of the Donors choice.

As reported in the Hoopeston Chronicle Herald Online on Wednesday, December 17, 2009

Family Members

Parents



Henry H Bruens
1896–1988



Johanna Tena *Lucht* Bruens
1899–1992

Spouse



Maurine E. *Longfellow* Bruens
1933–2003

Siblings



Malinda Bruens
1923–1923



Donald Elroy Bruens
1928–2012



Lester E Bruens
1930–2008

Maintained by: Richard Longfellow

Originally Created by: RWCNAC

Added: 13 Dec 2008

Find a Grave Memorial ID: **32152886**

Find a Grave, database and images

(<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/32152886/willard-bruens>: accessed 28 March 2023), memorial page for Willard

“PaPa Bru” Bruens (5 Jan 1926–9 Dec 2008), Find a Grave Memorial ID 32152886, citing Floral Hill Cemetery, Lovejoy