



Carl E. Swoboda Jr.

October 13, 1920 - November 7, 2021

Carl E. Swoboda, Jr. was born on October 13, 1920—the second child to his parents—Carl Earl Swoboda and Anna Martha Bucher Swoboda. He spent most of his life in Cairo—educated at St. Joseph School and St. Joseph High School and then graduated from The David Rankin Jr. Mechanical Traders School in St. Louis, where he was educated in mechanical design and refrigeration. He served in World War II as a Technical Sergeant, 35th Combat Engineer Regiment and helped build the Alaska-Canada highway that is still used today. Everybody knows Mr. Carl as the Maytag Man in Cairo, where he operated his store on Commercial Avenue from the late 1940's with the help of his sister Dorothy and brother-in-law, John Milford, and then alone with his wife, Elsie Mae, until he retired in 2012. Carl was an avid golfer and was awarded the Spirit of the Harvest-Connell Cup at the Egyptian Country Club in Mounds, IL. He was also a member of the Elks Club in Cairo and enjoyed the Thursday night dinners and fellowship. Also, Carl was a devout Catholic and sang vigorously in the choir at St. Patrick's Church until it disbanded. Finally, he was an avid St. Louis Cardinals fan, which he enjoyed his whole life.

Carl was married for 60 years to Elsie Mae Hudson Swoboda, until she died in 2009. They had one child, Carl Edward Swoboda, Jr., who resides in Germantown, TN. His grandchildren are Mary Jane Swoboda Matthies (Steven) of Memphis, Anthony Carl Swoboda (Sara) of Germantown, and Timothy Carl Swoboda (Christina) of Ladera Ranch, California.

Carl was blessed with seven great grandchildren: Olivia and Ava Matthies; Violet, Charles, and Alexander Swoboda; and Savannah and John Carl Swoboda. Carl has been living in Germantown with his son since 2017 and got to enjoy all of these offspring in his final years. Carl died on Sunday, November 7, 2021.

Graveside services will be at Green Lawn Memorial Gardens in Villa Ridge on Saturday, November 13, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. with Father Chris Mujule officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests with gratitude that memorials may be made in the form of masses to St. Patrick's Church of Cairo. Mass envelopes will be available at the cemetery.

Crain Funeral Home in Cairo has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Green Lawn Memorial Gardens

Villa Ridge, IL

Previous Events

Graveside Service

NOV 13. 11:00 AM (CT)

Green Lawn Memorial Gardens
Villa Ridge, IL

Tribute Wall



“ Carl, Prayers of Thanks for you, and Condolences to your Family. While Cheri & I only lived in Cairo for about 6 years, you were very kind to us. Thank you.
Mike & Cheri Nolan

Mike Nolan - April 14, 2025 at 06:51 AM



“ *Carl E. Swoboda Jr.*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *Sorry for your loss. I played the organ at St Patrick's for a few years back in the day. I was the back up for the dedicated Swoboda brothers ... Carl, Harold and Roy.*
Tom Van Cleve III

Tom Van Cleve - November 24, 2021 at 07:51 PM



“ *David Stigall Family lit a candle in memory of Carl E. Swoboda Jr.*



David Stigall Family - November 11, 2021 at 10:58 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Carl E. Swoboda Jr..*



November 11, 2021 at 07:11 PM



“ *Unlike the Maytag ads said, Mr. Swoboda was far from the lonliest man in Cairo. He was a caring and kind man. My early memories of him where in his home where Carl Jr and I often played as boys. Later in life he serviced all of my appliances. Of course I also have fond memories of he and his brother as the cornerstone of the Choir at church. My sincete sympathies to Carl Jr and the grandchildren.*

John Hill - November 10, 2021 at 07:25 PM



“ *I am so sorry to hear this. He was the nicest man and his wife was nice too. I always talked to each of them at the Wonder Market when I was the manager there. 🙏🙏*

Penny Merryman - November 09, 2021 at 08:15 PM



“ *Silken Serenity Casket Spray was purchased for the family of Carl E. Swoboda Jr..*



November 09, 2021 at 02:46 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Carl E. Swoboda Jr..*



November 09, 2021 at 10:31 AM



“ *May his memory be eternal. His love for his family was evident every single time I saw him.*

Lara B - November 08, 2021 at 05:51 PM



“ *Loved this man to the moon and back. I would always call the store and ask if he was the lonely Maytag man. He would laugh and say Hello Suzy.
He and his brothers had awesome voices and I had the pleasure of standing beside him, and later directing the choir at St Pat's.
Used to go to mass and sit with him.
May the Martyrs lead you into Paradise!❤️*

suzy holland - November 08, 2021 at 04:23 PM



“ *Mr. Swoboda was a fine honest man. My parents bought from him and so did I. He delivered our last Maytag Washer and Dryer in 2000. He delivered them to us in Olive Branch installing them by his self. He raised a fine son, and was so proud of him. Rest in Peace.*

Mary Susan Worthington - November 08, 2021 at 03:59 PM



Sending prayers of comfort for the family. So sorry for your loss.

vicki & Buddy Ealls - November 08, 2021 at 07:17 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you.* ”

Carol & Randy George - November 08, 2021 at 01:16 PM