



Ernest Patrick "Tennessee" Montgomery

January 5, 1927 - February 20, 2017

Ernest Patrick "Tennessee" Montgomery, age 90, passed away peacefully on Monday, February 20, 2017, at the VA Central Iowa Health Care in Des Moines, Iowa surrounded by his family.

Pat was born on January 5, 1927, in Sewanee, Tennessee, the son of Fred and Sallie Montgomery.

He received his education in public school graduating from Central High School in Winchester, Tennessee in 1944. He enlisted in the United States Navy on January 2, 1945. He was honorably discharged on October 4, 1949.

Pat was united in marriage to Lucy Rae Wilson on January 26, 1948, in Albia. To this union they were blessed with five sons. Pat was a faithful member of Grace Episcopal Church, until its closure in 2016.

Pat spent the majority of his career in Albia, having worked at Chamberlain Manufacturing and then running his own establishment, Tennessee's Owl Tap, which he owned and operated for 22 years.

Pat is survived by his sons, Frank (Ronda) Montgomery, Paul (Brenda) Montgomery, 4 grandchildren, Jolinda (Ben) Baker, Christian Montgomery, Emily Montgomery, Abigail Montgomery; 2 great-grandchildren, Luci Rae and

Dylan Baker. Pat is also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Lucy; sons, John, Kenneth and Daniel; a grandson, Michael; his parents, sisters, Delphia, Sarah, Amy and Alice; brothers, James, Kenneth and Fred.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m., Thursday, February 23, 2017, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Albia, with Pastor Martha Kester officiating. Burial with military rites provided by the American Legion of Albia, Melrose and Lovilia will follow the service at the Oak View Cemetery in Albia.

Visitation will be held from 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 22, 2017, at the Tharp Funeral Home in Albia, with Tennessee's family present from 4-7 p.m. to greet family and friends.

A memorial has been established to the American Legion Howard Cessna Post #136 or to the Welcome Home Soldier Memorial.

Cemetery Details

Oak View Cemetery

602 2nd Ave.
Albia, IA 52531

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **22**. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Tharp Funeral Home
116 Benton Ave.
Albia, IA 52531
(641) 932-3129
<https://www.tharpfh.com/>

Funeral Service

FEB **23**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
N. 8th St.
Albia, IA

Tribute Wall



“ Ernest Patrick "Tennessee" Montgomery

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ Ernest Patrick "Tennessee" Montgomery

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ Very sorry about your loss. Ken talked to me about all of you. Ken was my first and only love and was sorry he passed away. My love for him is forever! Michele Marrero Gardiner

Michele Marrero Gardiner - March 25, 2019 at 07:55 PM



Redding, CA

Michele GARDINER - March 25, 2019 at 09:14 PM



“ A Good Man and Always a Pleasure to chat with at the Tap!! May God Speed and Bless his Soul. His Journey Continues.

Andy Simmons

Andy Simmons - March 05, 2017 at 01:25 AM

BT

“ So sorry to hear of your loss, "Tennessee" was loved, and respected by all who new him.
We're on the brink of losing our dad too, he's almost 93, and was a friend of your dad, our prayers are with you all.

Bob Thompson, and the Robnett clan

bob thompson - February 26, 2017 at 09:09 AM

AL

“ The last time I saw your dad he was part of the honor guard for John Carmody, a Viet Nam vet, in Melrose June 2015. Tennessee was walking slowly with the help of a walker. He had made a huge effort to be there. It was moving to see his faithfulness and dedication to fellow veterans.

He's rejoined your mother and Daniel now. That will be a big celebration!

God bless you and your families. -- Anne Lahart, a classmate of Paul's

Anne Lahart - February 22, 2017 at 06:48 PM

PH

“ Paul, Frank and families,
We are very sorry for your loss...EP was one of a kind. So many memories of your dad, mom and brothers over the years. Thank God for those good memories, as they bring comfort now and in the days ahead.

Thinking of you all and sorry we can not be there for the services.

Hugs & love,

Patty and Tom

Patty & Tom Hannam - February 22, 2017 at 07:04 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ernest Patrick "Tennessee" Montgomery.*



February 21, 2017 at 09:08 PM



“ *My heart is crying with your family today. As a child, teenager and now adult..I grew up calling this man Tennessee. I used to and currently do frequent the Legion growing up with my dad "Ray Vitko" later as a teenager/adult The Owl Tap, where we would chat and possibly have a cold one at times. I enjoyed our talks and had a great respect for this man. He was one of my great supporters and always had some great advice when I ran for The Senate in "08", The House of Reps. in "10", County Supervisor in '12" and again for The House of Reps in "2014" I admired and looked up to him. I remember he attended many of the veterans funerals thru the years which always made me cry when he shot his gun with the other veteran gunmen. I will miss his smile and guidance, remarks and being able to chat. Hugs to you all.. Deb Ballalatak from 5 miles north of Albia.*



Debra Ann Ballalatak - February 21, 2017 at 08:37 PM

RA

“ I was deeply blessed by the love and kindness of the Montgomery family as I was growing up. Pat and Lucy provided a home away from home for me and always treated me like one of their boys. I spent countless nights and ate countless meals at their home. I enjoyed years of splendid "Tennessee" stories and recall wonderful memories of Pat and Lucy. There will never be enough "thank-yous" to say to honor Pat's memory, and my heart is saddened by the loss of a treasured hero. E.P. "Tennessee" Montgomery will be sorely missed. My deepest sympathy to the Montgomery family, especially to Frank and Rhonda and Paul and Brenda. Rick Ahn

Rick Ahn - February 21, 2017 at 07:44 PM

DB

I remember when you used to babysit for Ray & Jane Vitko's kids "Sandi, Debbie and lil Ray" that the Montgomery boys would come out to your family farm at times.. Great friendship..

Debra Ann Ballalatak - February 21, 2017 at 08:42 PM

VS

“ So sorry! May you cherish all the precious memories you have of him! I loved being around him and listening to all his stories! You are all in my thoughts and prayers!

Valerie Selby Small - February 21, 2017 at 03:12 PM

MD

“ Uncle Pat was so special to me. He always loved to hear about my children and tell me about his grandchildren. He said I was always his niece no matter the divorce . May he rest in peace with the Lord. I'm so glad he got to make that last trip to Sewanee and Louisville. Thanks for bringing him!. Michell

Michell Dale - February 21, 2017 at 01:59 PM

GG

“ Paul & Family - We are so sorry to hear of your Dads passing. What a guy! Truly one-of-a-kind!! R.I.P. my friend. Thoughts, prayers & love to the Montgomery Family. Gary & Carol Gardner

Gary Gardner - February 21, 2017 at 01:20 PM

ML

“ Tennessee was always so friendly and had a good story to tell. I enjoyed dealing with him on business for the Legion and for the Owl, . He would always give you a smile when you saw him. As a family you will miss him, but know he put a smile on many faces and did so much for the community. Now it is time for him to be with his Lucy and rest of the family and will be watching over you. May he RIP.

Marilyn Larson

Marilyn Larson - February 21, 2017 at 01:17 PM

JM

"Oh hey honey, how are you doing?" That was a typical Tennessee greeting whether he was pouring me a beer or greeting me in the grocery store. As a daughter of a veteran who he was acquainted with, it was always a treat to hear stories of his visits with my dad and others from OB Nelson American Legion Post 003 in Ottumwa. What a genuine, wonderful, soul. I am so very thankful for that I met him. xo
Jodi Maddy

Jodi Maddy - February 21, 2017 at 08:41 PM

BM

“ Frank, we are sorry for your loss. We will remember you in our prayers for peace and comfort.

Bob and Linda Mann - February 21, 2017 at 11:25 AM

DP

“ i will never forget the honor I felt when i saw him at the cemetary after my dad's service. He had his cane and he needed a chair but he wasntthere.....One Veteran paying tribute to another Veteran.....He was a wonderful man

David Pope - February 21, 2017 at 09:50 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ernest Patrick "Tennessee" Montgomery.



February 21, 2017 at 05:53 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ernest Patrick "Tennessee" Montgomery.



February 21, 2017 at 01:29 AM

IN

“ Iris, Lucy & Natasha purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Ernest Patrick "Tennessee" Montgomery.



Iris, Lucy & Natasha - February 21, 2017 at 01:00 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Ernest Patrick "Tennessee" Montgomery.*



February 20, 2017 at 08:46 PM



“ *I worked with him and he visited often here here here in Ottumwa where I worked and all loved there . He was always in my thoughts when he Went home so I would check on him. Those were the good days. Kay Wallace Flinn*

Kay I Flinn - February 20, 2017 at 07:49 PM



“ *Tennessee was one great guy so friendly to all rest in peace Sir*

Kenny and Barb Lovstuen - February 20, 2017 at 07:15 PM



“ *I worked for Tennessee at Chamberlains. Spent many hours at the Owl Tap. He used to tell some wonderful stories that we all loved listening too. He was a wonderful man and will be greatly missed.*

Betty and Benji Thompson - February 20, 2017 at 07:13 PM



“ *Tennessee was my foreman while I worked at Chamberlain's during the summer months. He was always such a pleasant person and had a wonderful sense of humor. He was a great friend to my uncles as a fellow American Legion member. So sorry to hear of his passing. Susan Conway Dinsmore*

Susan Conway Dinsmore - February 20, 2017 at 06:44 PM

AK

“ *All Our Prayers, Paul, Kathleen & Kristina Koffman purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Ernest Patrick "Tennessee" Montgomery.*



All Our Prayers, Paul, Kathleen & Kristina Koffman - February 20, 2017 at 06:39 PM

WS

“ *My thoughts and prayers to all the Montgomery family I went to school with Ken and Frank. I used to see Tennessee once in awhile when he would stop at the Knoxville VFW on his way to and from Des Moines. He always had a story and was always fun to talk to .Great man and great family*

Wayne Steele - February 20, 2017 at 06:32 PM

RM

“ *Resha & Mark Michael lit a candle in memory of Ernest Patrick "Tennessee" Montgomery*



Resha & Mark Michael - February 20, 2017 at 06:12 PM

RM

Our hearts full of love to the Montgomery family during this difficult time. Pat was a good ole soul. His smile was contagious.

Resha & Mark Michael - February 20, 2017 at 06:16 PM

JB

“ Joan Bentley sent a virtual gift in memory of Ernest Patrick "Tennessee" Montgomery



Joan Bentley - February 20, 2017 at 06:03 PM

JB

Thoughts and prayers go out to EP' s family and friends. He was such a great guy, always a story to share and good times while with his great family! RIP Tennessee! You will be missed by so many!

Joan Bentley - February 20, 2017 at 06:12 PM

CC

I can still hear Lucy's voice calling all of the children home whenever Pat got home from work at Chamberlains.....you could hear her voice call "John Patrick, Kenneth Ray, Francis Norbert, Paul Campbell, Daniel Clell!!!!!" If we were busy with a baseball game in the back yard or using the Roy Rogers Quick Shooter Hat to shoot caps for target practice at the old shed behind your house, Tennessee would give you five minutes to show up at your door, otherwise, he would make the rounds until you were all headed home. Your Dad and Mom were just such special people! I can honestly say that Pat and Lucy were a great team, a force to be admired in the Albia Community, and they were such an integral part of our town.

Your Dad was a champion, a soldier, a father, a husband and a great friend to all who knew him. HE WILL BE MISSED

Claire J Capaldo - February 21, 2017 at 07:24 PM

JB

“ Joan Bentley sent a virtual gift in memory of Ernest Patrick "Tennessee" Montgomery



Joan Bentley - February 20, 2017 at 05:59 PM

RH

“ *This guy was awesome and will be missed. I worked for him at chamberlains and bartender for him. Cool dude. Rita henderson*

rita henerson - February 20, 2017 at 05:53 PM

KC

“ *My sincere condolences to the family of Tennessee!
A kind and friendly man, always a smile and a good word! It has been a pleasure knowing him. My mother Felicia Dinneen , Lucy and Tennessee were great pals. Hugs to all!
Kit Dinneen Crane*

Kit Dinneen Crane - February 20, 2017 at 05:28 PM

MC

*One of my fondest memories of Tennessee was how he came to the hospital every day to pick up his beloved Lucy after work. There was a special love. May he rest in peace with her and his other loved ones.
Don and Mary Carr*

Mary Carr - February 20, 2017 at 06:08 PM

DW

“ *When I worked at Maloneys (Chamberlains) in the office, Tennessee always had a story/joke to keep the place cheerful.*

Diane & Phil Whitson

Diane Whitson - February 20, 2017 at 05:27 PM



“ *Pam Jones lit a candle in memory of Ernest Patrick "Tennessee" Montgomery*



Pam Jones - February 20, 2017 at 05:21 PM



“ *Tess Sebben lit a candle in memory of Ernest Patrick "Tennessee" Montgomery*



Tess Sebben - February 20, 2017 at 04:52 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of Tennessee's passing.. I sure enjoyed seeing him and just listening to him. He always razzed me about something. He will be missed. Tess Sebben*

Tess Sebben - February 20, 2017 at 04:51 PM