



## Hilton Conner, Jr.

November 19, 2011

Hilton L. (Russ) Connor 1941-2011

Russ left us to join his heavenly father on 11/19/2011. He was born in Holdrege, Nebraska on December 14, 1943 by Hilton and Elsie Conner. He was an honored veteran who served 27 years as a United States Navy pilot. He was graduated from the University of Kansas in 1971 with a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering. He went on to graduate from the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, California with both a Master's Degree in Physics as well as a Graduate Degree in Engineering. He further earned his wings as a Naval Flight Officer where he flew precision air craft until he retired. Commander Hilton L. Connor retired from the U.S. navy on 2/1/1991. Russ was pre-deceased by his son Mark and father Hilton Connor. Left to cherish his memories are his loving wife, Bonnie, his children James (Lisa) Connor of Lawrence Kansas, Wendy (Jason) Ellis of deer Lodge TN, Stephanie (Craig) Conner of Allison Iowa, Jonathon, Jacob, Michea, Adam & David Conner at home in Harriman; his mother Elsie Conner of Stamford Nebraska, mother in law Carrie Gilley of Harriman; sister Rena Conner of Alma, Nebraska & Brother Robert Conner of Texas, and his beloved 8 grandchildren.

He was a deacon in First Christian Church of Harriman, TN & was loved and respected by all who knew him. Russ truly represented a model Christian husband, father, and grandfather. He passed his love of rural living on to his young children who were forever at their father's side when he tended the

family farm.

Russ always had a special gift for voicing prayers appropriate to every occasion as prayer was a very important part of this daily life.

The family would prefer contributions to an Educational Memorial fund, established for his minor children by the First Christian Church 324 Morgan Ave, Harriman, TN. 37748. Phone number (865) 882-3051.

Funeral service 7:00 PM Tuesday, November 22, 2011 in Kyker Funeral Home, Harriman Chapel with Pastor Josh Head officiating. Graveside service with full military honors will be 11:00 AM Wednesday, November 23, 2011 at Harriman City Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 5-7 PM Tuesday at the funeral home.

# Tribute Wall

MS

“ I am so sorry to hear that Mr. Conner passed away. He was such a kind and good Christian man. You and the children are in my Prayers.  
Deepest Sympathy,  
Missie Smith

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**Missie Smith** - December 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ I am so sorry to hear of Russ's passing. We had only gotten to know him recently from the soccer games/practices with Adam and Michea. He was a very nice man and we enjoyed talking to him on several occasions. Please accept our apologies for not have been at the funeral and our heartfelt prayers for the whole family. Please let Adam and Michea know that Jack is thinking of them as well.  
John, Linda, Michael and Jack Stooksbury

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**Linda Stooksbury** - December 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ I am Bonnie's Daughter from Iowa, although I am far away I have always felt comfort knowing the Community of Harriman has adopted my family and taken care of my brothers and sisters and mother. I knew in crisis, people would come and help under any circumstances...Although Russ was not my biological father, he walked me down the isle in 1991(one week after he wed my mother) He was my 4 childrens grandfather in every sense.  
Sad as it was to leave my family and return to Iowa, I felt confident that my mother can do this along with her friends and church family. This was a horrible accident that doesnt seem real, but this has served a purpose.. We may never know why, and what GOD was thinking.. but be assured this experience has touched someone.

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**Stephanie Codner** - November 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Dear Bonnie,  
I am Shirley Duffy Nelson's daughter. I am so sorry for your loss. I didn't know "Buster" but many times I heard Aunt Elsie and Grandma Goldie talking about what a wonderful father, husband and christian that he was. We are never ready for anything like this and I pray that God will hold you in his loving arms and help get you through this. We love you and will keep you uplifted in prayers.  
Love Debbie

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**Debbie Clemmer** - November 23, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ Dear Bonnie and Family,  
I am Shirley (Duffy) Nelson's son. I was saddened to hear about Buster. May God's loving arms embrace you and keep you comforted. Our prayers are with you and pray nothing but grace and peace for you and yours. May angels lift you up and surround you.  
In God's Love, David

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**David Donovan** - November 23, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ Dear Bonnie, I am so sorry about Russ. You and the kids are in our thoughts and prayers. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help. We love you all.  
Love,  
Michael and Cara

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**Michael and Cara Waller** - November 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ To the Family of Hilton Conner Jr.: I was a High School classmate of "Buster" Conner, as he was known as "Buster" to all of his High School friends. We are saddened by his passing as he was greatly respected and admired by most for his significant accomplishments during his lifetime. We are proud to have known him and will miss his presence "especially at Pork Days".

*From an old Friend:*

*Marden "Mardy" Tegtman*

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**Marden Tegtman** - November 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EB

“ To the family of Hilton "Russ" Conner, Jr.  
We were so sorry to hear about Russ's tragic death. We had gone to Michigan for a few days and when we got back, there was an email sent from my sister after she heard from Irene. Sorry we couldn't make it to the funeral service. Our thoughts and prayers are with the whole family.

*Russ is my second cousin and I also went to elementary school with him for a couple of years.*

*With sympathy,*

*Dorothy and Gene Beck*

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**Eugene and Dorothy Beck** - November 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LR

“ Dear Bonnie,  
We are so sorry to hear about Russ, you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. May God be with you and your family in this time of need.

*Our deepest sympathy,*

*Lisa, Phil, and Phillip jr Russell*

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**Lisa and Phil, Phillip Jr. Russell** - November 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GE

“ *Dear Bonnie, We were so sad & shocked to hear that Russ had died. Please know that you & your family are in our hearts & prayers. With deepest sympathy, Gary & Becky Ells*

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**Gary & Becky Ells** - November 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM