



Ronald Walter Hoettels

July 27, 1935 - July 9, 2025

IN MEMORY OF:

Ronald Walter Hoettels

Serving Location:

CRAIN FUNERAL HOME – CAPE GIRARDEAU

829 North West End Boulevard, Cape Girardeau, Missouri

Ronald Walter Hoettels, age 89, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, formerly of Colgate, Wisconsin, passed away on Wednesday, July 9, 2025 at The Lutheran Home in Cape Girardeau.

He was born on July 27, 1935 to Walter and Elsie (Crome) Hoettels in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Ron founded Speed Engineering Service Co. (SESCO), which designed and built racing engines for the midget racecar class. Ron was inducted into both the National Midget Auto Racing Hall of Fame and the Badger Midget Auto Racing Association Hall of Fame. His many successful midget racing engines are on permanent display at the Museum of American Speed in Lincoln, Nebraska. Ron also holds the land speed record with a 122 engine at the

Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah.

Survivors include his second wife of 11 years, Vivian (Hill) Butenhoff; two daughters, Joan (Tom) Wenig and Janice (Bruce Richardson) Hoettels; one granddaughter, Nicole (Kendall) Wenig-Wentzel; one grandson, Brett Wenig; and one great-grandson, Easton Wentzel.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his first wife of 48 years, Lorraine E. Hoettels.

Memorial service and entombment will take place at a later date at St. Mary's Cemetery and Mausoleum in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin.

Crain Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Cape Girardeau, Missouri is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

St. Mary's Cemetery

Menomonee Falls, WI