



## Eldon Arthur Balgeman

January 13, 1925 - February 2, 2016

Eldon A. Balgeman, 91, of Kankakee passed away on February 2, 2016, at Presence St. Mary's Hospital. On January 13, 1925, he was born on the family farm in Buckingham, Illinois, to Arthur and Ella (Krueger) Balgeman. Eldon married Ruth Adam 68 years ago on December 27, 1947.

Eldon was in the Army and served in WWII from January 1945 through November 1946. He was stationed in the Philippines and was awarded several ribbons and medals. Not long after returning home from the war he worked for International Harvester, but he eventually spent most of his career working for Roper Corporation at the manufacturing plant in Kankakee. There he spent over 30 years, working his way up from a draftsman to a Project Engineer.

Eldon was a 68-year member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, where he served as an Elder, sang in the choir, and served on many boards, including the NID Mission Board. He was an avid supporter of Laborers for Christ, where he helped build many churches across the Midwest, and was also involved in many construction charities over the years, including Christmas in April.

Eldon is survived by his wife, Ruth, of Kankakee; sons Rev. Donald (Gloria) Balgeman of St. Charles, IL; William (Kim) Balgeman of Kankakee; Robert (Karen) Balgeman of Johnson Creek, WI; Thomas (Beth) Balgeman of New Berlin, WI; and Timothy (Robin) Balgeman of Warrenville, IL. He is also survived by two sisters: Doris Speckman of Chebanse, IL, and Ellen (Hugo) Hasz of Pataskala, OH. He has 12 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

Eldon is preceded in death by his parents, Arthur and Ella Balgeman; stillborn daughter, Mary; brother, Gerhardt Balgeman; sister, Alvina Berger; and daughter-in-law, Deborah (Glammeyer) Balgeman.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, February 7, 2016, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Schreffler Funeral Home, Kankakee Chapel. There will be a visitation on Monday, February 8, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. until the 10:00 a.m. funeral service at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Kankakee, IL. Rev. Karl Koeppen will be officiating. Burial will follow at Zion Lutheran Cemetery in Bonfield, IL.

Memorials may be made to St. Paul's Lutheran Church:

Building/Endowment/Maintenance Fund, or St. Matthew's Soup Kitchen in Chicago.

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

# Cemetery Details

## Zion Lutheran Cemetery

11478 W State Route 17  
Bonfield, IL 60913

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 7. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

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

## Visitation

FEB 8. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
348 E. Merchant St.  
Kankakee, IL 60901

## Funeral Service

FEB 8. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
348 E. Merchant St.  
Kankakee, IL 60901



# Tribute Wall



“ *Eldon Arthur Balgeman*

February 03, 2023 at 04:30 AM



“ *Deepest sympathy to Bob and the family. Prayers your way. Just saw this when i was searching for someone else.*

**Bill Maass** - July 19, 2016 at 12:31 AM



“ *Dearest Ruth,  
Oh- how my heart aches!! You & Eldon have been like spiritual parents to us -and for this long time sacred friendship ( you two with my folks, now us-) we are so grateful to God for His provision of love for all of us!  
May God strengthen all of you in these difficult days - may you experience a deeper comfort than you've ever known Him to provide ever before. He is faithful in restoring our souls !  
Love you, dear, sweet friend!  
Renee Dubuque-Coyer*

**Renee Dubuque- Coyer** - February 11, 2016 at 11:11 AM



“ *Hill And Delithia Love lit a candle in memory of Eldon Arthur Balgeman*



**Hill and Delithia Love** - February 08, 2016 at 10:13 AM

JG

“ Dear Bill, Kim and Family,  
So sorry to hear of your dad's passing.  
Prayers to all of you at this difficult time.

Hugs,  
David and Judy Grumish

---

**Judy Grumish** - February 07, 2016 at 01:08 PM

VT

“ My sincere condolences to the family of Eldon Balgeman. May you find comfort in your loving memories, and in God's promise to soon "swallow up death forever" and "wipe away the tears from all faces." (Isaiah 25;8) With deepest sympathy,

---

**v. thompson** - February 06, 2016 at 03:24 PM

BD

“ Valencia and I will miss you. Thank you for letting us come into your home for Valencia's piano lessons. Rest in peace.

Barbara Davis  
Valencia Davis

---

**Barbara Davis** - February 05, 2016 at 01:34 PM

JW

“ Dear Balgeman family,  
I'm sorry to hear the loss of your dear father, Eldon. I'm sure he will be missed. I'm so blessed that I got to take a trip or two with him. I'll never forget Ireland and our trip back to the hotel after our 'coffee'. Then he sang Danny Boy. I really enjoyed him. Prayers for your family. My sympathies to you. Blessings, Jeanene W.

---

**Jeanene Wruck** - February 05, 2016 at 11:08 AM

TK

“ I was lucky enough to meet Eldon and Ruth in Honduras on 3 separate trips! What a WONDERFUL couple they were! Amazing caring people! But what I treasured the most about El was his sense of humor. Him and I could sit for hours at a time and crack each other up! Now I'll have to tell him jokes during my prayers so he can hear them in heaven. Goodbye funny man. I will miss you! Tomás Klatt

---

**Tomás Klatt** - February 04, 2016 at 12:13 PM