

2010 to 2012

In Remembrance

of Fred



by  
Nelle

## A Fond Farewell to Dear Fred

Fred seemed prescient in his last years. In 2010 he sold the Soil Service property at auction. The bid (not very high) went to Terry Bell, Fred's nemesis, who had depreciated the property by illegally operating a junk yard adjacent to Cline Soil Service and often overlapping.

In 2011 Fred had an auction of the household goods at 506 N. Maple. The house went on the market and the sale closed in 2012.

Meanwhile, in June 2011, we drove from Abingdon to Owatonna as we often did. We arrived at 6 p.m. and while I unloaded the car, Fred went for a little walk. I was startled by the doorbell: Fred had fallen in the driveway and a nice young couple saw him and stopped to help and called 911. By 7 p.m. we were at Owatonna ER. They transferred him to Rochester for trauma care. No stroke or heart attack or broken bones, but a terrible scrape on rt. forearm which took months to heal. He was admitted for observation.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> I had a CT scan in Rochester and then drove Fred from St. Marys Hospital to Cedar View Nursing home in Owatonna. After getting Fred admitted, I received a phone call that the CT scan showed abscess on rt. flank with abdominal connection and I was to go the St. Marys ER and have a CT guided drain placement, IV fluids and antibiotics. Dear, dependable Tamera drove me and stayed until 1 am.

We recovered sufficiently to drive to Abingdon on July 14<sup>th</sup>. Patti came down and drove us on the 17<sup>th</sup> to Burlington, Kentucky, near Cincinnati for the annual Cline Reunion.. We returned after an enjoyable week, with Steven the cat which Dottie gave to me and who has been my delight and my solace.

Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> was the date of the Household auction. Indispensable and intrepid Patti spent 2 weeks going through and sorting things in preparation for the sale. We were lucky with the weather, a warm and sunny November day..

Now, 2012, and we celebrated Fred's 88<sup>th</sup> birthday early with homemade lemon meringue pie. On Feb 1<sup>st</sup> I had surgery to repair a recurrent abscess caused by the cancer of the appendix which first struck in 2009. Somehow, during surgery, the femoral nerve was cut, leaving me with a paralyzed right leg. After 2 weeks in the hospital I spent 4 weeks in an Owatonna nursing home and came home with a brace on my leg.

Again, Patti was heroic. She and Sherryl came to be with us when I had surgery. Then Patti took Fred home with her for what became a 6-week visit with an elderly and increasingly weak and incapacitated father. When she brought him back to Owatonna she confided that she thought he was about to need nursing home care. She was right. We had "Home, Instead" aides, at first during the day, but soon 24 hrs a day. My daughters Sara and Gail came and with our Parish nurse visited the various residential facilities in Owatonna and recommended Clare-Bridge as the most appropriate and most home-like. Fred became a resident there in April.

Steve, Andy, Marilyn and Sam came to see Fred and that was a real morale boost for both of us. We took Fred out for the day. The guys were able to get him into the front seat. We drove out to Rice Lake, took some pictures, looked at crops, and finally

got pork loin sandwiches and took them back to Clare-Bridge for a luncheon party. The "Long Choristers" sang for the residents which everyone enjoyed.

For our "Golden Anniversary", 12 years on August 12, 2012, we had a mini-celebration at Clare-Bridge with friends Tamera and Gloria. Fred enjoyed sparkling grape juice and his favorite, red raspberries, with angel food cake and whipped cream.

Attempts to engage Fred in looking at albums of our trips were mostly futile. He was just not able to connect. On Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> when I went to see Fred he was very flushed and I was very concerned. Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8 am the nurse called and thought he should go to the ER and I agreed. X-rays showed a bowel obstruction and he was admitted to special care. I called Patti and she came up. Dr. Froman, surgeon, was reluctant to operate due to age and dementia and that his kidney function was failing. By Tues. Sept 4<sup>th</sup> the kidney function was better and surgery was performed. The obstruction was scar tissue and readily removed without going into the intestines.

Care at the hospital was excellent, but recovery was slow. When Patti tried to feed him tiny bites, he would refuse and say, "no, you have it." Always generous.

After returning to Clare-Bridge, Fred was admitted to the Hospice program on Sept. 19. They secured a hospital bed, bedside-table and wheel chair. On the 27<sup>th</sup> Fred seemed to be declining. I called his kids and son Rick and Patti drove up.

On Fri. 28<sup>th</sup>, Patti, Rick and I were with Fred in the morning when he peacefully drew his last breath on earth. I asked the staff to call Trinity and learned that Intern Pastor Barb Streed was already on her way to Clare-Bridge.

## Cline recognized for outstanding service

ABINGDON-Fred Cline, a veteran of World War II, recently received a U.S. Army Freedom Team Salute for outstanding service to the Nation as a United States Army Soldier.

The Freedom Team Salute Program exists to recognize the enduring bond between Soldiers, family, community and veterans. It celebrates the sacrifices made by those who support America's Soldiers. Freedom Team salute honors the millions of Army Veterans who have served and is a living connection to the ideals of duty, honor and patriotism.

Anyone can recognize an honorably discharged U.S. Army Veteran or an Army supporter. Active duty soldiers can honor their parents and spouse. Guard and Reserve soldiers can honor their parents, spouse and employer.

According to their website, [www.freedomteam-salute.com](http://www.freedomteam-salute.com), there is no cost to participate. Freedom Team Salute is fully funded by the U.S. Army.

Cline received a letter, certificate and Army lapel pin.

*Owatonna People's Press  
Oct. 3, 2012*

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### OBITUARIES

#### Frederick (Fred) W. Cline

1924 - 2012

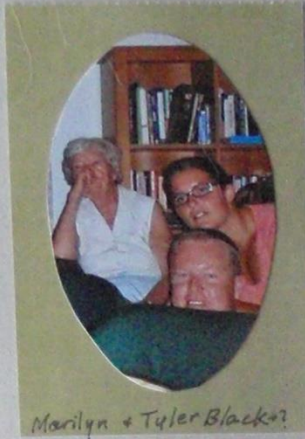
OWATONNA — Frederick (Fred) W. Cline, 88, of Owatonna died at Clare-Bridge Friday, Sept. 28, 2012.

Fred was born Feb. 1, 1924, in Galesburg, Ill., son of Sam and Gladys (Walker) Cline. He served in WWII in Europe in Patton's 4th Armored Division and in the Pacific. He was recalled into service during the Korean War. He was married to Louise Harshbarger on Aug. 14, 1949. She predeceased him. He married Norma Nelle (Wagner) Swanson on Aug. 12, 2000.

He is survived by his wife; two daughters, Patricia Morozink and Sheryl Lashley-Cline; one son, Rick Cline; seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; step-children and step-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at a later date in Abingdon, Ill.

# CLINE REUNION 2011



Marilyn + Tyler Black



The Originals: Sam, Marilyn, Eleanor and Fred



## Burlington, KY



Elise Ellie Nelle Kim Fred



Patti Fred Nelle



Steven left his "old Kentucky home" reluctantly  
He cried "HELP!" for 50 miles

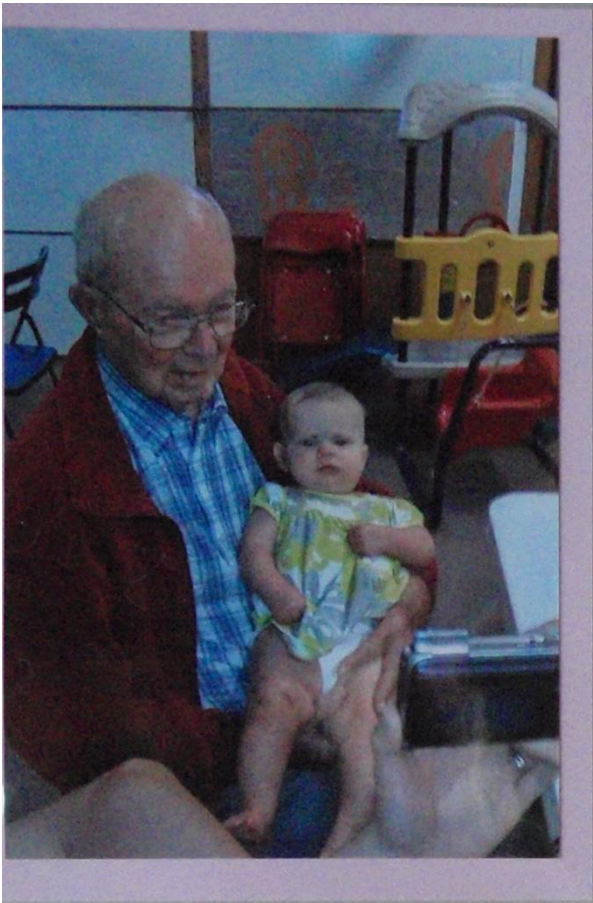
# Burlington, KY



Elyse  
Ellie Nelle Fred  
Kim



Steven left his "old Kentucky home" reluctantly  
he cried "kew!" for 50 miles



Oldest and Youngest Attendees:  
Fred Clise, 87 yrs.  
Ava Madison Shuh 5 yrs.

Andy Long sporting a Katydid  
atop his head →

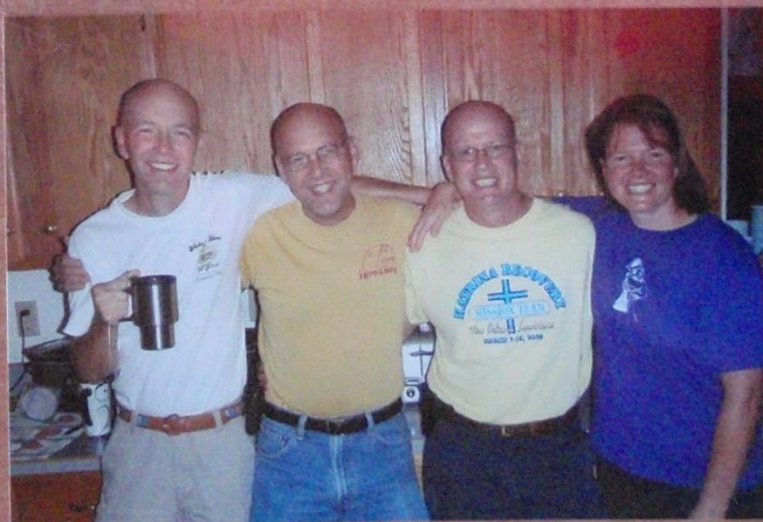




Octogenarians: Ellie, Nelle and Fred



A visit to Cincinnati



Long Originals: Steve, Andy, Thad, and Mindy



# 506 Maple AUCTION Nov 12, 2011



*Auctioneer, Dan Boyer*







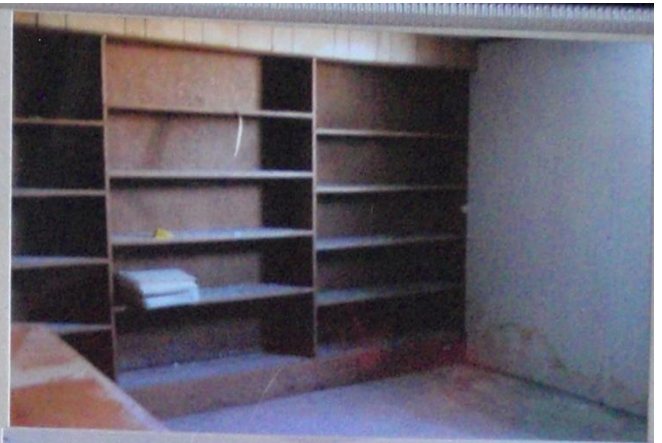


The "chuck wagon" served raisin pie, Fred's favorite

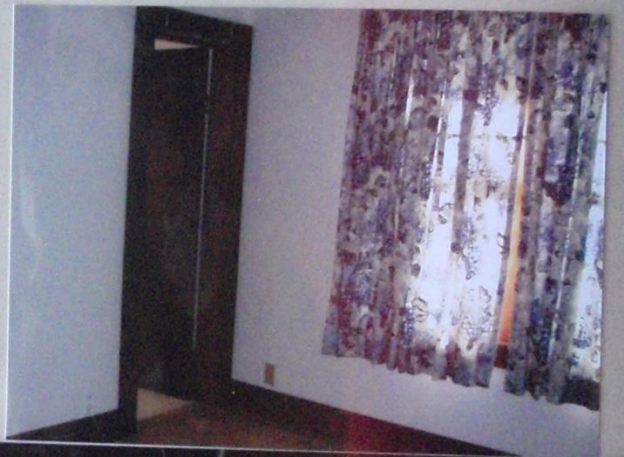
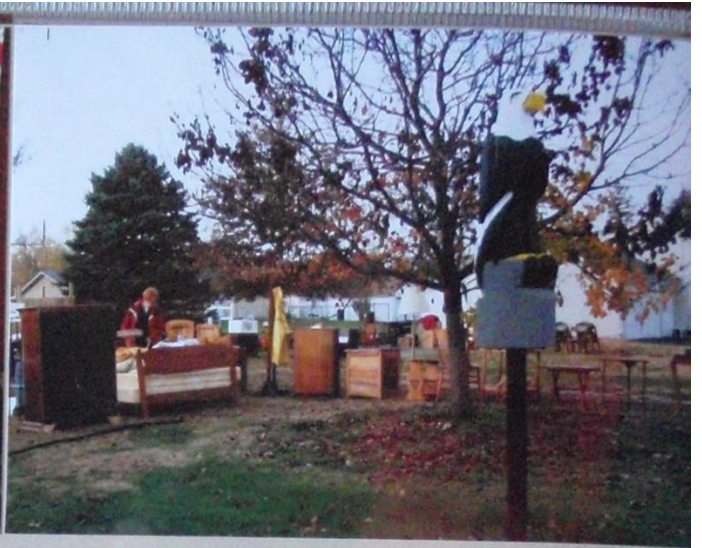


Down to the bare walls!





*Patti surveys the remnants!*



*Oak tree adopted by Nelle as a tiny seedling*

*Rose of Sharon, a late-blooming Hibiscus*



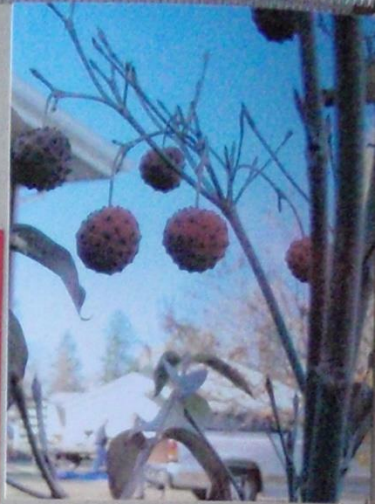
Fred bought the Eagle from a chain-saw artisan in Owatonna and displayed it proudly from 506 Maple, Abingdon. Over time it became weathered, and Nolle re-painted it, winter 2008-09, in the basement.



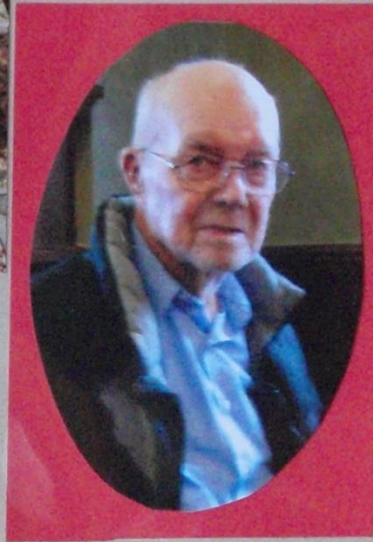
New owner of the Eagle



Fred's Hydrangeas,  
inherited from the Beers-



Surprise Fruit  
of the Dogwood Tree  
we planted in 2011



Fred was a quiet observer



Mystery shrub, N. sidehouse — we couldn't identify



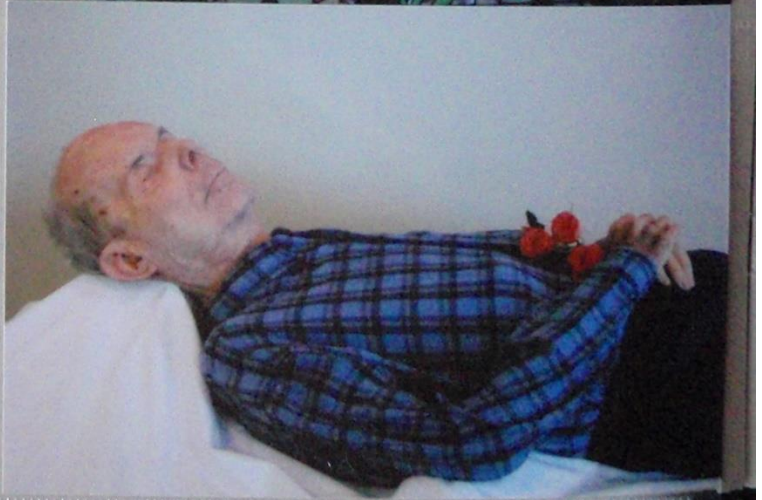
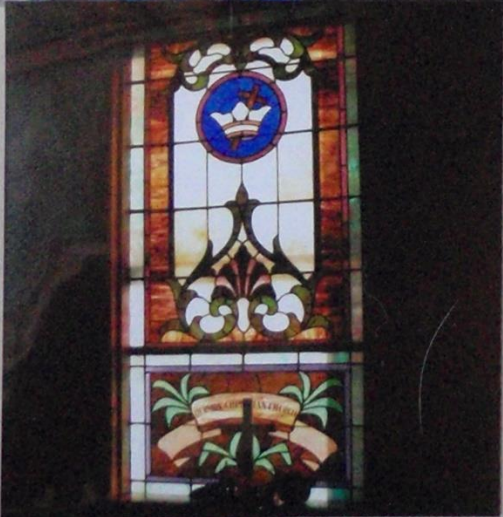
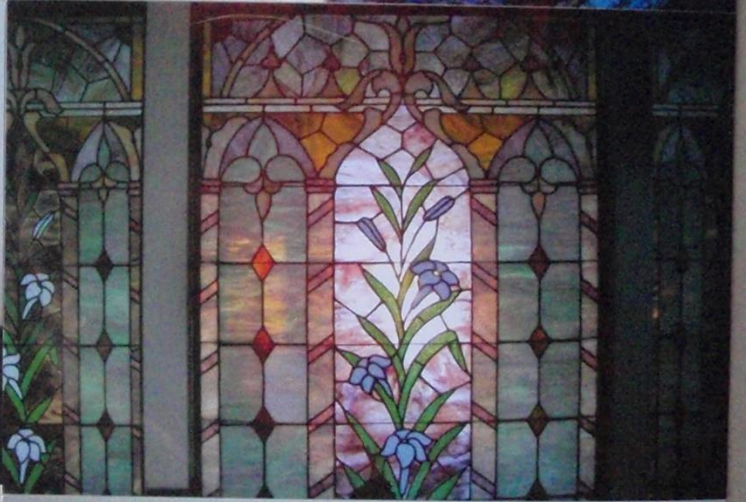
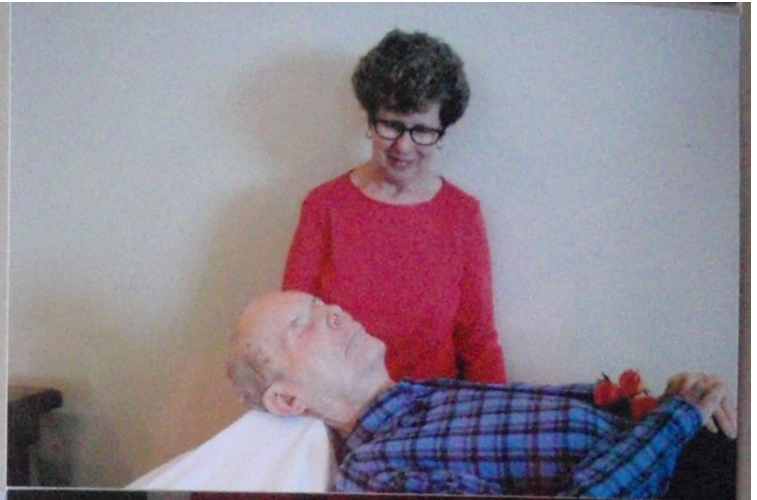
Beautiful Red Maple, a Father's Day gift from 3 kids





9-6 and 9-7-2012 Fred 2 and 3 days  
post-surgery

"Raspberry Bear", a gift of Hospice





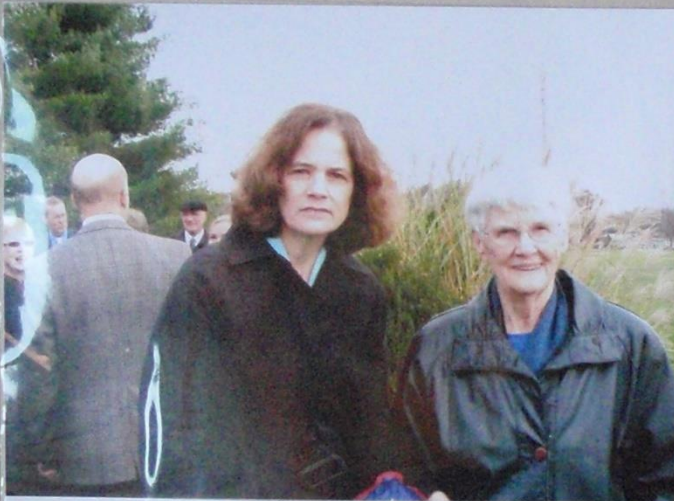
*Fred's Flag*



*Eleanor Landon with Nelle.*

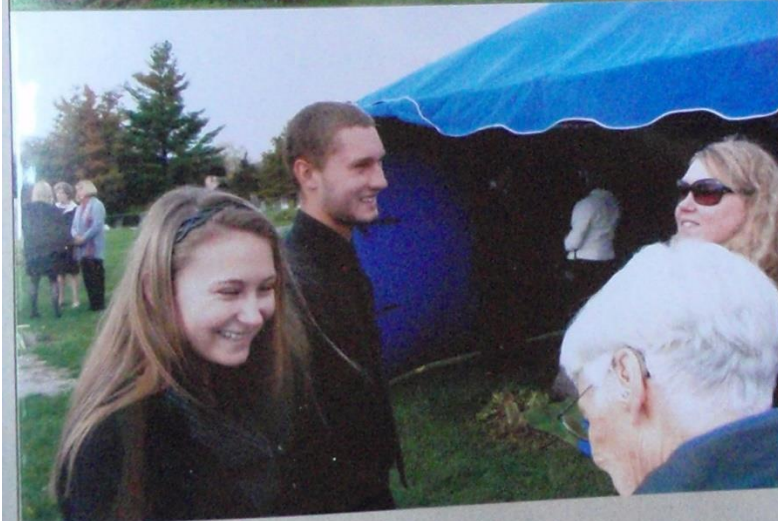


*Nelle, Mary Clirc, Danica and Mike Polite*



*Sara Koenig with brand new baby Anika*





Caylee, Brandon and Sue Aives



*Special nieces Nancy Jo Michaels and Elyse Black with Kelle*





© G. C. BROWN

THE LORD IS  
*My Shepherd*  
I SHALL NOT WANT



**A SERVICE OF GRATEFUL MEMORY  
FREDRICK W. "FRED" CLINE (1924-2012)**

PRELUDE

OPENING SENTENCES

READING OF THE OBITUARY

OPENING PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, which art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name.  
Thy Kingdom come.  
Thy will be done in earth,  
As it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, Forever.  
Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 121  
Eric Cline, grandson

SPECIAL MUSIC "It Is Well With My Soul"  
(sung by Steve, Andy, and Thad Long, nephews)

SCRIPTURE READING Ecclesiastes 3:1-12  
Sara Koenig, granddaughter

REMEMBRANCES PRESENTED BY:

Rick Morozink, son-in-law  
Andy Long, nephew  
Steve Long, nephew

DEVOTIONAL READING BY: Mark Morozink, grandson

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN:  
#804 "Battle Hymn of the Republic vs. 1,2,3,4

CLOSING PRAYER/BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

A private burial with full military honors took place  
this morning at Meridien Cemetery.

Please join the family downstairs in the fellowship  
hall for a time of refreshment and remembrance  
immediately after the service.



*Patti, Jennifer and Tim Boglan*



*Cliff, Eric, Steve and Thad*



*The LORD, the Psalmist's Shepherd.*

A Psalm of David.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the  
paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the  
shadow of death; I will fear no evil: for thou  
art with me; thy rod and thy staff they  
comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the  
presence of mine enemies: thou anointest  
my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all  
the days of my life; and I will dwell in the  
house of the Lord for ever.

When I finish the race of life, may  
my creator say, "well done, good and  
faithful servant."  
Matthew 25:23



*Jennifer and Tim with baby Anika*



*Hupert Meadows + Sam Clive*



*Nelle + Ana Long*



*Gwen Gabert, Nelle and Pat Green*



Virginia Cline and Marilyn Cline Long



Ava Madison



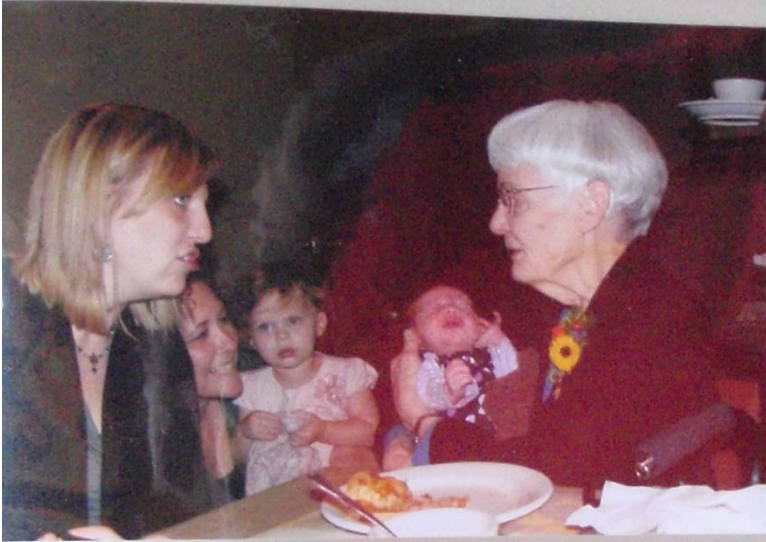
Nelle and classmate Doris Simpson Ruff



Nelle and Gwen Gabert



**Hammers** Unique  
GENERAL FEED STORE Casual  
STORE Dining



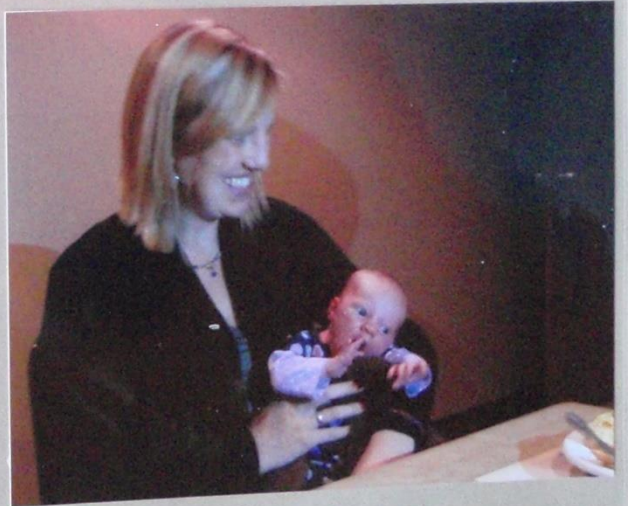
Sara, Alicia, Ava, Anika



Anika, Nelle + Marilyn



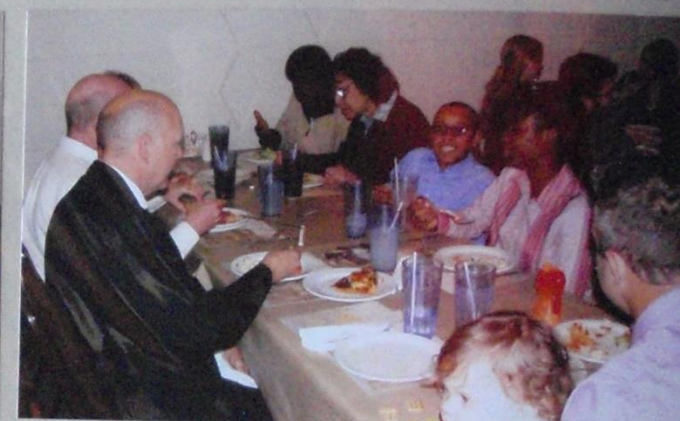
Alicia and Ava and Anika



Sara and Anika



Patti + Rick Morozink, Shery, Sarah, Mark M., Sam Cline



Mary Cline, Eric, Kelsey, Daniel, Andrew

Andy Long, Ana Long, Nancy Louise, Thad, Rosemary



Nelle + Marilyn, Elise, Nancy Jo, Kim, Greg Swanson

? Emily Kilgore, Anika, Cliff Long, Jacqui Samms, Tim Boyce


HUSBAND

FATHER  
In Memory of  
Fred Cline  
Oct. 20, 2012

BUSINESSMAN


COUNTRY

CHURCH



UNCLE

ELDER  
CHOIR  
SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER



FRIEND

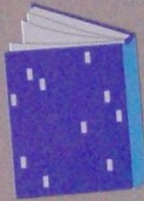
ARMY  
BRONZE STAR

TEACHER

GRANDFATHER

BROTHER

*Matthew 25:23*





By authority of the Board of Trustees of the  
**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS**  
and upon recommendation of the University Senate  
**Frederick Walker Cline**  
has been admitted to the Degree of  
Bachelor of Science in Agriculture  
and is entitled to all rights and honors thereto appertaining  
Witness the Seal of the University and the signatures of its Officers  
this fifteenth day of February, nineteen hundred forty-eight

*Park Livingston*  
President of the Board of Trustees

*Lloyd S. Stuckert*  
President of the University

*William J. ...*  
Secretary of the Board of Trustees



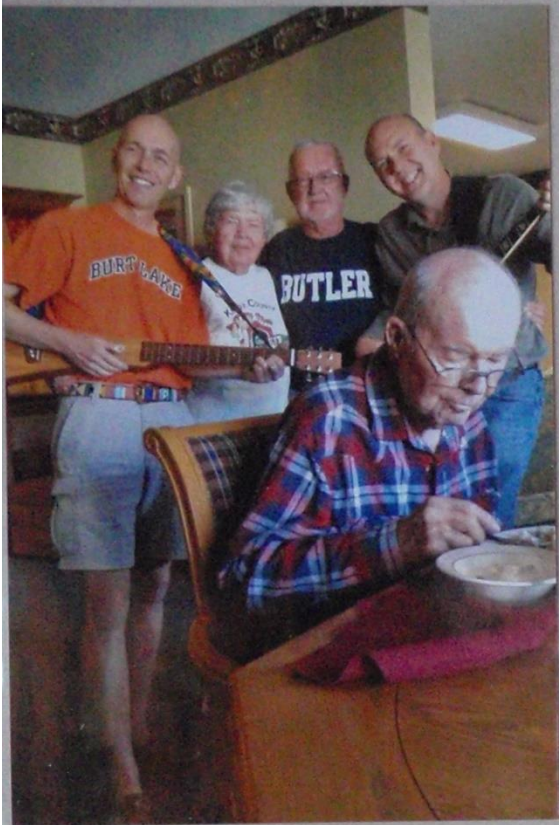
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**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS**  
and upon recommendation of the University Senate  
**Frederick Walker Cline**  
has been admitted to the Degree of  
Master of Science  
and is entitled to all rights and honors thereto appertaining  
Witness the Seal of the University and the signatures of its Officers  
this twentieth day of June, nineteen hundred forty-nine

*Louise E. Williamson*  
President of the Board of Trustees

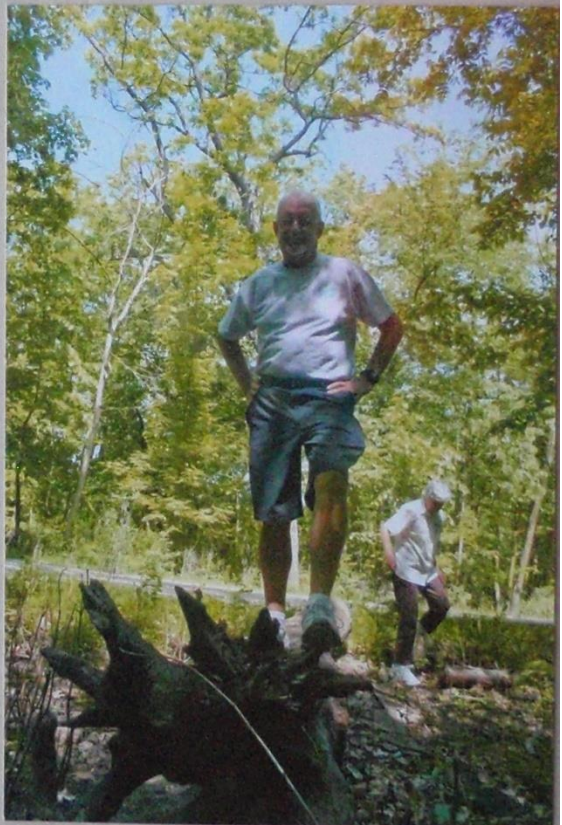
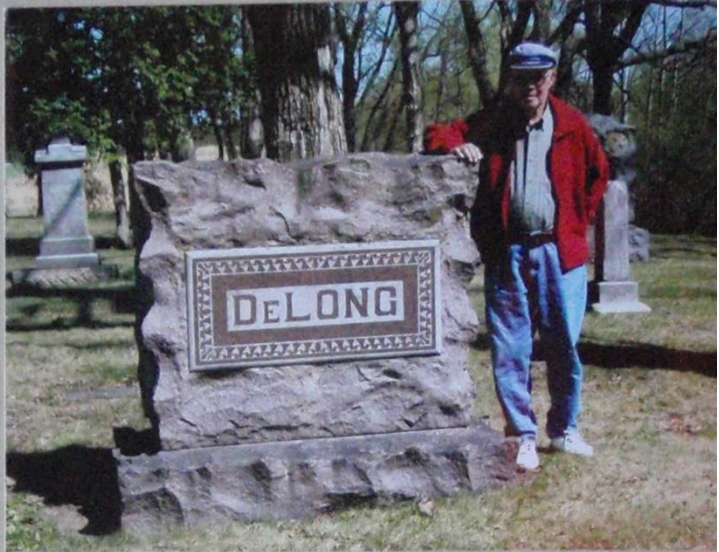
*Lloyd S. Stuckert*  
President of the University

*William J. ...*  
Secretary of the Board of Trustees





*Special visitors at Clare-Bridge*



*Sam & Marilyn at Rice Lake*







Frederick  
Cline



# **STAR OF HOPE**

"I carry your heart (I carry it in  
my heart)..."  
-E.E. Cummings

Sunday, December 2, 2012  
DayBreak Community Church  
Owatonna, MN





*The United States of America  
honors the memory of  
Frederick W. Cline*

*This certificate is awarded by a grateful  
nation in recognition of devoted and  
selfless consecration to the service  
of our country in the Armed Forces  
of the United States.*

*President of the United States*

# Memorial Day Program



**10:30 a.m.**  
**May 27, 2013**



Following the 9:30 a.m. Parade  
Four Seasons Centre - Owatonna, MN

**RAIN OR SHINE**

Advancement of Nat'l & State Flags .....	VFW Color Guard
National Emblem March .....	Owatonna High School Band
President of the Day .....	Peter Guenther, Director
Marshall of the Day .....	Dave Thul
	Dr. Harry Schmidt

## PROGRAM

Band Selection "Veterans Salute" .....	Owatonna High School Band
Invocation .....	Rev. Ron Wilson
Flag Raising .....	Chuck Stone & Mike Meyer
"National Anthem" .....	Owatonna High School Band
Pledge of Allegiance .....	Military Personnel Leading Pledge
"America the Beautiful" .....	Owatonna High School Band
Introduction of the Marshall of the Day .....	Dr. Harry Schmidt
Introduction of Distinguished Guests	
"Voice of Democracy" Winner .....	Kendra Schroeder
"Battle Hymn of the Republic", "Let There be Peace"	
& "Land That We Love" .....	Just Friends
"Patriots Pen" Winner .....	Jordan Schmidt
Memorial Service & Tributes-Marshall of the Day will place a wreath	
Band Selection "Hymn to the Fallen" .....	Owatonna High School Band
★ President of the Day will read the Roll of the Veterans who Died in the Past Year	
Members of the Color Guard .....	VFW
Benediction .....	Rev. Ron Wilson
Firing Squad .....	VFW Color Guard
Taps .....	Berlyn Staska & Dan Brewster
Retirement of National & State Flags .....	American Legion Color Guard
National Emblem March .....	Owatonna High School Band

## Just Friends

Randy Lower, Dean Buendorf, Dale Krueger, Larry Crabtree,  
Dennis Mauer, Vern Wilker, Dale Loken, Charles Polebe,  
Roger Gzoskreutz and Doug Riskedahl

## Fred Cline

1924-2012



ABINGDON-Frederick Walker Cline was born Feb. 1, 1924, in Galesburg to Sam and Gladys (Walker) Cline and died Sept. 28, 2012, in Owatonna, Minn.

Aug. 14, 1949, he married Louise Harshbarger. They had three children, Patricia (Rick) Morozink, Sheryl (Gary) Lashley-Cline, and Rick (Mary) Cline. Louise preceded Fred, and in 2000 he married Norma Nelle (Wagner) Swanson, who survives.

He attended school through eighth grade in Delong and graduated from Abingdon High School in 1942. He attended Blackburn College in Carlinville. His education was interrupted by WWII.

He received Basic Training in Georgia and served in Patton's 4th Armored Division in France and was awarded the Bronze Star. After the war in Europe ended, he was sent to the Pacific where he served in the Philippines.

During the Korean conflict, he was recalled into the Army and served as education officer in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Fred attended Knox College in Galesburg and earned his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Agriculture at the University of Illinois in Champaign. He started an AG Dept in Kewanee at the High School.

He returned to Delong/Abingdon area and started a fertilizer business, Cline Soil Service, which he owned and operated for 58 years. His logo stated "serving you since '52". Fred also worked as a rural Mail Carrier, as had his father. In addition, he farmed south of Abingdon. He later became a faculty member at Carl Sandburg Community College teaching Ag classes, and served on the Board of Trustees after retirement from teaching.

Fred played a very active role in Abingdon, serving on the Abingdon School Board, the City Council, and as a member of the Rotary Club. He was a member of the Abingdon Christian Church where he became an Elder Emeritus. He also served as Post Commander of American Legion Post #381, and belonged to the 33rd Consistory of Masons in Peoria and was a member of the Shrine.

Fred was preceded in death by a sister, Diane (Al) Noland. He is survived by sisters Eleanor (Jack) Gammon, and Marilyn (Cliff) Long, and a brother Sam (Jo) Cline, many nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews, and seven grandchildren: Sara (Gordon) Koenig, Mark (Rebecca) Morozink, Emily (Austin) Kilgore, Jennifer (Tim) Boylan, Eric Cline, Daniel Cline, Andrew Cline, five great-grandchildren and five step-children and seven step-grandchildren.

Like Will Rogers, Fred never met a stranger. He loved to talk, travel, teach, farm, work hard, walk, whistle, sing, read, visit, play cards, and tell war stories.

There will be a Memorial Service in Abingdon at the Christian Church Oct. 20, 2012 at 2 p.m. A private burial will be held at Meridian Cemetery.

Memorials may be given to Galesburg Rescue Mission, Abingdon Christian Church, Abingdon Public Library, Abingdon Public Schools, or donor's choice.



## Frederick W. "Fred" Cline (1924 - 2012)

### Obituary

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He attended school through eighth grade in DeLong, Ill., and graduated from Abingdon High School, Abingdon, Ill., in 1942. He attended Blackburn College in Carlinville, Ill. His education was interrupted by World War II.

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Like Will Rogers, Fred never met a stranger. He loved to talk, travel, teach, farm, work hard, walk, whistle, sing, read, visit, play cards, and tell war stories.

There will be a memorial Service in Abingdon at the Christian Church on Oct. 20 at 2 p.m. A private burial will be held at Meridien Cemetery.

Memorials may be given to Galesburg Rescue Mission, Abingdon Christian Church, Abingdon Public Library, Abingdon Public Schools, or donor's choice.



Published in The Register-Mail on October 3, 2012

## BAR TER

By Sara Teasdale, 1933-

Life has loveliness to sell,  
All beautiful and splendid things,  
Blue waves whitened on a cliff,  
Soaring fire that sways and sings,  
And children's faces looking up  
Holding wonder like a cup.

Life has loveliness to sell,  
Music like a curve of gold,  
Scent of pine trees in the rain,  
Eyes that love you, arms that hold,  
And for your spirit's still delight,  
Holy thoughts that star the night.

Spend all you have for loveliness,  
Buy it and never count the cost;  
For one white singing hour of peace  
Count many a year of strife well lost,  
And for a breath of ecstasy  
Give all you have been, or could be.



## BIRTHDAYS 2009

### FRED CLINE

**ABINGDON** — Fred Cline, 506 Maple, Abingdon, will celebrate his 85th birthday Sunday.

He was born Feb. 1, 1924, in Galesburg. He married Louise Harshbarger on Aug. 14, 1949.

She is deceased. He later married Nelle Swanson of Owatonna, Minn., in August 2000.

He is the father of Patricia (Cline) and Rick Morozink of Woodstock; Sheryl (Cline) and Gary Lashley-Cline



Cline

of Galesburg; and Rick and Mary (Polite) Cline of Orion. He has seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

He attended elementary school in Delong and is a graduate of Abingdon High School. He earned a B.S. and M.S. from the University of Illinois and served in the Army during World War II and the Korean War. Fred started Cline Soil Service in Abingdon in 1952 and still operates the business.

The family would like to honor him with a card shower in lieu of a reception; no gifts please.







4.28.2013  
Hospice Service of Remembrance  
One family member read each name  
while another lighted the candle.  
Afterwards, at dusk, in light misty rain, we  
each released a balloon in memor of our  
loved one. It was a lovely sight & memory







SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

DayBreak Community Church, Owatonna, MN

April 28, 2013

(Please place a picture of your loved one near candles on the front tables)

WELCOME.....Franchon Pirkl, Hospice Chaplain

SONG: "Remember Me" by Mark Schultz.....Tammi and Michael Ferch, vocalists  
with Sandy Brooks, accompanist

"MESSAGE OF HOPE" .....Linda Lehmann, guest speaker

SONG: "Light A Candle" .....by Paul Alexander

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES.....Laura McKibbin  
Hospice Social Worker

(Each family will be invited to say the name of their loved one and light a candle in memory)

SONG: "You Are So Beautiful" by Bob Dillon.....Tammi and Michael Ferch, vocalists  
with Sandy Brooks, accompanist

LITANY OF COMMEMORATION.....by James E. Miller  
Representatives of the Hospice Team

**(please read the "All" response in bold print)**



"You Are So Beautiful" (by Bob Dillon)

You are so beautiful  
To me  
You are so beautiful  
To me  
Can't you see  
You're everything I hoped for  
You're everything I need  
You are so beautiful  
To me

"Remember Me" (by Mark Schultz)

Remember me  
In a Bible cracked and faded by the years  
Remember me  
in a sanctuary filled with silent prayers

**CHORUS:**

And age to age  
And heart to heart  
Bound by grace and peace  
Child of wonder, Child of God

I'll remember you

Remember Me

Remember me

When the color of the sunset fills the sky

Remember me

When you pray and the tears of joy  
fall from your eyes

**CHORUS**

Remember me

When the children leave  
their Sunday school with smiles

Remember me

When they're old enough to teach  
Old enough to preach

Old enough to leave

**CHORUS**

Age to age and heart to heart

Child of wonder child of God

"Light A Candle" by Paul Alexander

And I will light a candle for you. To shatter all the darkness and bless the times we knew.  
Like a beacon in the night. The flame will burn bright and guide us on our way.  
Oh, today I light a candle for you.

The seasons come and go. And I'm weary from the change. I keep on moving on, you know  
it's not the same. And when I'm walking all alone, do you hear me call your name?  
Do you hear me sing the songs we use to sing?

You filled by life with wonder, touched me with surprise. Always saw that something special  
deep within your eyes. And through the good times and the bad, We carried on with pride.  
I hold onto the love and life we knew

"Blessings" by Laura Story

We pray for blessings  
We pray for peace  
Comfort for family, protection while we sleep  
We pray for healing, for prosperity  
We pray for Your mighty hand to ease our suffering  
All the while, You hear each spoken need  
Yet love us way too much to give us lesser things

'Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops  
What if Your healing comes through tears  
What if a thousand sleepless nights  
Are what it takes to know You're near  
What if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise

We pray for wisdom  
Your voice to hear  
And we cry in anger when we cannot feel You near  
We doubt Your goodness, we doubt Your love  
As if every promise from Your Word is not enough  
All the while, You hear each desperate plea  
And long that we have faith to believe

'Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops  
What if Your healing comes through tears  
What if a thousand sleepless nights  
Are what it takes to know You're near  
And what if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise

When friends betray us  
When darkness seems to win  
We know that pain reminds this heart  
That this is not, this is not our home  
It's not our home

'Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops  
What if Your healing comes through tears  
And what if a thousand sleepless nights  
Are what it takes to know You're near  
What if my greatest disappointments  
Or the aching's of this life  
Is the revealing of a greater thirst this world can't satisfy  
And what if trials of this life  
The rain, the storms, the hardest nights  
Are Your mercies in disguise