

Elizabeth Ann (Eigenmann) Mecum

Nov. 13, 1923, Springfield, IL

Dec. 27, 2019, Venice, FL

Chester O. Mecum, Jr.

Feb, 24, 1925, Cerro Gordo, IL

Nov. 14, 2015, Venice, FL

Welcome:

We are brought together today by a common love for and a desire to honor and celebrate the lives of **Elizabeth Ann Mecum and Chester O. Mecum, Jr.**, who were married for 39 years.

Please pray with me...

Celebration of Life Prayer

Our Lord we acknowledge your presence here, and come before your throne today as family of Liz and Chet. We are here because we love and miss them both and we want to cherish our memories of them, we want to honor and celebrate their lives. While our number here is few, each of us here represents no doubt hundreds of lives that were impacted positively by Liz and Chet.

Thank you, Father, that you are a God of mercy, who promises to comfort us, particularly when we lose our loved ones, and so in these moments now, please bring comfort and mercy and joy as we remember, and share fondly all that Liz and Chet were to us. Bless this small gathering today, and we give thanks to you for the eternal life we have in You through the work of your Son. Amen.

Remembrances

Liz and Chet wanted to be interred together; we are taking care of that today. I knew them both for about 25 years. All of you knew them for much longer.

Chet grew up in Cerro Gordo, IL, about an hour due east of here. I did not know that he was a flight instructor in the Army Air Corps toward the end of WW II. I did know that he was city electrician for Champaign, IL for a time then moved to FL in the early '50s to work at Cape Canaveral. He would eventually be the lead electrical superintendent overseeing the wiring of the Vertical Assembly Building, where Saturn V rockets and eventually Space Shuttles would be assembled onto mobile launch platforms. After his career as an electrician, Chet was a partner with Dan in Sun Coast Optical. Chet was a master deep sea fisherman.

My second strongest memory of Chet was helping him fry fish. My strongest memory of him was that he was totally devoted to Liz and totally committed to caring for her, even when his own body began to give out on him.

Liz was born to Elizabeth Anna and Daniel Eigenmann. Her grandparents on her mother's side were both German, while her father's parents were immigrants from Switzerland and Austria. Her family was in the Springfield area for a long time. In fact, I located her grandparents' graves from the late 1800's at another cemetery not far from here.

Liz was a nurse for many years, which was how she met "Jane" Thornton, Chet's sister. Liz endured some big losses in her life: her first husband, Don, in 1969 and then her only child, Dan, in 1996. Still, she was a person with a big personality and a razor-sharp wit.

My favorite memory of Liz is that cackling laugh of hers as she talked serious trash while playing rummy with Ann. Even when she no longer remembered the rules, she still talked trash. She was an excellent cook and I know we all have enjoyed many, many meals around her table. And let's not forget that she was a pretty good artist as well.

Liz, or Grand-ma, was one of the most fun people to be around. She loved her grand-children, great grand-children, and thanks to Paisley, her great, great grand-children. And she loved her "Chester O." It is easy to see why they wanted to be interred together.

Other Remembrances

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, into your hands we commend Elizabeth and Chester.

We thank you for the lives of Liz and Chet, for the years you gave them and the extraordinary people they both were. We thank you for every memory of love and joy, for every good deed and every sorrow shared with us. We thank you for using them both to add to the fullness of our lives.

In the holy name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

August 9, 2021