

# Gerald John "Junie" Manatt, Sr.

G. J. "Junie" Manatt, Sr., 73, of Brooklyn died March 19, 2000 at University of Iowa Hospitals in Iowa City.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated March 23 at St. Patrick's Church in Brooklyn. Celebrant was Rev. Maynard Brothersen and concelebrants were Rev. Richard U. Okumu and Rev. William E. Reynolds. Deacon was Rev. William D. Olson and lectors were Michael Manatt, Jordan Thompson and Brent Christen.

Altar servers were Clint Rhoads, Cliff Rhoads, Hobey Holder and Greg Manatt. Organist Marilyn Kriegel accompanied Janet and Madelyn Pilcher, who sang "Be Not Afraid," "On Eagle's Wings," "Gift of Finest Wheat" and "City of God."

BGM High School was the site of a memorial service later that morning for Mr. Manatt. Presiding was Rev. Okumu and homilist was the Rev. Reynolds. Rev. Olson was the reader. Musicians were Angie Hawkins and Carolyn Hotzel. Hymns were "How Great Thou Art" and "Sing a New Song."

Family visitation and a rosary recitation were March 21 at Nevenhoven Funeral Home in Brooklyn with Rev. Brothersen officiating. A vigil and visitation followed the next day at the Manatt Building in Brooklyn. Rev. Okumu presided.

Mr. Manatt was buried in Calvary Cemetery in Brooklyn. Rev. Okumu officiated and Francis Gallagher American Legion Post No. 294 conducted military rites.

Gerald John Manatt, second child of Gerald Whitcomb and Margaret Mary Brothersen, was born June 28, 1926 in Victor. Throughout his life, Mr. Manatt was very close to his brothers and sisters, Mary Ellen, Merlin, Clair, Marilyn, Anita, Judy and Janet.

He was educated in a rural school, Carnforth School and graduated from Brooklyn High School in 1943. He attended Loras College for one year before the Navy drafted him during World War II. He served his country in the Pacific as a radio operator aboard troop transport ships.

In 1947, Mr. Manatt bought his first truck, a new Studebaker, with \$2,000 borrowed from his grandfather. His father lent him \$300 for a truck box and he began hauling grain and livestock. His brothers eventually joined him and together they built a successful road construction business, Manatts, Inc.

*MR March 29, 2000*

On November 17, 1949, he married Doris Ann Hawkins. The couple became the parents of six children. Mr. and Mrs. Manatt divorced in 1988.

Mr. Manatt lived his entire life in or near Brooklyn. His third great grandfather was among the first settlers of the community in 1848.

Mr. Manatt was a member of St. Patrick's Church, a focal point of his life, as well as many civic and professional organizations.

He was past president of the Iowa Ready Mixed Concrete Association, an honorary member of the Iowa Ready Mixed Concrete Association, a member of AGC of Iowa, a member of Iowa Concrete Pavers and Brooklyn Historical Society.

He was a former member of the BGM School Board and was a driving force of the new Brooklyn library. He co-founded Brooklyn Housing, Inc. and belonged to the Hall of Fame of the Iowa Harness Racing Association.

In his spare hours Mr. Manatt enjoyed his grandchildren, harness racing and traveling. He spent winters in Ft. Myers, Fla.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother Clair and his sister Anita.

Surviving are his children, John Manatt, Jr. and his wife Marlene of Brooklyn, Debi Olson and her husband Bill of Grinnell, Tim Manatt of Gilbertville, Melia Rhoads and her husband Steve of Brooklyn, Mary Jo Thompson and her husband Jeff of Brooklyn and Mindy Holder and her husband Raymond of Brooklyn; one brother and his wife, Merlin and Verna Manatt of Grinnell; four sisters and their husbands, Mary Ellen and Milton Christen of Newton, Marilyn and Max Clayton of Brooklyn, Judy and Paul Sueppel of Iowa City and Janet and Fred Pilcher of Cedar Rapids.

Mr. Manatt is also survived by 20 grandchildren, Jennifer Cline, Chris Manatt, Joy Manatt, Jonathan Manatt, Gretchen Olson, Uli Olson, Tim Manatt, Sarah Manatt, Callie Rhoads, Clint Rhoads, Cliff Rhoads, Carly Rhoads, Jordan Thompson, Jamie Thompson, Justus Thompson, Jana Thompson, Jawny Thompson, Hobey Holder, Hallie Holder and Hueston Holder and two great-grandchildren, McKenna Cline and Madison Cline.

Mr. Manatt had a long, loving relationship with Jackie Peterson of Marengo and her sons, David and Don Allen.

Nevenhoven Funeral Services of Brooklyn was in charge of arrangements.

## G.J. 'Junie' Manatt

G.J. "Junie" Manatt Sr., 73, of Brooklyn died Sunday, March 19, 2000, in University Hospitals in Iowa City.

The Mass of Christian Burial was held at 9:30 a.m., Thursday, March 23, in St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Brooklyn. The celebrant was the Rev. Maynard Brothersen and the concelebrants were the Revs. Richard U. Okumu and William E. Reynolds. The deacon was the Rev. Mr. William D. Olson.

Lectors were Michael Manatt, Jordan Thompson and Brent Christen. Altar servers were Clint Rhoads, Cliff Rhoads, Hobey Holder and Greg Manatt. The organist was Marilyn Kriegel and the vocalists were Janet and Madelyn Pilcher. Hymns were "Be Not Afraid," "On Eagles' Wings," "Gift of Finest Wheat" and "City of God."

A memorial service was held at 11 a.m. Thursday, March 23, at the BGM High School. The Rev. Richard U. Okumu was the presider, The Rev. William E. Reynolds was the homilist and the Rev. William D. Olson was the reader. Musicians were Angie Hawkins and Carolyn Hotzel. Hymns were "How Great Thou Art" and "Sing a New Song."

Casket bearers were Raymond Holder, Steve Rhoads, Jeff Thompson, Ken Cline, David Peterson and Don Allen Peterson.

Family visitation with a rosary service was held at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Nevenhoven Funeral Home in Brooklyn, with the Rev. Maynard Brothersen officiating. Visitation was held Wednesday at the Manatt building in Brooklyn, followed by a vigil service conducted by the Rev. Richard Okumu.

Interment was in Calvary Cemetery, Brooklyn, with Okumu officiating and military rites conducted by members of Francis Gallagher American Legion Post #294 of Brooklyn, plus the Malcom and Victor Legion posts. Adam Manatt and a friend played taps.

Nevenhoven Funeral Services of Brooklyn was in charge of arrangements.

Gerald John Manatt, second child of



Gerald Whitcomb and Margaret Mary Brothersen Manatt was born June 28, 1926, at Victor. Throughout his life Junie had a very close relationship with his brothers and sisters, Mary Ellen, Merlin, Clair, Marilyn, Anita, Judy and Janet.

Junie received his education in a rural school, Carnforth School and the Brooklyn High School, graduating in 1943. He attended Loras College for one year before being drafted into the navy during World War II. He served his country in the Pacific as a radio operator aboard troop transport ships.

In 1947 Junie bought his first truck, a new Studebaker, with \$2,000 borrowed from his grandfather. His dad loaned him \$300 for a truck box and he began hauling grain and livestock. His brothers eventually joined him in his endeavors and together they built a successful road construction business, Manatts Inc.

On Nov. 17, 1949, Junie was married to Doris Ann Hawkins and the couple became the parents of six children. Junie and Doris divorced in 1988.

Junie lived his entire life in or near Brooklyn. His third great-grandfather was among the first settlers of the community in 1848.

Junie was a member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church of Brooklyn as well as many civic and professional organizations. He was past president of the Iowa

Ready Mixed Concrete Association; honorary member of Iowa Ready Mixed Concrete Association; member of AGC of Iowa; member of Iowa Concrete Pavers and Association; and Brooklyn Historical Society.

He was a former member of the BGM School Board and was co-founder of Brooklyn Housing Inc., and was a driving force of the new Brooklyn Library. He was also a member of the Hall of Fame Iowa Harness Racing Association.

In his spare hours Junie enjoyed activities with his grandchildren, harness racing, traveling and people, and his religion was very important to him. His winters were spent in Ft. Myers, Fla.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, Clair, and his sister, Anita.

Surviving are his children, John Manatt Jr. and his wife, Marlene, of Brooklyn, Debi Olson and her husband, Bill, of Grinnell; Tim Manatt of Gilbertville, Melia Rhoads and her husband, Steve, of Brooklyn, Mary Jo Thompson and her husband, Jeff, of Brooklyn, and Mindy Holder and her husband, Raymond, of Brooklyn; one brother and his wife, Merlin and Verna Manatt of Grinnell; four sisters and their husbands, Mary Ellen and Milton Christen of Newton, Marilyn and Max Clayton of Brooklyn, Judy and Paul Sueppel of Iowa City, and Janet and Fred Pilcher of Cedar Rapids; 20 grandchildren, Jennifer Cline, Chris Manatt, Joy Manatt, Jonathan Manatt, Gretchen Olson, Uli Olson, Tim Manatt, Sarah Manatt, Callie Rhoads, Clint Rhoads, Cliff Rhoads, Carly Rhoads, Jana Thompson, Jordan Thompson, Jamie Thompson, Justus Thompson, Jawny Thompson, Hobey Holder, Hallie Holder and Hueston Holder; and two great-grandchildren, McKenna Cline and Madison Cline.

Junie also had a long, loving relationship with Jackie Peterson of Marengo and her sons, David and Don Allen.

A memorial fund to benefit local charities has been established.

BC March 24, 2000

## G. J. Manatt Sr.

G.J. "Junie" Manatt Sr., 73, founder of the Manatt's Inc. construction firm in Brooklyn, died of cancer Sunday, March 19, at University Hospitals in Iowa City.

A memorial service was conducted Thursday at BGM High School in Brooklyn. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery, with military rites conducted by members of Francis Gallagher American Legion Post No. 294. The Nevenhoven Funeral Home of Brooklyn was in charge of arrangements.

He was born June 28, 1926, in Grinnell to Gerald Whitcomb and Margaret Mary Brothersen Manatt.

He was a 1943 graduate of Brooklyn School and attended Loras College in Dubuque. He served with the U.S. Navy during World War II.

He was married to Doris Hawkins Nov. 17, 1949, in Brooklyn.

Mr. Manatt made his living in road construction and farming. He founded Manatts in 1947.

He was a member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church of Brooklyn. He was past president of the Iowa Ready Mixed Concrete Association. He was also a member of AGC of Iowa, the Iowa Concrete Pavers Association and the Brooklyn Historical Society.

Mr. Manatt was a former member of the BGM School Board and was a co-founder of Brooklyn Housing, Inc. He was a member of the Iowa Harness Racing Association Hall of Fame and was a driving force for construction of the new Brooklyn Library. He was active in many civic organizations throughout Iowa.

Surviving are a long-time special friend, Jackie Peterson of Marengo; two sons, John of Brooklyn and Tim of Gilbertville; four daughters, Debi Olson of Grinnell and Melia Rhoads, Mary Jo Thompson and Mindy Holder, all of Brooklyn; one brother, Merlin of Grinnell; four sisters, Mary Ellen Christen of Newton, Marilyn Clayton of Brooklyn, Judy Sueppel of Iowa City and Janet Pilcher of Cedar Rapids; and 20 grandchildren.

H-R March 23, 2000