



Kifton K. Dillow

March 20, 1924 - March 21, 2018

Kifton K. Dillow, passed away peacefully on March 21, 2018 at the Missouri Veterans Home in Cape Girardeau, one day after his 94th birthday.

A native of Union County, Illinois, “Kif” was born on the first day of spring, at home near Mill Creek to Van and Ella Dillow. He grew up with his brothers and sisters on the family farm and worked the fields with mules and horses. He attended a one room schoolhouse in Mill Creek before graduating from Anna-Jonesboro High School. In 1948, he graduated from Southern Illinois University with two degrees.

Kifton grew up loving and playing the game of baseball. He was a lifelong fan of the Cardinals and the author of “The Way It Was, Growing Up in the Mill Creek Area.”

Kifton honored his country by serving as a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps late in World War II and in the Korean War. He served in the 2nd Division Motor Transport Battalion and survived a plane crash in the South Pacific in 1945. “Red, you better wake up, we’re going down!” He was honorably discharged in July 1952. His working career included 29 years as a claims specialist for Country Companies Insurance in central Illinois.

He is survived by two children, Mike (Beverly) Dillow of Jackson, MO and Lisa

(John) Blum of Bellingham, WA; one granddaughter, Chelsea (Will) Cook of Seattle; one great-grandson, Winston Cook of Seattle. He was preceded in death by his wife, Catherine, two sisters and two brothers.

Kifton's last few years were enriched by the staff of the Missouri Veterans Home. A special blessing and thank you goes to them for their compassion at care, kindness and patience.

According to his wishes, he will be cremated. Private graveside services will take place at St. John's Cemetery near Dongola, IL where he will be laid to rest beside his wife.

Crain Funeral Home & Cremation Service in Anna-Jonesboro is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ *Kifton K. Dillow*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Kifton K. Dillow.*



April 08, 2018 at 06:23 PM



“ *Semper Fi.*

Steve B. - March 29, 2018 at 09:00 AM