

A Tribute to 3 Silent Keys

It is with a heavy heart that I have to report that the Grant County Amateur Radio Community loss 3 ham radio operators since August 30, 2020.

The first one that became a Silent Key was George Lloyd Cooper – KC9TIJ, he passed away on August 30, 2020.

The second one that became a Silent Key was Larry E, Rudicel – KB9OMD, he passed away on September 5, 2020.

The third one that became a Silent Key was Samuel (Sam) N. Tillus – WA9QGL, he passed away on September 8, 2020.

All 3 had been members of the Grant County Amateur Radio Club at one time or another. They will be greatly missed. Please keep the families of these Silent Keys in your thoughts and prayers.

George Lloyd Cooper – KC9TIJ - SK



George Lloyd Cooper, 77, went to be with the Lord on Sunday, August 30, 2020. He was born May 22, 1943, in Wabash, to the late George Dale and Mary Alice (Keafauver) Cooper. George graduated from La Fontaine High School in 1961. He proudly served our country for six years in the National Guard. George was married to the love of his life for 53 years, Darlene “Dee” (Kelley) Cooper, they were married on January 28, 1967, at La Fontaine Christian Church. He attended Sunnycrest Baptist Church. George was a truck driver for over 30 years. He retired from R&L Carrier after 15 years of service.

George loved his kids and grandkids more than anything and enjoyed spending time with them. He was a fun, caring person that loved to be a jokester. He was quick-witted and always had a comeback. George loved Jesus and was an inspiration to many.

George always looked forward to going to the car shows and loved NASCAR. He was an auctioneer for 10 years. George enjoyed his CB for over 50 years and was a Ham Radio member.

George is survived by his wife, Darlene “Dee” (Kelley) Cooper, Marion; children, Dawn (Brian) Conwell, Van Buren; Kelly (Jason) Jones, Marion; and Brian Cooper, Marion; brother, Dale (Carol) Cooper, Lagro; sister, Alice Loreen Longfellow, Wabash; grandchildren, Meagan (Jeremy) Davis, Lyndi Cooper, Kessid Cooper, Brayden Bowlds, Nekia Conwell, Bergon Conwell; Great-grandchildren, Ashton, Kade, and Aria Davis.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George Dale and Mary Alice (Keafauver) Cooper.

Arrangements for George have been entrusted to College Park Chapel of Armes-Hunt Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 4601 S. Western Avenue, Marion, IN 46953. All services for George will be held at Sunnycrest Baptist Church, 2172 W. Chapel Pike, Marion, IN 46952. On Thursday, September 3, 2020, the family will have a visitation from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. On Friday, September 4, 2020, the family will have a visitation from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., with the Funeral Service beginning at 12 p.m., with Pastors’ Troy Bishop, Tim Helm, and Brian Cooper officiating. Burial will follow at La Fontaine Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made in honor of George to Heart to Heart Hospice at <https://www.htohhfoundation.org/donation/> or at 1385 N. Baldwin Avenue, Marion, IN 46952.

Online condolences and memories may be left at www.armeshunfuneralhome.com

Larry E. Rudicel – KB9OMD - SK

Larry E. Rudicel, 73, of Marion, passed away at 7:26 am on Saturday, September 5, 2020, at St. Vincent Heart Center of Indianapolis. He was born in Marion on Saturday, October 15, 1946, to Gerald, Sr., and Doris (Alford) Rudicel. Larry graduated from Marion High School and proudly served in the United States Air Force. After his honorable discharge from the military, Larry worked at Ball Foster, where he was a supervisor. He was a member of McNatt United Methodist Church.

He was an Amateur Radio Operator, KB9OMD, and very much enjoyed flying drones.

Larry is survived by his brothers, Gerald (Joyce) Rudicel, Jr., of Texas and Ronald (Becky) Rudicel of Marion; sister-in-law, Vicki Rudicel of Marion; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Barbara (Merritt) Korporal; and brother, Charles Rudicel.

At Larry's request, there will be no public services. He will be buried at Gardens of Memory following cremation. A Celebration of Life will take place at a later date.

Arrangements are entrusted to Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral Service, North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion, IN.

Memorial contributions may be directed to McNatt United Methodist Church, 9183 W. 800 90 S., Warren, IN 46792.

Memories may be shared online at www.nswcares.com.

To plant a beautiful memorial tree in memory of Larry E. Rudicel, please visit our Tribute Store.

Samuel (Sam) N. Tullis – WA9QGL - SK



Samuel N. Tullis, 80, of Huntington, IN, died Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2020, at Millers Merry Manor.

Mr. Tullis was a Ham Radio Operator; “WA9QGL” was his sign. He worked at International Harvester in Fort Wayne and in Springfield, OH. He had served as a reserve member of the Fort Wayne Police Department.

He was born on Nov. 14, 1939, in Andrews, to Claude and Aldah White Tullis. He was first married to Beatrice Huffman, who survives. He then married Ramona Rousseau, who preceded him in death in November of 2000. He later married Patricia Rupert, who survives.

Additional survivors include his son, Sam Tullis Jr., of Huntington; a daughter, Tammy (Jerry) Carter, of Markle; a stepdaughter, Elizabeth Shear, of Fort Wayne; a sister, Janice Omstead, of Warsaw; five grandchildren, Tricia (Matt) Elzey, of Decatur, Chris Null, of Tennessee, Jade McDonald, of Fort Wayne, Richard (Dawn) Carter, of Markle and Sarah (Harrison Winchester) Carter, of Fort Wayne; and five great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a stepson, Karl Furhman.

Calling will be held on Thursday, Sept. 17, 2020, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Myers Funeral Home Huntington Chapel, 2901 Guilford St., Huntington. A funeral service will be held immediately after at the funeral home. Interment will be at the Gardens of Memory Cemetery.

Those in attendance are asked to follow social distancing guidelines.

Memorials may be made out to the donor’s choice of charity, in care of Myers Funeral Home, 2901 Guilford St., Huntington, IN 46750.

To sign the online guest book, visit myersfuneralhomes.com.