



Raymond "Ray" Kurtz

September 15, 1919 - June 14, 2012



Raymond "Ray" Kurtz, age 92, of Storm Lake, Iowa died Thursday, June 14, 2012 at Allen Hospital in Waterloo, Iowa.

In 1942, Ray entered the U.S. Navy during World War II. He proudly served his country on the USS Kitty Hawk, the USS Casablanca and the USS Hogatt Bay. During his service, Ray received numerous awards and honors. He was honorably discharged in 1945.

On April 20, 1946, Ray was united in marriage to Nadine Elaine Loveland. This union was blessed with three children: Gary, Katherine and Mary.

Ray worked as a Trooper for the Iowa State Highway Patrol for 33 years. He served in numerous capacities and helped train new troopers. He was a member of the Storm Lake United Methodist Church. In his spare time, Ray enjoyed woodworking, reading and working in the garden. More than anything, he loved and adored his family and the time they spent together.

Article and photo from the Spring 2010 Blue Knights® News Letter

Ray Kurtz is the oldest member of the Blue Knights® Iowa Chapter IV at 90 years of age. Ray enjoys being able to rub shoulders with other members who share the same values, experiences, and interests. His love for family, country, freedom, and loyalty are values that are very important to Ray. Since the functions of the club are family oriented, he believes the Lady Knights are an important component of the organization as their participation helps strengthen those family values.



Ray has been in uniform most of his life. He first donned a uniform in the Navy serving before, during, and after World War II. After completing his Navy tour, he worked for a city police department, and then joined the Iowa Highway Patrol in August of 1951. Ray retired from the Iowa State Patrol in June of 1984 after serving for 33 ½ years.

Ray has been riding motorcycles since 1974 when he bought his first motorcycle, a Harley Davidson Liberty full dresser, which he remembers cost him \$4200. He later sold this motorcycle to his son. Ray is on his fourth motorcycle since starting to ride. His current motorcycle is a Honda GL1800 three-wheeler, which he enjoys riding.

Those who know Ray know he is a serious rider. Temperatures were cool on the day of the November Blue Knights® Iowa Chapter IV meeting with highs in the 40's. Approximately 14 members were present that day, and Ray was the only one who rode his motorcycle to the meeting.

Ray offers these bits of wisdom as the secrets to his good life: get your butt off the couch, exercise, keep the head busy, work hard, sleep good, eat good, and go to church on Sunday.