Leonard Leo Goeke  
Dec. 16, 1929 - Aug. 13, 2017  

Leonard Leo Goeke, 87, of Algonquin, IL, formerly of Washington, died Aug. 13. Services were Aug. 18, at Jones & Eden Funeral Home, Washington.

Leonard Leo Goeke was born December 16, 1929 in Geneseo, IL, to Arthur and Neva (Boyce) Goeke, the fourth of eight children. At the age of ten, he had moved eleven times, finishing fifth grade at Montezuma. After graduating eighth grade at Scott #7 Country School, he stayed home to help his parents for four years. He did odd jobs, and while working at the lumber yard scooping coal.

January 1951, Leonard enlisted in the U.S. Navy and reported to the Great Lakes Training Center for boot camp. March of 1951, he was assigned to the USS Cascade AD16 at the Philadelphia Naval Yard. Later, he attended SK Supply School in San Diego, CA, and completed high school education from Montezuma High School while in service.

April 23, 1951 he married Annagrace Arnaman, in Millbourne, PA. They lived in Philadelphia, PA, and after four years in the Korean Conflict, he was honorably discharged in 1955. The couple returned to Montezuma, where they farmed ten years and welcomed three sons, Randall Leon, Terrell Anthony and Bennett Jay. They moved in 1966 to Washington, and continued to farm. A daughter, Rosaleen Annette, was born April 23, 1967 on their 16th Wedding Anniversary.

The Goeke’s purchased and moved to a smaller farm in 1972 when he became employed with Northrup King Seed Company, working 24 years.

Retiring in 1995, Leonard composed a book of poems he had written throughout the years entitled, “Poems From the Heart” and also wrote his autobiography named appropriately, “A Different Life”. A dream came true by having a book signing in 2010.

Leonard is survived by his wife, Annagrace, of 66 years; three sons, Randal (Gloria) of Williamsburg; Terrell (Linda) of Chicago, IL; Bennett (Alycia) of Edmond, OK; daughter, Rosaleen (Jonathan) of Algonquin, IL; 12 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; 7 great-great grandchildren, three brothers Kenneth (Betty) of Florence, SC; Donald (Carol) of Rio Linda, CA; David of Vinton, sister, Beverly of Montezuma. He was preceded by sister, Ardella; two brothers, Arthur and Keith.