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# BE IT EVER SO HUMBLE...

The Illini Mets, The Illinois Chapter of the Metropolitan Owners Club of North America  
**Remembering Ken McDuffee**

SPECIAL ISSUE IN MEMORY OF KEN MCDUFFEE



## *Special Interest Articles:*

- Remembering  
Ken McDuffee

## **Contributing This Quarter:**

Emily Darak,  
Karen St. Clair  
and Bob  
Greenlee

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011 members of the Illini Mets were saddened to learn of the passing of one of our founding members. Ken McDuffee died at the age of 91 on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 at Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield. Ken and his wife Etta were a driving force in the organizing of the Illini Mets club. Ken and Etta are the longest continuous active members of our club. Ken served as our first president from 1979 to 1980, then as vice-president from 1987 to 1989. Ken was raised on a farm in Illinois with 11 brothers and sisters. In 1942 at the age of 23 he supervised a crew of welders in the building of LST's (landing craft used in both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters of WW2). In 1944 he joined the Army and served in Europe under General George Patton and was honorably discharged in 1946. Marge and I first met Ken and Etta in 1996 at Gary and Rosie Bosselman's when we joined Illini Mets. Ken was wearing his trademark white military style Met shirt. He would wear these shirts to our club meeting and events. In life

Ken was a true gentleman and he will be greatly missed by all of us.

Robert Greenlee President,  
Illini Mets.



Bob Greenlee, Pres.

## REMEMBERING KEN



Kenneth McDuffee, age 91, a resident of Carol Stream, IL, died July 3, 2011, at Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield, IL. He was born September 23, 1919 in Flora, IL.

Kenneth was the son of a Methodist minister. He was one of 10 boys and 2 girls raised on a farm in Flora, Illinois. In 1942, Kenneth supervised 35 men in electric welding of the LST ships in Seneca, Illinois that carried troops and equipment to the battlefield. Two years later, he was inducted into the US Army, (serving under General George S. Patton, 3rd Army Division) and was honorably discharged in 1946. Kenneth spent most of his career working as a heating and air conditioning contractor.

Over the years, Kenneth pursued a variety of interests: ECHO Dance Club (with wife, Dorothy), target archery, bow hunting to name a few. He has been a member of the Loyal Order of Moose, (Batavia Lodge 682) for 47 years. In 1971, Kenneth received the highest score ever awarded for the Past Governor position of the LOOM Ritual Competition held in Chicago at the annual Moose Convention. For several years, Kenneth served as a ritual competition judge for the Illinois Moose Association. Kenneth and his wife, Etta, were very involved with the Metropolitan Owners Club of America and were the founding officers of the Illinois Chapter, the Illini Mets.

He is survived by his wife, Etta McDuffee; his daughter, Sharon (Kerry) Breeden of Crestview, FL; four grandchildren; a great-granddaughter; and his sister, Naomi Hampton of Edmon, OK.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Dorothy McDuffee; his daughter, Angie McDuffee; and many brothers and sisters.

A visitation will be held Friday, July 8, 2011 from 4-8 p.m. at Hultgren Funeral Home, 304 N. Main St., in Wheaton, IL where a funeral service will be held on Saturday, July 9, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. Interment will follow at Swan Lake Memory Gardens in Peoria, IL.

In lieu of flowers memorial gifts may be directed to Honor Flight Chicago, 938 West Montana Street, Chicago, Illinois 60614. Donations via the web may be made at: <http://honorflightchicago.org/getinvolved/getinvolved.html>.



















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**MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR**

It was with shock that I had gotten the information that Ken McDuffee had passed away. He was one of the founding members of the Illini Mets and, in my mind, indestructible.

I will always remember him wearing his freshly started 'uniform' of his white Illini Met button down shirt with epaulets. He was always enthused to be at the membership meetings or any outings he attended. He will be sorely missed!



**ILLINI METS**

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*"Be it ever so humble..."*

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