

Robert Cook

August 10, 1916 - November 17, 2011

Robert W. Cook, 95 of Decatur, IN died peacefully at Swiss Village in Berne IN on Nov. 17, 2011. He will be remembered as a thinker, tinkerer, inventor and businessman. Bob was born in Osgood Indiana and moved to Adams County when he was six years old. He was the fifth of six children of Dora and Adolph Cook. His stories of the move to Decatur, the trips to Batesville to visit family and his many memories of St. Joseph School, Decatur Catholic School and friends and family entertained many of us. He married the late Phyllis Cook in 1951. He has two daughters, Catherine Cook, wife of Robert Laws of Chapel Hill, NC and Christine Korben, wife of Pamela Davis of Rochester, MA. He is predeceased by two brothers and four sisters. He has numerous nieces and nephews.



He was the owner of C.W. Fuelling located in Decatur. He holds 10 US patents and co-holds one more for devices designed and developed for use in the natural gas industry. His first patent was granted in 1956 for method and apparatus for testing and protecting gas main joints. His other patents were all related to testing and protecting gas main joints. In addition he holds British and Canadian patents. The Walton Clark Medal which he received in 1960 from the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia for a contribution to public welfare and safety by development of a successful leak-sealing system for gas mains was a source of great pride.

He attended the University of California at Berkley and Tri-State University in Angola, IN. He served in the U.S. Army Air corps Technical Training Command and Air Transport Command during WWII.

Visitation will be held from 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, November 19, 2011 at Haggard-Sefton and Hirschy Funeral Home, followed by an 11:00 a.m. Celebration of Life. Officiating will be Chaplain Anita Rediger and burial will take place in St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery.

Haggard-Sefton & Hirschy Funeral Home online obit (accessed 3/15/2016)