



Robert E. Fornoff

December 28, 1929 - January 27, 2023

Robert E. Fornoff, 93, of Manito, passed away Friday, January 27, 2023, at 8:44 a.m. at Hopedale Nursing Home. Bob was born December 28, 1929, in Manito, Illinois, to Clarence E. and Bessie (Mahr) Fornoff. Bob was married to Bernice Zielinski, of Pekin, and they had three children: Paula Charlton (Butch Gilroy) of Manito, Michael Fornoff (deceased December 1, 2021) and Mark Fornoff (deceased April 13, 1988).

Bob and Jean Shelabarger were companions for 26 years, until her passing in 2013.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Clarence J. Fornoff, sister, Wilma Embree and son-in-law, Rick Charlton.

Bob is survived by six grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren. Josh (Maggi) Charlton, Grace and Luke Charlton, of Manito; Zac (Monica) Charlton, Ayla, Oakley and Laikyn Charlton, of Manito; Beau Charlton, Megan Charlton, Rickey, Bella and Elizabeth Charlton, of Manito; Hilary (David) Vine, and Peter Vine of California; Ryan (Katrina) Fornoff, Jacob and Ross Fornoff of Manito; David Fornoff, Callan and Jude Fornoff of Manito; as well as nephews and niece, Ed (Daisy) Embree, of Bensenville, Illinois, Stan (Kathy) Embree of Manito, Linda (Ron) Doty of Manito, and their families.

Bob graduated from Manito High School, class of 1947. He served in the US Air Force at Moody Air Force Base, in Valdosta, Georgia. In 1961, the Fornoff family purchased the Meadow Dale Farm from the Bob Mahr Estate. He was a charter member into the Trinity Lutheran Church, in 1959, in Manito. He also served many years on the Meadow Lawn Cemetery Board.

Bob was a lifelong Mason County farmer. Along with corn, soybeans and wheat, he raised pigs and black angus cattle in his early years. In 1975, irrigation started going up, and then specialty crops were growing in the area. Pfister Seed Corn, El Paso, Illinois, had their seasonal office at “the shop” south of Manito for many years.

Bob had a lot of help over the years with farming, including three generations of the Mitchell Family working on the farm, and continue to this day. Robert (Butch Mitchell, his son Kory Mitchell and his son Steven Mitchell.) They have a combined “60 years” at the Fornoff Farms!

In 2000, Bob built the Fornoff Pond on the Hamilton Ground, southwest of Manito. He enjoyed passing time watching wildlife.

Bob’s farming legacy will continue through his family.

Funeral services will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, in Manito, at 11:00 a.m., on Tuesday, January 31, 2023, with visitation one hour prior to the services. Rev. Matthew Berndt will officiate. Burial will follow the services at Meadow Lawn Cemetery, in Manito.

Memorial contributions may be made to Trinity Lutheran Church, or Meadow Lawn Cemetery. Online memorial messages may be left for the family at www.hurleyfh.com.

Maas-Hurley Funeral Home, in Manito, is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Meadow Lawn Cemetery

801 E. Meadow Lawn St.
Manito, IL 61546

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 31. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Trinity Lutheran Church
110 S. Park Ave
Manito, IL 61546
309-968-684

Funeral

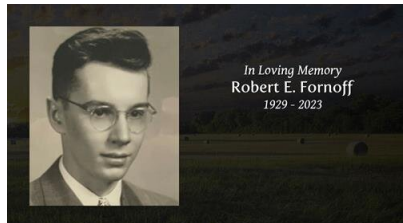
JAN 31. 11:00 AM (CT)

Trinity Lutheran Church
110 S. Park Ave
Manito, IL 61546
309-968-684

Tribute Wall



“ Hurley Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Robert E. Fornoff



Hurley Funeral Home - January 30, 2023 at 02:19 PM

ST

“ Sunrise FS Manito Team purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Robert E. Fornoff.



Sunrise FS Manito Team - January 30, 2023 at 04:58 PM

RQ

“ RON BARB QUINONES lit a candle in memory of Robert Fornoff



RON AND BARB QUINONES - January 30, 2023 at 11:17 AM

MJ

“ Paula so sorry to hear of your dad's passing. May God bless you and your family.

Monica Justus - January 29, 2023 at 07:15 PM

DL

“ *Paula, Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. Dale and Donna Lawson*



Donna Lawson - January 29, 2023 at 05:51 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Robert E. Fornoff.*



January 29, 2023 at 09:53 AM

LH

“ *Larry And Mary Hundt sent a virtual gift in memory of Robert E. Fornoff*



Larry and Mary Hundt - January 29, 2023 at 08:00 AM

JP

“ *I met Bob many many years ago he was always so kind. He surely will be missed.*



Jacqueline Prather - January 29, 2023 at 12:47 AM

JS

“ Jackie Schier sent a virtual gift in memory of Robert E. Fornoff



Jackie Schier - January 28, 2023 at 11:25 PM

SS

“ Paula and family: We are so sorry to hear of Bob. What a gentleman and kind person. Our prayers and love to all of you with the comfort of our Lord's arm around you.



Steve and Kim Singley - January 28, 2023 at 09:21 PM

JF

“ Joy Fischer lit a candle in memory of Robert E. Fornoff



Joy Fischer - January 28, 2023 at 06:18 PM