



Harold Otto Koch, Sr.

February 24, 1925 - July 16, 2007

Koch

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God has called home a most kind, gentle, loving Christian husband, Father and friend to be with him in heaven. Harold Koch, son of Otto and Alma Krumdieck Koch, was born on February 24, 1925 in Pharr, Hidalgo County Texas. He was baptized March 15, 1925 at St. Paul Lutheran church, McAllen, Texas, and confirmed in 1936. He was a lifelong member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. He was united in marriage to Wilba Ruth Longhofer on August 31, 1947 at St. Paul's by pastor Wm. Remmert. This union was blessed with three loving and devoted children: Harold Jr. and Wife, Gail, of Mandeville, Louisiana; Sharon Janell and husband, Brad, of Austin, Texas and Dr. Sandra Jean and husband, Miles, of Lawton, Oklahoma. Harold was preceded in death by his father, Otto, in 1945 while Harold was serving in the Pacific Campaign and by his mother and step-father, Alma and Paul Dutschmann. He is survived by his Loving Wife, Wilba, of almost 60 years, his three children, three brothers, Milford and wife, Gloria of Stanton, Nebraska: Ralph and his wife, Eudoris, of San Antonio and Merlyn and wife, Elizabeth, of Harlingen, his step-sisters Alice and Betty, step-brother Eldon and many other relatives and friends. Harold graduated from PSJA High School and attended Edinburg Jr. College. During WW2, Harold was called to serve his country in the Army Horse Calvary as Company Clerk. He attended Adjutant General's

School, received the Rifle Marksman Award, Good Conduct Medal and American theater and Asiatic Pacific Medals. Corporal Koch was honorably discharged in 1946. On his return to civilian life, he worked for the Coca-Cola Company. Later, he joined Champlain Petroleum where his work took him and his family to the Texas towns of Linn, Refugio and Victoria. He retired to the San Antonio and Austin areas.

Services

Funeral services were on Saturday, July 21, 2007 at 10:30 AM. Prior to the service, visitation was held from 9:30-10:30 AM. Pastor E. Schornborn, retired Lutheran Minister, who officiated at the services that were held at Mission Park Funeral Chapels North on 3401 Cherry Ridge Drive 349-1414. Burial will be at Mission Park Cemetery North. Honorary pallbearers are his brothers and brothers-in-law: Ralph, Merlyn and Milford Koch, Edward, Vernon, Floyd, Jesse and Harold Longhofer and Bob Derryberry. Pallbearers are Harold's nephews and great-nephew's: Kevin, Kyle, John, and Eddie Longhofer, Charlie, John and Christopher Stokes and John Havlik. In Lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Lutheran Hour, 660 Mason Ridge Center, St. Louis, MO. 63141 or to the charity of donor's choice. The family wishes to thank the many doctors, nurses, and staff at the many hospitals and rehab units, especially those at Patriot Heights and Dr. Guerra at the Methodist Specialty and Transplant Hospital.

Tribute Wall

GS

“ *Papa,
I can't wait to see that mischievous grin, always on your face, in your new resting location. Until I get there, Sharon and I can talk about all the fun memories and fun things we did. Remember all the diets we were supposed to be on? Remember a*

Gail Elaine Snow-McArthur - July 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you all. I am so sorry Mike and I couldn't be there with you. Uncle Harold was such a good man and he is in a better place with his heavenly father. God's blessings to you all as you celebrate his life. Love you.*

Roseanne Koch Meyer - July 23, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ *Harold, I saw your father's obituary in the paper too late to attend. He will be missed by all and especially you. I am so sorry about this great loss. He was always a gentleman. Thinking about you and your father has brought back many good memories. Call*

David Drumm - July 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ *I am sorry I could not attend the funeral, I have the deepest respect for Harold, he was a very kind, loving man with a great sense of humor and I have missed seeing him over the last few years, I know he is in a better place joking and laughing and loo*

Donald E Arego MD - July 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

GC

“ *My condolences, for the loss.*

Once, when visiting, my car would not start. He brought out some tools, and in a short time, had it running again. What might seem a trivial task, was actually a demonstration of remarkable ability.

Art is in the eye

Glenn Currie - July 21, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SK

“ *There has never been a better Dad or person put on this earth for me to share my life. A daughter could not have asked for a better role model or confidant. I have a lifetime of incredible memories filled with laughter, fun and great times. There will alw*

Sharon J. Koch - July 20, 2007 at 12:00 AM

HL

“ *The only man I ever knew who never raised his voice.*

P.S. Harold double clutch it and throw a wagon sheet over it.

*Love you Buddy!
"Burnell"*

Harold B. Longhofer - July 20, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ *Mr. Koch was a kind and gentle man. I have not had the opportunity to see him for many, many years; however, I have fond memories of him when Sharon and I were in college. He leaves behind many loving family members and friends who will miss him so very m*

Linda Salter - July 20, 2007 at 12:00 AM