



William "Red" O'Keefe,

May 17, 1932 - August 9, 2012

At his home, with his loving family by his side August 9, 2012 William Francis "Red" O'Keefe, Sr. 80, of Hamden. Beloved husband of 57 years to Mary Jane (Collins) O'Keefe. Loving father of Linda Dillon (William) of Wallingford, William O'Keefe, Jr. (Gail) of Hamden, and Christopher O'Keefe, W.H.F.D. of West Haven, brother of Margaret Guerette (Sonny) of Clinton, Martin O'Keefe (Karen) of Hamden and David O'Keefe (Betsey) of East Haven, grandfather of Michael Dillon (Marianna) of Wallingford, Shannon Cornejo (Rodrigo) of Bedford, MA, William O'Keefe, III (Nina) of St. Louis Park, MN, Diane O'Keefe of Arlington, VA, Timothy O'Keefe of E. Long Meadow, MA, Christopher O'Keefe, Jr. of N. Branford, great grandfather of Nicholas and Anthony Dillon and Julio Cornejo. Also survived by his sister in laws Joan and Dorothy O'Keefe. Predeceased by brothers James O'Keefe, John O'Keefe, Sr., Jerry O'Keefe and a sister Catherine Flannery and her husband Thomas. Mr. O'Keefe was born May 17, 1932 in New Haven, son of the late James and Delia (Carey) O'Keefe. Red was the owner of First Avenue Sales and Service of West Haven for 20 years. He was employed by the CT. Motor Club in Hamden from 1975 until his retirement in 2011. He was well known as a West Haven Speedway Champion in the 1960's. His mechanical and woodworking skills were known to all. He will be missed by his family and friends for his kindness and generosity. Funeral from Sisk Brothers Funeral Home 3105 Whitney Ave. Hamden Monday at 9:30 am, Mass of Christian Burial at 10 am in St. Joan of Arc Church. Burial in All Saints Cemetery. Friends may call

Sunday from 3 - 7 pm. In lieu of flowers contributions to the St. Raphael Foundation, c/o Masotta Family Fund, 1450 Chapel St. New Haven, 06511. w www.siskbrothers.com

Tribute Wall

LA

“ *To the O'Keefe and Masotta families
May you be comforted by so many fond memories of Red -- mine especially are while working at AAA. What a great pillar for your family--carry on the legacy of a great man. Red, may your soul rest in peace. Condolences to all.*

Lisa Arpin - August 15, 2012 at 09:48 AM

RP

“ *SO SORRY TO HEAR ONE OF THE EARLY DAY STOCK CAR DRIVERS HAS PASSED. I HAD THE PLEASURE OF WATCHING HIM RACE AT A LOT OF TRACKS IN THE NORTHEAST. ALSO WORKED WITH HIM AT THE MOTOR CLUB. MAY HE REST IN PEACE. RAY PIANKA*

RAY PIANKA - August 13, 2012 at 06:18 PM

TG

“ *Linda, Bill, Michael, Shannon and family:
We are so sorry for the loss of your father. He will be missed by all those who he has touched through his lifetime.
Linda, if you need anything just come to the fence, I will be there to wipe the tears, share stories of his long racing career or just a hug.
with much affection,
Tammy and Joseph Granata*

Tammy Granata - August 12, 2012 at 09:41 PM

CW

“ I remember as a child going to the West Haven stock car races every Saturday night. He drove and maintained the "69" for which he won numerous races not only because of his great skill but because he had great integrity and honesty in the sport. My uncle, Ronald Steeves, who owned the car, had great respect for Red as did all of us. He had a wonderful reputation in the sport and also about himself, always nice to everyone. There is a picture of Red behind the wheel of the 69 at the West Haven museum, those were the days!!!!!!!!!!!!!! God bless Red and his family.

Charlotte Kilberg Wright - August 11, 2012 at 01:11 PM

RT

“ Our deepest sympathy to the O'Keefe family. Bob and I had the pleasure of working with Red at AAA. He was a happy, always smiling, wonderful person. He will be deeply missed.

Robert and Yvonne Tosetti - August 10, 2012 at 02:40 PM

GJ

“ I am sorry to hear of Red's passing. I used to love stopping out at the North Haven garage and catching up with Red when I could. It was great to get him talking about the old days, stock car racing and the various crazy projects that he was asked to take on. Of course, he could always fix or build whatever was needed. My deepest condolences to his family and friends.

Glenn Johanson - August 10, 2012 at 01:40 PM

JG

“ To the O'Keefe family from the Godfrey's so sorry for your loss. If you need anything please call. He was a great man that touched many hearts. I see a part of him in all of you. I know that the memories will keep him alive in all our hearts. With deepest sympathy the Godfrey's.

jackie godfrey - August 09, 2012 at 09:32 PM