

Russell O. Bannister

Russell O. Bannister, 77 of Somonauk, passed away Saturday, March 24, 2001 at Provena Mercy Medical Center in Aurora. He was born September 18, 1923 in DeKalb, Illinois, the son of Charles Harwood and Ethel Caroline (Holmgren) Bannister.

Russell graduated from DeKalb Township High School in 1941 and was a Veteran of the United States Marine Corps. He married Ora June Meyer on August 11, 1945 in DeKalb. Together with his wife operated the Tastee Freeze Drive-In in Sandwich from 1956 until 1966, was employed by the Sandwich Post Office for six years, finally becoming the Somonauk Post Master in 1971, retiring in 1985. Russell also volunteered for several of the area organizations, including the American Legion and the Lion's Club in Somonauk and the Opera House in Sandwich.

Funeral Services will be held at 10:30 AM Wednesday, March 28, 2001 at the Turner Funeral Home in Somonauk with the Rev. Ken Ritchie officiating. Burial will be in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Sandwich. Visitation will be from 4:00 PM until 8:00 PM on Tuesday, March 27, 2001 at the Turner Funeral Home in Somonauk. Memorials may be made to the Federated Church in Sandwich or the Opera House in Sandwich.

Russell is survived by his wife Ora June Bannister of Somonauk; three children, Barbara Bannister of Wilmington, Iris (Jack) Steinhoff of Yorkville and Richard (Sharon) Bannister of Glen Ellyn; four grandchildren, David and Diane Steinhoff and Roger and Alan Bannister; one brother, Loren Bannister of St. Louis, Missouri; and one sister, Marcia (Leonard) Stidley of Elburn.

He is preceded in death by his parents. For further information, call the Turner Funeral Home, (815)498-2363.