



Howard W. Knoebel

December 13, 2022 - November 19, 2008

Howard W. Knoebel
Howard W. Knoebel, age 85, of rural Toledo, Illinois passed away at 3:55 p.m. on Wednesday, November 19, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Christine, his son, John of Hawthorn Woods, IL, his sister, Shirley (Ferguson) of Brentwood, MO, his step-son, Thomas Hayes of Surprise, AZ and his step-daughter Pamela (Hayes) Kaupins of Ottumwa, IA.

The funeral service in his honor will begin at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, November 22, 2008, at the Toledo Christian Church, 501 S. Maryland, Toledo, Illinois, 62468, with Reverend William Cox officiating. Interment will be in Toledo Cemetery. Visitation will be held Friday, November 21, 2008 from 3:00-6:00 p.m., at Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home, 1200 Wabash Avenue, Mattoon, Illinois, 61938.

Howard Knoebel was born on Dec. 13, 1922 in Highland, IL to Florence Julia (Stocker) and Wilbert George Knoebel. He married L. Christine Amyx on August 11, 1957 at University Place Christian Church in Urbana, Illinois. He attended Highland public schools, Highland High School and graduated from Collinsville High School in 1941. He received his amateur radio license, W9MBD in 1940. He worked as a machinist for Briner Electric Company in St. Louis, attended the University of Illinois in Urbana and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He attended the Radio Material School, Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C. and served on the staff at the Navy Radio Material School at Navy Pier in Chicago, IL.

At the end of the war, he volunteered to participate in 'Operation Crossroads', the atomic bomb tests

against a fleet of naval vessels at Bikini Atoll. Under the GI Bill, Howard completed his electrical engineering studies at the University of Illinois where he remained as a researcher and professor for the rest of his career.

At the University, he developed equipment that led to the discovery of the nuclear magnetic resonance spin echo which ultimately contributed to 'Magnetic Resonance Imaging' (MRI). He worked on the development of Doppler radar systems, electrically levitated gyroscopes, rocket probes of electron density in the upper atmosphere and optical computer memory technology.

Professor Knoebel taught courses in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering and General Engineering. Working with students in a senior level engineering internship course, he participated in a wide range of applied electromechanical projects including engineering aids for the physically handicapped, numerous technologies for industrial manufacturing and the explanation of early fuel injection failure in modern automobile engines. During summers, he remodeled apartment houses, doing carpentry, electrical and plumbing work.

Upon retirement from the University of Illinois in 1979, Professor Knoebel devoted time to his 103 acre tree farm near Toledo, Illinois where he constructed a round barn, two story house, out-buildings, saw mill, lumber kiln, ham radio shack and a 120 foot antenna tower.

His hobbies included furniture making, working in his machine shop, computers, amateur radio, and raising his dogs.

Professor Knoebel held offices in the Illini Figure Skating Club, Hammond Chord Organ Club, Champaign-Urbana motorcycle Club, Lakeland Beekeepers Association, Moultrie Amateur Radio Club, National Trail Amateur Radio Club and served as a Deacon in the Toledo Christian Church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Beagle Rescue Education Welfare Mid-West (BREW Mid-West) PO Box 522, Fox Lake, Illinois 60020-0522.

Please visit www.mitchell-jerdan.com to light a virtual candle in his honor or to share a memory with the family.

Tribute Wall



“ *Howard W. Knoebel*

October 08, 2023 at 07:40 PM



“ *I had the pleasure of living in the same boarding house and attending the University of Illinois with Howard. Later, I worked with him in what was called the Control Systems Laboratory at the University. He was a brilliant electronics engineer and had key roles in our projects. He was a one-of-a-kind person.*

George Mader - December 18, 2008 at 09:50 AM



“ *Howard was a kind man and a true gentleman. We have all missed his stories on IBARC and will miss him greatly. He is healthy and with all of his angels now. Godspeed Howard, and may God's tender love be with all of you*

Valerie Beasley - November 27, 2008 at 11:37 AM



“ *It's been an honor to have known Howard over the years thru Aroooo.*

John Foley - November 24, 2008 at 10:25 AM

PR

“ We had the honor of meeting Howard and Christine on 2 occasions. They were such a lovely and inspiring couple. Howard and Bob loved talking "engineer stuff" and beagles. My Blarney was always one of Howard's favorites and he never failed to ask about her. I will miss his "voice" on the beagle list more than I say. How lucky you all were to have had him for such a long time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Pat and Bob Coffey and Bluebonnet Beagle Rescue - November 23, 2008 at 09:25 PM

AW

“ I had the privilege & pleasure of meeting Howard in Aldie, Va at the beagle National a few years ago. He will be missed and long remembered.\r\n\r\n

Anne Dennis and Cindy Lou Who - November 22, 2008 at 02:44 PM

MF

“ For sure there was a large welcoming group for Howard at Rainbow Bridge. I hope Loodi and Spritzer were using their voices at full level. We will miss Howard, who helped so many of the Arooooo pack with computer problems, and regaled us with many stories. A fine, fine man.

Molly Fuller - November 22, 2008 at 02:37 PM

JB

“ Dear family,\r\n Though I just missed meeting Howard in person during the Beagle Nationals in Valparaso a couple of years ago, I knew him from beagle lists for several years and loved hearing about his beagles and his life as a physicist. During the time that I worked at the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory at MSU, he used to ask me questions--and since I'm not a physicist, just a musician--he used to explain things to me so that I understood them. I will miss his kindness, his love for life and his folksy wit. Condolences to his family! Love from Tamara & John and their beagles, Elvis and Abbey

John and Tamara Hicks-Syron & their beagles - November 22, 2008 at 12:16 PM

SM

“ I am a retired Secretary from the University of Illinois and worked for Howard from 1968-1970. My fondest memory of him was seeing him sit at his desk staring out into space; someone told me he had a photographic memory with total recall and was simply recalling information. A delightful man that I was privileged to know.

Sherry Marble - November 22, 2008 at 11:02 AM

JC

“ It was a pleasure to know Howard, thanks to the internet and a mutual love of beagles. I didn't meet him in person, but I loved to hear of his beagles and his interesting life. What a reception there will be at the Bridge.

Jenni Blackburn, Simon and Chloe - November 22, 2008 at 08:30 AM

DC

“ Howard, you were a very special beagle friend. I loved all your stories about your fur kids. \r\n\r\nOne day, I will be at the Rainbow bridge as well. \r\nPeace is now your world with your loved ones and critters.

Darlene Clancy - November 22, 2008 at 01:36 AM

CK

“ Howard was always very knowledgeable when it came to ham radio and I and the rest of the club will miss him. \r\n\r\nThank you for influencing us, Howard. \r\n\r\n73's.

Clint Parrish, KC9S - November 21, 2008 at 11:19 PM

RM

“ What a very good man Howard was. I will always remember his presence on our beagle list. I have no doubt that he was met at the Gates of Heaven by every dog he ever loved.

Rita McGurk - November 21, 2008 at 11:02 PM

DM

“ Howard's passing leave a huge hole in our Beagle community. I so enjoyed seeing what he had to say every day. I loved to hear about his farm and the Beagles...it was so different from our experience with a city Beagle. He was so knowledgeable on so many subjects and yet always very down-to-earth in his thinking. I am honored to have been associated with Howard for all these years. \r\n\r\nI will truly miss him. \r\n\r\n--Daneen\r\n\r\n

Daneen and MeganBeagle - November 21, 2008 at 10:21 PM

MB

“ I had the joy and honour of meeting Howard & Christine at the 2006 Beagle National. He was such a lovely, kind soul. \r\n\r\n\r\nThe world is a better place for having Howard pass through. May he meet up with all his beloved family, friends and pets at the Bridge and one day we shall meet again.

Meagan Blake - November 21, 2008 at 08:01 PM

BC

“ The light of Howard's goodness will continue to shine wherever he shared his kindness, love and concern for people and animals. Howard brought humor and wisdom to our beagle family and has a place in our hearts which will keep him always with us. He now carries his light into the nearer presence of God to be reunited with his Creator, his family, his friends and his beagles who preceded him. There is much to remember this Thanksgiving for those who knew Howard, and we know that Howard will enjoy his first Christmas with the Child in whose steps he walked. Godspeed, Howard. The image of you crossing the Rainbow Bridge with your pack of beagles and other animals whom you have befriended is a beautiful one. We look forward to seeing you again. Scritchies, wubbums and chin-chuckies from the Baskerbeagles: Molly, Degui, Boogie and Pigeon... and Unkie!

Bruce Cornely - November 21, 2008 at 07:40 PM

SP

“ Howard, my memories of you will be of a wise and knowledgable, patient and caring man whose love for his wife and for his dogs was second to none. Most of all I will remember the greeting and the hug we shared at the Indiana National in 2006 when you met up with 'this little Aussie' (I really DON'T talk funny!) \r\n\r\n\r\nThe world has lost a true gentleman yet rejoices in your life. \r\n\r\n\r\nmy sympathy and love to Christine and your family. \r\n\r\n\r\n

Suzanne Parkinson - November 21, 2008 at 05:32 PM

JA

“ You and your beagles were a big part of our pack and will be sorely missed by all of us. Even though we never met I felt like you were a very dear friend and I will miss you greatly.

Joyce Adams - November 21, 2008 at 02:31 PM

WT

“ My condolences to Howard's family...he was a special person who many of us came to know via the internet though his love & wisdom of beagles.

Wendy Theriault - November 21, 2008 at 01:56 PM

JO

“ Howard, rest in peace and have fun with all your doggies at the Rainbow Bridge, I know they will be glad to see you Joan and Miss Brandy

JOAN OLIVER - November 21, 2008 at 01:02 PM