



Harmon Junior "Bud" Tholen

April 24, 1937 - March 12, 2018

Harmon Junior "Bud" Tholen
Pekin, IL

Bud Tholen, 80, of Pekin IL, died at 7:57am on Monday, March 12th, 2018 in Pekin IL. Bud was born April 24, 1937 in Sweetwater IL, the only son and youngest child of German immigrant Harmon Ocken Tholen and Margaret (Marquard) Tholen.

Bud grew up 6 miles east of Greenview on the family farm and attended Greenview schools through his junior year of high school. He moved to Mason City and graduated from MCHS in 1955. Bud served honorably, shortly after high school, in the United States Army.

He married Patricia Bagby in 1963 and they later divorced. They had 3 children - Buddy, Diana, and Kevin. Bud married Ethel (Hobson) Waters in 1978 and they enjoyed their 40th wedding anniversary the day before Bud died. Ethel had 3 daughters - Teresa, Dorothy, and Billie Jo, who Bud quickly honored as his own.

Bud retired from Caterpillar, in East Peoria, after 30-plus years, working as an old school tool-and-die maker. Somewhere in there, he also spent time driving for Hull Brothers Trucking in Mason City, which he enjoyed immensely. Yes,

he was noted for sporting the Abe Lincoln beard for the last 42 years of his life...and no, he wasn't Amish.

Bud is survived by his wife, Ethel, of Pekin. Also surviving, his daughter Diana (Tholen) Martin (husband, Scott) of Charleston IL; his son Kevin Tholen, of Springfield; his daughter Dorothy Crawford (husband, Dallas) of Griggsville; and his daughter Billie Jo Johnston (husband, Mike) of Manito; 17 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren; and bunches of nieces and nephews. Also, Bud's dear sister, Dorothea Bless of Greenview, survives, who helped to raise him after their Mom died when Bud was 11. Special thanks to Jill Thompson who became a wonderful friend to Bud&Ethel.

Bud was preceded in death by his son, Buddy Tholen; his daughter, Teresa McDaniel; his grandson, Patrick Taylor Tholen; his great-granddaughter Hendrix; and his fun-loving sisters Susie Tholen, Emma Winkleman, and Evelyn Hudspeth.

Graveside services will be Saturday, 11am, at Greenview Elmwood Cemetery. Bud's nephew, Steve Bagby, will lead the service. Military rites will be presented. Cremation rites will be accorded with burial at Elmwood Cemetery.

Hurley Funeral Home in Petersburg is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Elmwood Cemetery

Greenview, IL

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAR 17. 11:00 AM (CT)

Elmwood Cemetery
Greenview, IL

Tribute Wall



“ *Harmon Junior "Bud" Tholen*

October 12, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ *We are all thinking of you Billie and your family. From the Pekin Goodwill*



pekin goodwill - March 17, 2018 at 10:44 AM



“ *Ethel and family I'm so sadden by the passing of Bud. He He was a good man. He will be missed but not forgotten as our hearts will keep him alive. The memory I have of him & you guys is the time camping over in Kilbourne and him busting a gut laughing. After I waited and snuck back to camp after the others had left me out in the corn field "Snipe" hunting and thought I was still out in the field. Your in my thoughts.*

Michael Montgomery - March 16, 2018 at 12:16 AM



“ *Michael Montgomery lit a candle in memory of Harmon Junior "Bud" Tholen*



Michael Montgomery - March 16, 2018 at 12:01 AM

DD

“ *DeeAnna Damm-Clemens lit a candle in memory of Harmon Junior "Bud" Tholen*



DeeAnna Damm-Clemens - March 15, 2018 at 11:17 PM

SH

“ *I remember Bud being a very nice man. I also remember he and his kids going camping with a group of us a long time ago at the lake at Litchfield. My sincere condolences to his family.*

Sandy Hagan - March 15, 2018 at 11:14 AM

CH

“ *Cathy Howard lit a candle in memory of Harmon Junior "Bud" Tholen*



Cathy Howard - March 14, 2018 at 12:15 PM

ME

“ *Austin*
Sorry to hear of the loss of your grandpa. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.
Uncle Rick and Aunt Marcia



Marcia Ewing - March 14, 2018 at 11:47 AM

SP

“ Shirley J. Proctor lit a candle in memory of Harmon Junior "Bud" Tholen



Shirley J. Proctor - March 14, 2018 at 09:49 AM

WF

“ We are saddened to learn that you're mourning the loss of your dear love one. However, it saddens our God even more. No doubt, you have many fond memories which will resurface from time to time. And because you do have memories, certainly shows that almighty God has memories as well. Therefore, with full confidence you can take comfort in knowing that he longs to restore perfect life to all those in his memory (Job 14:13-15; Rev 21:3, 4). Please accept our condolences at this most distressing time.

Williams Family - March 14, 2018 at 09:08 AM

VJ

“ Vickie Johnson lit a candle in memory of Harmon Junior "Bud" Tholen



Vickie Johnson - March 13, 2018 at 09:36 PM

VB

“ *Vickie Bagby lit a candle in memory of
Harmon Junior "Bud" Tholen*



Vickie Bagby - March 13, 2018 at 01:40 PM