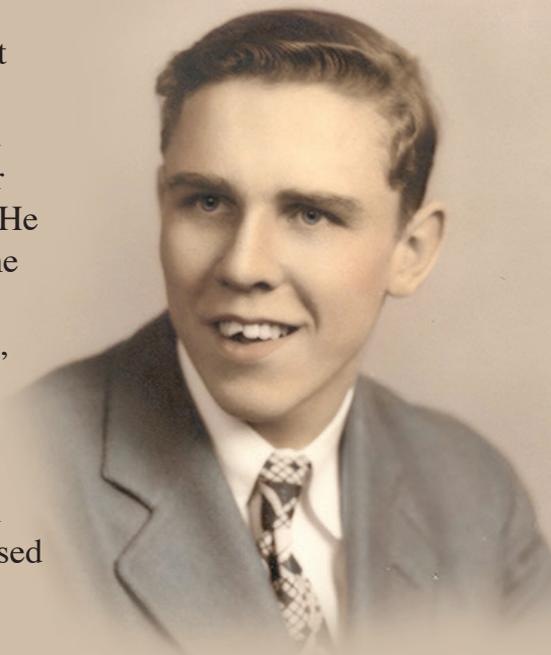




In Loving Memory of
Louis H. Moeves

June 11, 1928 - March 21, 2023

How do you write a life story about your Dad, your hero? Louis H. Moeves was an amazing father and demonstrated what a good provider and leader should be to his family. He set the bar high for others who came into his family members' lives. He was driven, organized, competitive, frugal, and persistent. When he wanted something to happen, he would stick with it until it was accomplished. Blessed to have him for 94 years, he will be greatly missed by all who loved him.



Lou was born on June 11, 1928, to Louis and Alice (Wilson) Moeves in their Newport home. Soon a sister Margaret was born in 1929, and a brother, Fred, in 1932. His Dad was a shoe repair man but worked hard at anything that would bring in money. During the Great Depression times were tough for most families. Roosevelt had a WPA program to help needy families, and Louis worked on the roads to provide for his family.



Lou was a great big brother. He played sports with Fred and could defend himself well when the neighborhood kids made fun of him. He remembers showing his siblings the Christmas present hiding place. He said they always had big Christmases, and Lou recalled they never asked for anything they didn't get. In later years, Lou continued the tradition with his own family.



In 1940, tragedy struck the Moeves family when Lou's sister, Margaret, was well on Friday and died on Sunday from glomerulonephritis, a sudden illness that

can be cured by antibiotics today. Alice was devastated and never got over the loss. Louis moved the family to Ludlow, Kentucky and opened another shoe repair shop. Lou went to live with his Grandma Gertie so he could continue going to school and finish in Newport Elementary through the 6th grade. Lou thought of his grandmother as a second mother. When she died at 49, Lou suffered another traumatic loss.



In Ludlow, the Moeves Family lived in a shotgun house. The shoe shop was in the front; Lou helped his father at the shop. He remembered all the kids sleeping in the same bed, and the family dog, Midge, was his constant companion. He was so attached to Midge, he carried a picture of the dog in his wallet through the years... not pictures of his family but of the dog! Lou was always a dog person and was thrilled when his own children had dogs he could enjoy.

When Lou was in the 7th grade, he met the love of his life, Jean Vastine. She asked him to a Sadie Hawkins dance. They continued to date throughout high school and became prom King and queen their Junior year. They were terrific dancers and loved nothing more than hopping on the Island Queen and heading to Moonlight Gardens.

Throughout Lou's life, sports were a dominating factor. He played



baseball, basketball, and football. He excelled and was extremely competitive. He loved to win and always wanted to be the best, but also loved the camaraderie of the teams. He was an excellent bowler with an above-average 200, and he competed in the Petersen Classic in Chicago each year. Nothing made Lou prouder than being inducted into the Northern Kentucky Sports Hall of Fame as well as the Ludlow Hall of fame.

He prided himself conversing with anyone on sports stats or specific players. He could even recall sports records from years gone by. Margie, his eldest daughter loved talking with Lou about her latest golf exploits. He was always engaged if sports were involved.

Lou's parents decided they needed a change in an effort to escape the pain of losing Margaret. They moved to Huey, Illinois to be close to Alice's aunt. Lou moved in with his Aunt Katie in Dayton, KY, and commuted to school. He also was hosted by the McCarthys, a classmate's parents. Lou kept playing sports and continued to work hard in school. Lou graduated in 1946 from Ludlow High School.

Following graduation, Lou joined the family in Huey where he began laying tracks on the railroad with his father. Lou decided he would join the United States Army in October 1946. He went to Fort Knox for basic training, and then was transferred across the Pacific Ocean by troop carrier to Yokohama, Japan. When Lou arrived, a lieutenant gave a pep talk about how great it was to be a paratrooper. He told the group they would train in the mornings and play athletics in the afternoons with an additional \$50 per month jump in pay.





That checked all of Lou's boxes, sports and more money! He played on both the fast pitch softball team and the basketball team.

During paratrooper training, Lou was usually first man out. He remembered being told, "Don't look down," then added, "but of course he did!" He looked out and saw water but thought there may be a wind correction. Thankfully, the buzzer went off and the jump master grabbed him. They were off course and

it could have been deadly. Lou said he turned white as a sheet!



When Lou returned home, he and Jean picked out a ring at his Aunt Hilda's jewelry store. The happy couple married on November 20, 1948, and were blessed to have celebrated over 74 years together! He happily played semi-pro

baseball every Sunday to earn an extra \$10.

In 1950, Lou was recalled in the Army during the Korean War. He served as a clerk and attended accounting school. Lou was a whiz at numbers and could come up with the total before a calculator could. Lou thought it was ridiculous that he was serving in Germany while the war was going on in Korea! He had a young bride at home so while the other service members were goofing off, Lou kept his nose to the grindstone, and was proud that he scored the highest grade on the accounting exam.





When Lou returned home, he and Jean settled in an attic apartment with a shared bath. Margaret “Margie” was born June 1952. They then moved to Hebron, Kentucky. Marsha was born in 1957, and Michele in 1960. Three daughters to an uber athlete! In later years, he commented that he was lucky to have his girls because they took good care of him.



When the Moeves Family moved to Villa Drive in Villa Hills, life seemed ideal. It was a wonderful neighborhood where they made life-long friends. Lou worked at Western Southern Life Insurance Company where he was climbing the corporate ranks. Each night Jean would have a delicious dinner on the table by 4:45pm. He would quickly eat and then head out to a sports activity. Some nights it was for bowling, others softball was on tap. Jean would bundle up the girls and follow his adventures. Lou could be somewhat of a hot head.



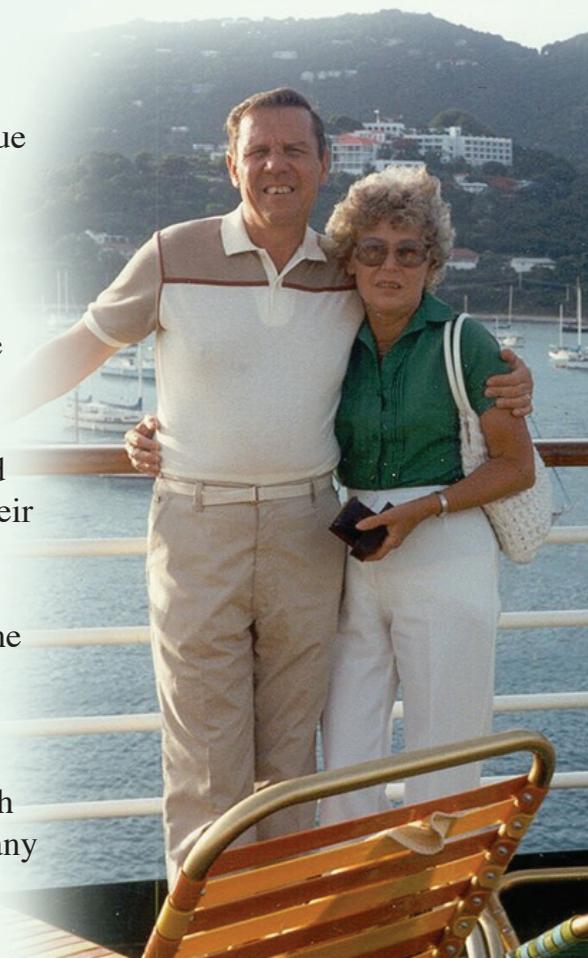


Once, after challenging an umpire, he was ejected from the game and was heading off the field just as Jean and the girls were arriving.

Lou was an excellent father who held his girls to high standards. He always gave 150% so he expected his girls to do the same. They in turn never wanted to disappoint their dad. He attended all their school events, proudly watching cheerleading and band competitions. He continued this tradition with his grandchildren. He taught the girls how to play ball and was thrilled when their teams won.

Christmases were always memorable. Extended family gathered at the house for barbecue and festivities. Lou would load up the car and take the family to midnight Christmas Eve church service. On Christmas morning, Lou would announce it was time and the girls would march down the steps and wave to the movie camera. Presents overflowed and the girls were spoiled with all their hearts' desires.

Church was an integral part of the Moeves household. On Sundays there was no discussion. You attended Sunday School and church. Lou served on the church council and was treasurer for many years. He took the role seriously



and believed in being a good steward of the budget. He also played on the church ball team and coached the girls team.



Each year vacations consisted of trips to St. Petersburg Beach. Often, they would vacation with his brother's family or other friends, like the Riffles and the Kindreds. Lou always extended an invitation to his parents. One year, he loaded up the family sedan with his parents and his family, a total of seven. Marsha and Michele got the privilege of alternating sitting on a bucket between the back seats for the entire trip! Once there, it was a joyous time.



Lou loved the horses and loved to study the racing forms. He enjoyed attending the races at River Downs, Latonia and Keenland. He was a disciplined bettor. He never went beyond his budget and was thrilled when he won. The family often joked that he always had the winner at the Kentucky Derby because he bet every horse!



No story about Lou would be complete without noting his care of his automobiles.





They were always maintained to the highest level and had a brilliant shine. Michele remembers when she and Terri Beuttel pushed Lou's car up the hill during snowy weather so he could get to work! He loved each of his cars and actually picked his casket during prearrangements because it looked a lot like his favorite Buick!



In 1987, Lou was happy to retire from Western Southern as a Vice President at the age of 58. He and Jean purchased a condo in St. Petersburg and were able to become snowbirds for 30 years with their NKY home becoming a condo in Fort Wright Trace. They loved the condo and were able to just pick up and leave anytime.



Nothing excited Lou more than to spend time with his grandkids: Matthew, Meredith, Michael, Chad, Andy, Mavis, Paige, Louis, and Annie. Later, his great grandchildren: Christian, Dominic, Eliza, Reid, Sophia, Phoebe, Alanna, Rylan, Althea and Faye. He always got a kick out of their antics and especially liked not having to be the parent. He attended all their games and tournaments and was their biggest cheerleader. Sadly, he





had to watch his own daughter, Michele, experience what his mother had when grandson, Andy, died in a car accident on August 7, 2004. Lou could offer loving support to his daughter.

In retirement, Jean and Lou had an active social life. They played cards with friends and took weekend trips. In 1983, they joined Ryland Lakes Country Club where they could play golf. They participated in many of the club social events and Lou was always the first to sign up for a golf tournament. When competitions got heated, Lou would remain laser focused and deliver the win.

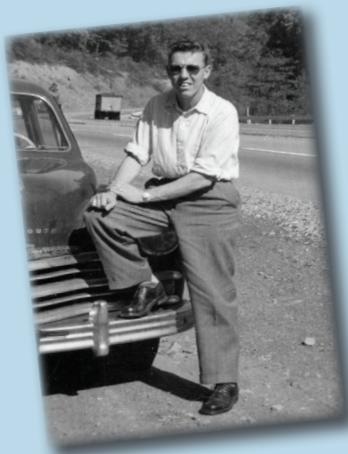
Lou and Jean loved spending time with family and were always up for an adventure. Together they traveled to Italy, France, Ireland, Mexico, and Alaska. The family took cruises and enjoyed time at Gatlinburg, Michigan, Napa, Augusta, Acadia Park and Lake Cumberland. Lou even learned to ski at the young age of 55!

Lou and Fred competed each Thursday in the senior golf league. Lou volunteered as treasurer and kept meticulous records. He was thrilled when they came in first place at the young ages of 90 and 93! The day before he died, Lou called Fred and told him they needed to practice before the league started up in April.





Recently, Lou underwent surgery at University Hospital for cancer of the neck. He came through with flying colors and amazed the medical staff. He recovered completely and continued to care for Jean, who was dealing with her own health struggles. Lou assumed a role reversal and became the cook, laundryman, and caregiver. Luckily, they found a kind caring woman, Suz Robrooks who cared for them like a daughter. He remained deeply devoted to Jean and would pat her hand and tell her how much he loved her. Theirs was a forever love story.



Sadly, Lou died unexpectedly at home on March 21, 2023.

Lou Moeves would want to be remembered as a “Hall of Fame” individual who cared for his wife, daughters, grandchildren and friends. He was a loyal servant to the Lord and will be deeply missed.

Story written by Marsha Linnemann



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