



Hans Klecker

August 30, 1932 - May 26, 2025

Hans Klecker died on May 26, 2025, after surviving challenges through faith in God and family. Born on August 30, 1932, in the village of Klek, Yugoslavia, to John and Maria Klecker, he had a happy childhood before World War II. As a youth, he survived the horrors of the war, first in Yugoslavia and then in Germany after the Soviets invaded his hometown.

In 1956, he emigrated to the United States, enlisting in the U.S. Army before he knew a single word in English. After he was honorably discharged, he went back to Germany for a time, working as a plasterer and painter before rejoining his family in Pittsburgh, PA. He worked for John Unertl Optical Company, making rifle scopes for the United States Marine Corp. and windows for NASA. It was there that he met the love of his life, Marie Starkowicz. He married her in 1969, and they had their only daughter in 1970. He was a hard-working man who always put his faith and his family first. He survived prostate cancer in 2000 and then moved to Mooresville, NC, to be closer to his daughter and son-in-law.

In 2017, he survived the heartbreak of losing his wife to a sudden stroke. In 2019, he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's and fought it with the stubbornness those who love him adored. He didn't let it stop him from puttering in the yard, enjoying beach trips or rearranging everything in the house, repeatedly. After forgetting his age, he happily told everyone he met in these later years that he was 100.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Marie, and his sister, Hilda.

He is survived by his daughter, Theresa Stukbauer, and his grandson, Steven Stukbauer, as well as nieces, Judy Iszauk and Gabriele Billingsly and a nephew, Herman Blatz.

A funeral mass will be held at 11:00 AM, Saturday, May 31, 2025, at St. Therese Catholic Church, Mooresville. Burial will follow the mass at Glenwood Memorial Park.

Cavin-Cook Funeral Home, Mooresville is proudly serving the Klecker family.

Cemetery Details

Glenwood Memorial Park

273 Glenwood Drive
Mooresville, NC 28115

Previous Events

Mass

MAY 31. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Therese Catholic Church
217 Brawley School Road
Mooresville, NC 28117

Graveside Service

MAY 31. 12:15 PM - 12:45 PM (ET)

Glenwood Memorial Park
273 Glenwood Drive
Mooresville, NC 28115

Tribute Wall



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Hans Klecker.* ”



May 30, 2025 at 03:14 PM



“ *“Dad” was the sweetest and kindest man I’ve ever met. Always good for a hug, a smile, a laugh, even after he turned 100! He will be forever remembered and loved, living on through the kindness and sweetness of his daughter Trish and grandson Steven. Love you both. Hugs and prayers.* ”



amanda hall - May 29, 2025 at 08:59 PM



“ *Hans was a very caring and generous man. He frequently brought pastries to our office and enjoyed spending time there visiting. I would see him at church with his daughter and grandson. I will miss his kindness and generosity.* ”
Donna Olsen

Donna Olsen - May 28, 2025 at 05:23 PM

DP

“ I was Mr and Mrs Klecker's mail carrier when they lived on West wilson. They were a very sweet couple and he was at a loss when his wife passed. He was always out in the yard when i came around. Lost touch after he moved.

Debbie Plyler - May 27, 2025 at 06:59 PM