



Mr. Eugene Edward Schoeneweis

October 13, 1942 - November 24, 2024

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Eugene Edward Schoeneweis on November 24, 2024, at the age of 82. Eugene was born on October 13, 1942 in Alton, Illinois, to Ralph and Bernice (nee Neathammer) Schoeneweis.

Eugene was a man who lived quietly, loved deeply, and left footprints in many hearts and lives. He leaves behind a legacy of kindness & love to both his family and his friends.

He shared 48 cherished years of marriage with his beloved wife, Denise. Together, they nurtured and watched over all their children, each carrying forward the love and values he instilled in them.

Eugene was predeceased by his father Ralph and mother Bernice (nee Neathamer) half-brother Paul Schoeneweis and his stepbrother Mark Ward. He is survived by his children, Kristin Cooper (Scott), Kim Pfeffer (Mark), Brian Zabel (Lori), Desiree Schoeneweis, Kathleen Thomas (Nicolas) and 14 grandchildren.

Eugene's life journey took him through many roles and experiences. He proudly served in the United States Air Force, a testament to his courage and commitment. After his service, he skillfully honed in on his craftsmanship,

working as a machinist, at Olin Corporation in East Alton, IL, demonstrating a meticulous dedication to his work. After his and Denise's move to Arizona, he took his turn at selling life insurance, and then finally found his true calling in education as a Safety Educator at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE), sharing valuable lessons and safe practices with countless students. However, what truly defined Eugene, beyond his professional accomplishments, was his character. While quiet and reserved, he had a warmth that could thaw even the iciest heart. Eugene had a penchant for jokes and a fondness for comics, finding joy in both the laughter he shared and the solace he offered. Known for being a fantastic listener and comforter, he made everyone feel valued and understood.

Eugene's philosophy in life was beautifully mirrored in his fondness for Linda Ellis's poem "The Dash," which speaks of the significance of the life lived between birth and death. Eugene certainly embraced his dash, making a difference with every person he encountered and every heart he touched. His life might have ended, but his impact lingers on like a warm afternoon breeze.

In these moments of remembrance, Eugene's parting words to all of us would be clear: cherish your dash, use your time wisely, and always lead with kindness. As his family continues to honor his memory, they extend their heartfelt thanks to everyone who has reached out with love and support during this tender time. May we all carry a piece of Eugene's gentle spirit and his unyielding goodwill as we go on with our own lives.

Cemetery Details

Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery

Previous Events

Graveside

NOV **29**. 12:00 PM.

Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery

Tribute Wall

SK

“ Oh, Denise, I am so deeply sorry. Gene was a really nice and gentle man. I am keeping you and your family in my heart and prayers.

Sharon M. Korner - January 15, 2025 at 07:24 PM

JD

“ I am so sorry to hear of Gene's passing. I have fond memories of working with Gene while I was chair at the SIUE Art Department as well as when I returned to the faculty. He was always generous with his time and had the student's best interests as his priority. He was a very talented technician who crafted numerous special projects for all the faculty and helped keep the department functioning. He always had a smile on his face and a kind word to say. He will be missed by all those who spent time with him. John DenHouter

John DenHouter - December 18, 2024 at 08:44 AM

BR

“ Working with Gene at SIUE's department of Art and Design was a pleasure. As a machinist with a clear mind, Gene was able to keep a lot of our industrial studios operating and was always game to work on new projects. I have great memories of working collaboratively with Gene, and we shared many laughs working side by side. It was clear as can be that he and Denise had a happy marriage and that Gene adored his granddaughter.

Brigham - December 12, 2024 at 12:07 PM