

LOCAL

OBITUARIES

Vincent Samuel Vanchieri

Vincent Samuel Vanchieri, 67, of Stillwater, died Saturday, Oct. 28, 2006, in Rochester, Minn. Services will be Thursday at 2:30 p.m. in St. Francis Catholic Church in Stillwater with Father Kenneth J. Harder officiating. Burial will be in Cashion Cemetery. Strode Funeral Home is in charge of services. Friends are invited to visit with family and friends immediately following the service in Stillwater Elks Lodge, 202 E. McElroy. Please use east entrance. There will be an additional memorial service Nov. 6 in Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Erie, Pa.

He was born Nov. 19, 1938, to Salvatore Frank Vanchieri and Mary Katherine (Luciano), in Erie. He married Barbara Caroline Griest May 14, 1960, in Anchorage, Alaska. That marriage ended in divorce and he later married Kathryn Anne Martin Aug. 29, 1974, in Gainesville, Texas. He graduated from Strong Vincent High School in Erie in 1956 and attended Gannon College. He joined the U.S. Air Force in 1957 and served his country honorably for 21 years, retiring in 1978. He received many commendations, including the Meritorious Service Medal and was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. After retirement from the Air Force, he worked as a financial planner, sold real estate for Sloan



Vanchieri

& Sloan ERA agency and was a contract manager for defender services in Oberlin Color Press, providing temporary employees for security, groundskeeping and housekeeping. He was also an inspector for the Payne County Election Board. An active member of the Stillwater Elks Lodge 1859, he served in many official capacities, including Exalted Ruler and District Deputy to the Grand Exalted Ruler. He received the NW District Man Of The Year award twice, the second time in 2006 and was also named Lady Elks Man of the Year. He was a tireless volunteer for Judith Karman Hospice through the Stillwater Elks Lodge Barbecue Blazathon, which has raised and donated over \$113,000 to that hospice. He had a quick wit and was always fast with a joke. He was a wonderful cook and shared his talent by volunteering to cook at the Elks Lodge and the Senior Citizens' Center. He cooked for his family and friends for years, and *his children never knew* a bad meal at home. He took wonderful care of his family, giving them the sun and the moon, but mostly his time and affection.

Preceding him in death were his parents.

Survivors include his wife, Kathy, of the home; four children and seven grandchildren: Vincent Jr. and wife Michele, sons Samuel and Jacob, of Lewis Center, Ohio; Victoria Doyle and husband John, and son Colin, of Westerville, Ohio; Ryan Vanchieri and wife, Tiffany, and daughters Akera and Pandora, of Lawrence, Kan. and Marliasa Peterson and husband Eric, and children Cain Longan and Grace Peterson, of Jenks. He is also survived by three sisters: Ann Starocci and husband Tony of Erie, Pa.; Mary Margaret Diesner and husband Joe of Orlando, Fla. and Geraldine Cacchione and husband Tom of Erie, Pa., numerous nieces, nephews and a host of friends.

Active pallbearer is Pat Pittman. Honorary pallbearers are members of Stillwater Elks Lodge 1859.

Memorials may be sent to Judith Karman Hospice, Inc., P.O. Box 818, Stillwater, OK 74076.