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Lee R. Haspl

Fitchburg, Wisconsin

September 19, 1931 - February 13, 2020

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Obituary

MADISON- Lee R. Haspl, age 88, of Madison, passed away on Thursday, Feb. 13, 2020, at the VA Hospital. He was born on Sept. 19, 1931, in Prague, Czech Republic, the son of Karel and Bohdana (Capek) Haspl. Lee was a proud member of the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean War and received his bachelor's degree in economics from the UW-Madison in 1958.

He was united in marriage to Sandra Gelb on Feb. 5, 1954, in Waukegan, Ill. Lee worked in international sales and had the ability to speak many languages. He was a member of the Korean War Vets in Madison and the Fitchburg Senior Center. Lee loved to play the accordion. He also enjoyed woodcarving and playing Dominos. He loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

Lee is survived by his wife, Sandra; daughters, Linda (Paul) Markwardt and Gina (Brent) Hawkins; grandchildren, Riley Hebl, Lucy (Zach) Brooks and Myk Hawkins; great-granddaughter, Amelia Brooks; and sister, Livia Dvorak. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Due to the Coronavirus the memorial gathering scheduled for April 4, 2020 has been cancelled. Memorias may be made to the VA Hospital. Online condolences may be made at www.gundersonfh.com.

Gunderson Fitchburg
Funeral & Cremation Care
2950 Chapel Valley Road
(608) 442-5002



The Wisconsin Veteran's Museum has a 2007 oral history interview with Lee Haspl, WVM ID number OH 01069, about the Korean War, on audio cassette. Interviewer was John Weingandt. WVM owns the copyright to the interview. Contact the WVM for further information about terms of use.

Other
names
used

Wilbur Haspl
Lee Radon Haspl

Titles &
Honors

Korean Service Medal with three bronze Service Stars, United Nations Service Medal, two overseas bars.

History

Lee R. Haspl was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia and immigrated to the United States as a teenager in 1946. He was drafted into the Army in 1951 and while in Korea served as a gunner and as chief of the firing battery with C Battery, 69th Field Artillery Battalion, 25th Infantry Division. He was part of the Punch Bowl campaign and the Battle of Heartbreak Ridge. He was discharged in 1953 as a Sergeant First Class. That same year, he was naturalized and changed his name from Wilbur to Lee. He also joined the Wisconsin Air National Guard and served with the 115th Fighter Group. He completed his bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1958 and spent his career working in international sales. After settling in Madison, he became a member of the National Korean War Veterans Association South Central Wisconsin Chapter #245. He passed away in Madison on February 13, 2020.