



## Charles (Speed) F. Birr Jr.

May 18, 1925 - September 26, 2020

Charles F. (Speed) Birr, Jr., 95, of Kankakee passed away Saturday, September 26, 2020 at his home. He was born May 18, 1925 in Kankakee to Charles F. and Meta (Neumann) Birr Sr. Charles married Doris J. Arthur on September 25, 1948 at the First Methodist Church, which is now Asbury United Methodist Church, Kankakee, IL.

He proudly served our country in the Navy during WWII on the USS Neville and always being the jokester, he would tell anybody that asked him what his job was, that he made ice cream but flunked Neapolitan. He was employed by American Marietta for 21 years and then drove a truck for Rudolf Express until his retirement in 1987. He and his wife owned Speeds Tap in Kankakee in the 60's and then Speed's Anchor Inn in Kankakee from the late 70's until the mid 80's.

Charles was an avid Cub Fan and played baseball and softball in his younger years on many teams, including the Northside AC's, Southside AC's, the Methodist Church League and the Industrial League. He was a member of the Bradley Bourbonnais Sportsman's Club where he enjoyed playing horseshoes. He also enjoyed fishing and playing marbles. Charles was able to go on the Honor Flight for Veterans in October 2013.

He is survived by his wife, Doris of Kankakee, 2 sons and daughters-in-law; Michael (Mary) Birr of Kankakee, Steve (Sally) Birr of Bourbonnais, 2 daughters and a son-in-law; Ruth (Tom) Denoyer of Kankakee and Lori Jones of Fort Atkinson, WI. Also surviving are 7 grandchildren; Gail (Jeremy) Silcox,

Sarah (Matt) Raymond, David (Candice) Birr, Jennifer (Kevin) Proud, Jamie Thomas, Ryan (BriAnn) Denoyer, Christopher Denoyer, 11 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Charles was preceded in death by his parents, 3 brothers, August, Edward and William Birr, 4 sisters; Minnie Rose, Doreen Serafini, Anna Nelson and Gertrude Birr, a great grandson, Jackson Thomas and a son-in-law, Charles Jones.

The memorial visitation will be 4-6 pm Friday, October 2, 2020 at Schreffler Funeral Home, Kankakee Chapel, the funeral service will follow at 6pm. Rev. Scott Henley will officiate. Per CDC guidelines, masks and social distancing are required. Memorials may be made to Uplifted Care/Hospice or Honor Flight Chicago.

Please sign his online guestbook at [www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com](http://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com)

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

OCT 2. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel  
1900 W. Court St.  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 932-2421  
<https://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com/>

## Memorial Service

OCT 2. 6:00 PM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel  
1900 W. Court St.  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 932-2421  
<https://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Charles (Speed) F. Birr Jr.*

February 03, 2023 at 04:30 AM



“ *Peggy and I send our deepest heart flt condolences. We just recently spoke of Speed and how I should phone. I will always regret not doing so. Though we only met a couple years ago Speed became a special person to us. He will be greatly missed. RIP good friend. Heaven has another angel.*

**Roger & Peggy Lunt** - November 18, 2020 at 08:10 PM



“ *I remember Speed and his family from when I worked at United Sales. My condolences to all his family.*

**Paul Ziemer, WA** - October 13, 2020 at 10:09 AM



“ *So many memories from all of the grandkids riding in the back of his station wagon, fishing and feeding the swans in the backyard, riding on the pontoon and other boats, going to cubs & sox games, the list goes on and on... But no matter what we did or where we went time with Grandpa was always fun and full of laughs. You will forever be loved and missed by everyone you knew, but we all have wonderful memories that we will continue to share so that you will live on forever with us. 💜💜*

**Jennifer Proud** - October 08, 2020 at 01:08 PM

RP

“ Thoughts and prayers to the Birr family.  
Ralph(Mick) & Barb Young



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**RPY** - October 04, 2020 at 09:45 PM

GO

“ Gary&Joyce Overright lit a candle in memory  
of Charles (Speed) F. Birr Jr.



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**Gary&Joyce Overright** - October 02, 2020 at 12:48 PM

KB

“ Prayers for all, Doris, the family, and Speed. He was my friend and  
he will be remembered. See you later on the top side Speed, take  
care of the new wings!

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**Ken Brownsey** - October 01, 2020 at 11:39 PM

TM

“ Tom Mallaney lit a candle in memory of  
Charles (Speed) F. Birr Jr.



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**Tom Mallaney** - September 29, 2020 at 11:21 AM

AH

“ Amber Howell lit a candle in memory of Charles (Speed) F. Birr Jr.



Amber Howell - September 28, 2020 at 07:38 PM

Steve West

“ r i p charles you will be missed by all

Steve West - September 28, 2020 at 06:07 PM

Steve West

“ Steve West sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles (Speed) F. Birr Jr.



Steve West - September 28, 2020 at 06:06 PM

Steve West

“ Steve West lit a candle in memory of Charles (Speed) F. Birr Jr.



Steve West - September 28, 2020 at 06:05 PM