

Harold Lester Rapier

BIRTH 28 Jul 1926

DEATH 11 Apr 1999 (aged 72)

Urbana, Champaign County, Illinois, USA

BURIAL Floral Hill Cemetery

Lovejoy Township, Iroquois County, Illinois, USA

MEMORIAL ID 11362354



Photo added by RWCNAC

Harold "Ray" Rapier, 72, of Hoopeston, formerly of the Kankakee area, died Sunday (April 11, 1999) at the Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana.

Mr. Rapier, who moved from Kankakee some years ago, was active in local Democratic politics as a candidate on two occasions in the late '70s and early '80s. However, he was not successful in either campaign.

In 1977, he ran for mayor of Kankakee as the Democratic nominee. In 1980 he was a write-in Democratic candidate on a ballot with then-incumbent state representatives Ray Christensen, Ed McBroom and now- Gov. George Ryan. Christensen and McBroom have also passed away.

Mr. Rapier also sought to put a question on the ballot to ask voters if the county board chairman should be elected. And, he was involved in a dispute over the leasing of part of Alpiner Park by the Kankakee Valley Park District. Since moving out of this area, he had been best known as a frequent letter writer to the Daily Journal.

Visitation for Mr. Rapier will be from 5-8 p.m. Wednesday at the Brown-Alkire Funeral Home, Hoopeston.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at the Hoopeston United Methodist church, with the Revs. Dan Lybarger, James Fanale and Greg VanderKloot officiating.

Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston.

Memorials may be made to the Rapier Grandchildren's Trust, which will be set up at the Community Bank, 221 Bank St., Hoopeston.

He was born July 28, 1926 in Bradley, the son of Eugene and Anna May Moss Rapier.

His first wife, the former Mary Caroline Link, whom he married May 28, 1950 in Kankakee, died June 29, 1981.

Surviving are his wife, the former Nancy Eileen Potts, whom he married Oct. 12, 1984 in Bourbonnais; five sons and four daughters-in-law, Douglas and Linda Rapier of Taipei, Taiwan, Michael and Vicki Rapier of Springfield,

Frederick and Barbara Rapier of Scottsdale, Ariz., Aaron and Marji Rapier of Clarendon Hills and David Rapier at home; five daughters and sons-in-law, Martha and Tom Rosenquist of Austin, Texas, Karen and Michael Steele of Yuma, Ariz., Maureen and John Hunger and Mary Beth and Bob LaLuna, all of Kankakee, Marisa and Dave Farman of Maysville, Ga.; 17 grandchildren; and one brother, Kenneth Rapier of Aroma Park.

Deceased are his parents, one brother, three sisters and one grandson. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Navy, after which he served with the Merchant Marines. He was recalled to active duty and served in the Korean Conflict.

Mr. Rapier was a graduate of the Art Institute of Chicago and was a 1951 graduate of the Chicago Barber College. He had owned and operated his own barber shop in Bradley for 30 years.

For the past 20 years, he has been a field auditor for the State of Illinois Comptroller's Office, retiring March 1, 1999.

He had been a member of the Kankakee Valley Art League, the Kankakee Valley Bow Hunters Association and the USS LCI National Association.

He enjoyed art, writing and politics.

Family Members

Parents



Eugene Douglas Rapier
1889–1948



Anna May *Moss* Rapier
1898–1964

Spouse



Nancy Eileen *Potts* Rapier
1947–2020 (m. 1984)

Siblings



Dorothy M *Rapier* Berg
1918–1985



Kenneth E Rapier
1921–2006



Ruth Clarece *Rapier* Hawks
1922–1972



Catherine *Rapier* Jenkins
1928–1973

Children



David Edgar Rapier
1985–2019

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