



Ira Begley

October 4, 1925 - April 28, 2014

Ira Begley passed away peacefully sitting in his favorite chair at home on April 28 at the age of 88. Ira was the beloved husband of Dora Eloise Begley (Stuckey) and a devoted father to Kathryn (Thomas) Rotte; Robert (Cathy Kendrick); and Janice (Brian) Jagodzinski. His greatest joy was his eight grandchildren: Lindsay (Craig) Barhorst; Kyle Begley; Matthew, Caitlin and Benjamin Jagodzinski; John, Matthew and Sarah Rotte; and his two great grandchildren, Dora Elizabeth and Samuel Craig Barhorst.

Ira was born on the October 4, 1925 in Ingram, Kentucky to Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Begley. He was one of eight children. His sister, Cassie Begley, Ingram, survives.

He served for four years in World War II in the U.S. Navy as a gunner on a supply ship, the U.S.S. Agwidale. Ira traveled around the world serving in the Navy. Following his honorable discharge in 1946, he attended Eastern Kentucky University. In 2011 Ira was honored as a veteran by Honor Flight of Northwest Ohio.

Ira was a man with great integrity. He believed in the value of working hard. He began as a coal inspector in Logan, West Virginia. There he met and married the love of his life, Eloise. Their marriage on June 25, 1955 and 58-year commitment serve as an inspiration.

In 1963, Ira moved his family to Toledo to work for Pickands Mather Company. In 1966, he joined Hunt-Wesson as a field representative in agricultural operations contracting, planting and harvesting tomato crops. He worked with

farmers in Ohio, Michigan and Georgia, many of whom became lifelong friends. He retired in 1991 with 25 years of service.

Ira joined the Toledo Museum of Art in 2005 as a guard. The treasures of TMA were always in good hands when Ira was on duty. Ira loved the TMA and the friends he met there. He retired in 2012.

He was a man of great faith, living the Golden Rule. Ira's place was always at the head of the table where he led everyone in prayer. He was a member of Hampton Park Christian Church for 50 years and served as an elder. He was a 50 -year member of the Aracoma Lodge of the Masons and the Eastern Star.

Ira loved to read about history. His passion was puttering around his home and yard. His best hours were spent with family and friends who were drawn to the twinkle in his eye, his laughter, his sense of humor, and talent for telling a story. Ira enjoyed Kentucky bourbon and was an avid Derby fan. It is wonderful that we will honor Ira on Derby Day.

Visitation is Saturday, May 3 from 2 to 5 p.m. at Ansberg-West, 3000 Sylvania. Services will be held on Sunday, May 4 at 3 p.m. at First Congregational Church, 2315 Collingwood, with Rev. Larry Vriezelaar presiding. Interment will be private. In lieu of flowers, please consider Hampton Park Christian Church; First Congregational Church; Toledo Museum of Art; or Honor Flight of Northwest Ohio. Online condolences may be left for Ira's family by visiting ww.ansberg-west.com

The family would like to thank Dr. Louis Reiner, Dr. Ronald Wainz, Sharon Littlehale, and Flower's Pulmonary Rehab. Ira was deeply loved and will be missed.

Tribute Wall

RB

“ I grew tomato plants for Hunts and Ira was my field man here in Georgia. I worked with Ira for 20 years and we remained lifelong friends. We have stayed in contact with Ira and Eloise for the past 25 years on a regular basis. We will miss him dearly.
Ronald and Kay Brownlee Tifton, Ga

Ronald Brownlee - May 23, 2014 at 03:14 PM

RB

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Ronald and Kay Brownlee Tifton, Ga

Ronald Brownlee - May 23, 2014 at 03:11 PM

LM

“ Dear Begley family,
I didn't get a chance to talk to you at the funeral but what a heartwarming service. Ira always managed to bring a smile or laugh out of me even as his medical conditions became more complex. He obviously left a wonderful legacy of children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. His life and marriage were an honor to hear about. My condolences to everyone, your family has been a pleasure to deal with.

Louis Reiner , MD

Louis Reiner, MD - May 04, 2014 at 09:09 PM

TF

“ *Janice*
We are thinking of you and your family. Your integrity and honesty are a testament to your fathers life.

The Atkinson Family - May 04, 2014 at 08:17 PM

DD

“ *My heart and prayers go out to you Bob, Kathy, and Janice. Loved meeting and spending time with your father on "Honor Flight of Northwest Ohio". He was an incredible man and I loved listening to his stories from the war. May God bless him and all of you.*

David Dresser - May 03, 2014 at 03:32 PM

VH

“ *Dearest Mrs. Begley, Kathy, Robert and Janice,*
I was so saddened to hear about Mr. Begley's passing. He was a lovely man, always had a big smile on his face. I'll never forget running in to him at the museum. I was there one day with my daughter, just showing her around the place where I spent many hours studying art. And there he was... smiling....I gave him a big hug and suddenly, all my childhood memories came back! The man who lived across the street from us for so many years was standing before me...we talked and caught up on family members that I haven't seen in years. It was a nice surprise. I told my daughter all about the Begley's.
I send you all, my deepest sympathy. I know he will be missed, the kind and gentle man with a heavy southern accent, Mr. Begley.
Love,
Vicky

Vicky Kronbach Hackman - May 03, 2014 at 10:05 AM

JJ

“*Eloise, you may not remember me, but we shared a rooming house at Marshall and both were from Logan. I am so sorry for your loss. After living most of your life with your husband, it is doubly hard.*
Jane

Jane McDonald Jamison - May 02, 2014 at 08:25 PM

MN

“*Dear Begley Family,*
You all are in my thoughts & prayers. I worked with Ira for 12 years at Hunt's. Those were the most memorable work years for me! I worked along side him with Rex, Dave, Frank, Joyce & others. Ira was a joy to be around! He was the best story teller I know. We shared many good times & laughs together. He made going to work, something to look forward to every day. He was a man of his word & honest as the day is long. I am very happy to have known him & to be able to call him a friend! He will be greatly missed!
Sincerely - Mike Netz

Mike Netz - May 02, 2014 at 01:40 PM

TF

“*Kathy and Tom, we are thinking of you and your family in prayer.*

The Wong Family - May 02, 2014 at 11:00 AM