



Lee Roy Cravens

December 23, 1921 - September 16, 2021

Lee Roy Cravens, 99, passed away Thursday, September 16, 2021.

A native of Paradise, KY. Roy was a WWII Navy veteran, a 32nd degree mason, and a member of Fairdale Masonic Lodge # 942, Kosair Shrine and the United States Landing Ship, Tank (L.S.T.) Association. Roy was preceded in death by his parents, Callie (Waklend) and Marion Cravens; his wife of 67 years, Juanita (Goodrich) Cravens; brothers, William Cravens and Avery Waklend; and sister, Mary Anderson.

He is survived by his children, Allen Cravens (Gail) Donna Cravens, Joann Yahnke (Jim), Wanda Schlenker and Bonnie Bratcher (Dewey) and several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

His funeral service will be at 11:00 a.m. Thursday, September 23, 2021, at Owen funeral Home, 5317 Dixie Highway with burial at Louisville Memorial Gardens West.

Visitation will be from 2:00 – 8:00 p.m. Wednesday at Owen Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Louisville Memorial Gardens West

4400 Dixie Hwy
Louisville , KY 40216

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **22**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Owen Funeral Homes - Dixie Highway
5317 Dixie Highway
Louisville, KY 40216
(502) 447-2600
<https://owenfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

SEP **23**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Owen Funeral Homes - Dixie Highway
5317 Dixie Highway
Louisville, KY 40216
(502) 447-2600
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Tribute Wall

JF

“ *Jim & JoAnn Cravens Combs Yahnke Family purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Lee Roy Cravens.*



Jim & JoAnn Cravens Combs Yahnke Family - September 21, 2021 at 12:01 AM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lee Roy Cravens.*



September 20, 2021 at 12:15 PM

MK

“ *Mark and carol kraschneske purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Lee Roy Cravens.*



Mark and carol kraschneske - September 19, 2021 at 10:47 PM

JY

“ I met Dad Cravens the first time that JoAnn and I visited, just after our marriage. We hit it off right away, and I adopted him (in my heart) as my Dad, too, as I'd lost both of my parents decades before.

I loved to hear his war stories and was able to video tape him with my cell phone on one visit, and have about 6 or 7 video clips of him sharing his memories. That's another thing I couldn't get over, as to how sharp his memory was then, even at the "young" age of 92 to 93 years of age!

To Dad Cravens, his war service was no different than when he was helping build the very LST types that he served on.

He was a shipfitter, and that included plumbing and welding and keeping the metal cleats welded back together after the tanks rolled off them to get "disgorged" on the islands.

One time, he shared that their LST got too close to the beach and it got stuck there and no amount of wriggling back and forth worked. He said they were stranded like that and the Japs attacked their ship daily until they were rescued.

He said it was a job to do, and whatever needed to be done, he did it. To bringing the wounded in from the island fighting to manning the guns that were used to knock the Jap suicide planes out of the air, and he said they fought them off like that during the last year of the war, and he said we'd get a lot of 'em, but never could get all of them!

I greatly admired him, and he was not a shirker of duty, that's for sure, whether in military life or civilian life. He loved to talk with people, you know, the "never met a stranger" type. People from all around used his welding services and such like and he built up quite of reputable business of quality.

Dad Cravens comes from the generation of men that helped build

up this country to what it is now. I couldn't be prouder of him, and Dad Cravens, you deserve a long needed rest with your wife of 67 years, of whom (Jay) preceded him in death.

I salute you, and wish you well on your final voyage. You will be missed by this man.

*I Love You,
Your "adoped" Son-in-law, James Yahnke*

P.S.: Dad Cravens, I know you could feel the love for you that came forth from JoAnn, your daughter, because I could also feel it, and I've learned so much from her as our visits to you continued during the first 6 years of our marriage.

We were able to do many things together and fond memories of the short train rides we enjoyed, and the many wonderful conversations of yourself and Jay with us.

James Yahnke - September 18, 2021 at 09:06 PM