



## John "Jack" Frederick Theobald Mostert Jr.

November 7, 1925 - April 11, 2022

John (Jack) Frederick Theobald Mostert, age 96, passed away peacefully with family by his side on April 11, 2022. Born to Johannes Frederick Theobald and Lucy (Stallings) on November 7, 1925 in Potchefstroom, South Africa. Preceded in death by his wife Charlotte (Zdzinicki) Mostert, son Michael Mostert and grandson Nicholas Mostert. Survived by his brother Paul, Lexington, KY, children Susan(Josh) Meiss, Normal, IL, (Trang) Mostert, Vietnam, Alan (Julie) Mostert, Melbourne, FL, Mark (Nancy) Mostert, Monee, IL, Ruth (Don) Pellegrini, Steger, IL, Tim (Natania) Mostert, Pretoria, South Africa and foster daughter Mary (Kevin) Burr, Mountain Home, AR, 31 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren, many nieces and nephews, his dear brothers and sisters in the Lord, and his special calico cat April Patches.

Previous owner of Artisan Signs in Riverdale, Illinois, Jack was a favorite sign man to countless businesses in the Chicagoland area. An artist from a young age, Jack's first job at 16 was blowing neon with a sign company in Memphis, TN. At the start of WW2 began Cadet Training in the army Air Corps and in December 1943 was commissioned to Army Air Corp. Finished navigator training in 1945 and was about to be sent to Japan when the bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, and he was sent home.

In 1951 he received a letter to report for the Korean War. He responded "I'm in school at the Art Institute of Chicago. Shall I report for duty or wait for further orders?" The Air Force replied "Wait for further orders." Jack would joke even into his 90s that he was still waiting!

In 1955 a Navigator Unit opened at O'Hare Airport, so Jack joined the active Reserves to keep his Navigator skills. Served in the Air Force Reserves through the entire Vietnam conflict, transporting units supplying the war effort on the front lines. Retired as a Major in December 1980 after 20 years of service in the active Air Force Reserves.

Jack was not afraid of heights. As a sign man he painted many high, brick walls with ads for businesses, dangerous train overpasses, and even lettered water towers into his 80s. Travelled to Mount Rushmore at the age of 92. He related to the men who carved the presidents from stone.

A beekeeper for over 40 years supplying honey to his family and friends. The Nature Centers of Story Book Lodge Christian Camp, Gilbert, Minnesota, Lake Geneva Youth Camp, Wisconsin were able to see a hive encased in clear polycarbonate viewing the buzzing bees and trying to find the queen, and lessons were given to the children by Jack. These camps as well as Circle Y Ranch in Bangor, Michigan received painted signs and other acts of generosity through the years.

As a young father of three Jack would say that he was an agnostic but that changed when he met the men at Laflin Street Gospel Chapel in the Englewood area of Chicago. Jack gave his life to the Lord Jesus Christ and spent the rest of his life serving Him. When most of the churches moved to the suburbs during the "white flight" of the early 1960s, Jack and five other white men stayed at Laflin Street where the Sunday School was growing rapidly with black children. It is the only church we know of in the area that has always had a white presence. Jack is the last of those six men to depart to heaven. He listened to his final church service with his dear Laflin Chapel family on Zoom the day before he died.

Many lives were changed, touched, and saved because of Jack and Charlotte Mostert and their love for those who came to know them. Racial reconciliation was a way of life for Jack and Char who led by example. Jack's quiet, kind, generous, faithful, patient, forgiving, long suffering, peaceful, sharp, witty personality and contagious smile will be dearly missed. But we will see him again when we depart this world, as we learned from him how to please the Lord. Please join us in remembering this man we dearly loved.

Visitation for John "Jack" Frederick Mostert will be held on Sunday, May 8, from 2:00 p.m.-8:00 pm at Kurtz Memorial Chapel, 65 Old Frankfort Way, Frankfort, IL and at St. Paul M.B. Church, 1404 S. Briggs Street, Joliet, IL on Monday, May 9, from 10:00 a.m. until time of Funeral Service at 11:00 a.m. to Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, 20953 W. Hoff Road, Elwood, IL for Committal at 1:30 p.m. Per church policy, masks are required on Monday, May 9 at St. Paul's MB Church. For information or to sign guestbook visit [heartlandmemorial.com](http://heartlandmemorial.com) or call Heartland Memorial Center at 708-444-2266.

Funeral meal at The Renaissance Center, 214 Ottawa Street, Joliet, IL after as Jack requested, an open mic will be available during the meal for sharing.

Please R.S.V.P if attending meal with names. Text/call Ruth (708)307-7333

Also as requested by Jack, all locations are convenient to the other with no more than 10 to 15 minutes from church to cemetery to banquet.

# Cemetery Details

## Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery

20953 W. Hoff Road  
Elwood, IL 60421

## Previous Events

### Visitation

**MAY 8.** 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Kurtz Memorial Chapel (Frankfort)  
65 Old Frankfort Way  
P.O Box 1031  
Frankfort, IL 60423  
(708) 444-2266  
info@heartlandmemorial.com  
<https://www.heartlandmemorial.com/>

### Visitation

**MAY 9.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Paul's Missonary Baptist Church  
1404 S. Briggs St.  
Joliet, IL 60433

### Funeral service

**MAY 9.** 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Paul's Missonary Baptist Church  
1404 S. Briggs St.  
Joliet, IL 60433

### Committal service

**MAY 9.** 1:30 PM (CT)

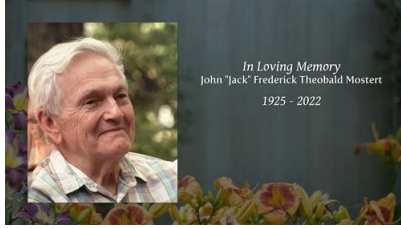
Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery  
20953 W. Hoff Road  
Elwood, IL 60421



# Tribute Wall



“ Heartland Memorial Center created a Tribute Video in memory of John "Jack" Frederick Theobald Mostert Jr.



Heartland Memorial Center - May 09, 2022 at 12:08 AM



*As I watched this video, so many memories flooded through my mind. We grew up with the Mostert kids up at Storybook and then when I went to Emmaus, their home became my second home. They would drive all the way across the city so that I could spend weekends with them. I have never met anyone more generous with their time, energy and resources. When we would return on furloughs, we would always try to stop and see them in Riverdale. Then they moved to Steger but preferred their house in Riverdale. When we came back from the Middle East they sensed we really needed a break from traveling and speaking so they sent us to their Steger house, told us to rest and that the freezer was full of food at our disposal. I will never forget them and I thank God that He gave me the joy of not only knowing them but for my few years at Laffin.*

Kathy Stephenson - May 10, 2022 at 11:12 PM



*What beautiful memories Kathy. Thanks for sharing and may God bless you and your family abundantly! Ruthie*

Ruth Pellegrini - December 19, 2022 at 12:23 PM



“ *After the time at Mark's house we will be escorted to the Abraham Lincoln Cemetery to see the completed tombstone and remember Dad and Mom yet again!!*

Ruth Pellegrini - June 28, 2022 at 11:11 PM



“ Kathy, you held a special place in the hearts of both Mom and Dad. And me!! We love you and thank you for allowing us to be a second home for you. Your kind words have brought comfort to us. We have 2 more celebrations this year to honor Dad so see if you can make one of them! Because there were a couple blunders where people went to the wrong locations and missed the funeral and the Patriot Riders motorcycle group somehow didn't get to the funeral to escort Dads body to the cemetery (even though we requested it!) we are having the Patriot Riders come out to my brother Marks house in Monee, IL on Saturday August 27th at noon where a flag and certificate will be presented and will have a small ceremony honoring Dad. Tim is planning to come again from South Africa and receive that flag. Then, because Uncle Paul, Dads brother passed away right before Dad's funeral and was buried days after Dad, we cousins missed eachothers uncles funerals so he Patriot Riders are also going to Melbourne, Florida on December 10th where Alan will be presented with a flag in honor of Dad and our cousin Kay will also receive a flag in honor of Uncle Paul. We are hoping more of our cousins will be able to make it. Will be sending out the info with the thank you notes for these other celebrations of Dads life. So Dad is being celebrated all year long!! All things work together for good to those who love God; to those who are the called according to His purpose.

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Ruth Pellegrini - June 28, 2022 at 11:09 PM

BH

“ Jack and Charlotte loved God, and they loved their neighbor, as Jesus told us to do. They were like father and mother to many people, including me. They raised six children of their own, but anyone who entered their home soon became No. 7.

Yes, it's sad to say goodbye, but they have left us only for a while. Their love — God's love — lives on, in this world and the next.

My sincere condolences to the Mostert clan,

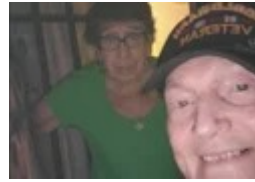
Bill Hoelzel

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Bill Hoelzel - May 06, 2022 at 09:38 AM

FC

“ I’ve never met a person with more unique accolades as Jack had . At 90 when we met He was still adding to his life. Always sharp, always ready, Always swimming, Always game, always smiling, Always making his own pancakes, always sharing, always faithful. It’s been a joy for me to share moments with him and it always will be. We will see you when the Saints go marching in LV FLO 🙏



Floria Christine - April 30, 2022 at 10:00 AM



Thank you Flo. We sure had a great time on that trip!! So glad Dad was always willing to live to the fullest and take those trips!!

Ruth Pellegrini - April 30, 2022 at 06:32 PM

CL

“ Will miss our chats on the way home from doctor visits. Couldn't take him home without treating him to an ice cream. Sundae. God rest your beautiful soul. Jack Will definitely miss your sweet smile. 😊



Clare - April 27, 2022 at 08:45 PM



Clare, Dad loved those ice cream sundaes you got him! And he enjoyed you so much. I always knew Dad would be well taken care of when you were able to fill in for me. You are "caregiver extraordinaire!!!" Thank you for being such a good friend too. Love ya!

Ruth Pellegrini - April 30, 2022 at 06:35 PM