



Djuro "George" Blitva

April 8, 1924 - January 29, 2025

Djuro Milos Blitva, 100, of Tiffin, passed away on Wednesday evening, January 29, 2025 at his home.

He was born on April 08, 1924, in Medak, Yugoslavia to Milos and Jeka (Vuksan) Blitva. On June 08, 1963, he married Dolores E. Graf and she preceded him in death on March 02, 2024.

He is survived by his daughters, Anka Shute of Texas and Monica Boynton of Allen Texas; grandchildren, Raymond Shute, Heather Harrison and Ryan Boynton; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He lost his parents and brothers in the war.

Djuro was a freedom fighter in Yugoslavia during WWII and later fought against Russia. In 1956, Djuro immigrated to the United States on USNS General Harry Taylor. He worked on the confectionary line at Nabisco in Chicago for 40 years and in 2013 he moved to Tiffin. Djuro enjoyed cooking and did not like eating out at restaurants and he was rarely without a video camera in his hand.

Funeral services & interment will be held at 11:00 a.m. Friday, February 7, 2025 at St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Monastery and Cemetery in Libertyville,

IL. Arrangements by Burnett-Dane Funeral Home in Libertyville. For info: 847-362-3009 or share a memory at www.burnettdane.com.

Previous Events

Funeral Service

FEB 7. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Monastery & Cemetery
32377 Milwaukee Avenue
Libertyville, IL 60048

Tribute Wall

IM

“ ILIJA MAODUS, ESSEX, ONTARIO, CANADA

I wish to express my condolences and sympathy to the family of Mr. Blitva. I live in Essex, Ontario, Canada, very near to Detroit. I never did meet Mr. Blitva but my father spoke of him when I was a youngster in the 1970s. My late father, Ljubomir Maodus, was born in 1926 in the same village (Medak, Lika, Srpska Krajina) as Mr. Blitva. The obituary mentions Mr. Blitva rarely being without a video camera. Thankfully Mr. Blitva recorded a video during his visit with his wife in 1990 to his birth village. My father had that video and I am now the proud owner of that VHS tape. I was able to convert the video to a digital format. The gist of the video is a celebration at the Serbian Orthodox Church, St. John the Baptist in Medak. In 2017 when I was 56 I went to Medak for the 1st time and I saw the church that Mr. Blitva and his wife recorded. Mr. Blitva is one of the last to have lived from that generation who suffered as young men through World War II and who as supporters of the Royalist government were able to escape from Fascists and Communists to find better lives in the USA and Canada and elsewhere and who worked hard so that their children could have better lives and opportunities of which I am one. In Serbian we say Vjecnaja Pamjat (Memory Eternal). May Mr. Blitva's memory be eternal in all of us. ILIJA MAODUS.

ILIJA MAODUS - February 13, 2025 at 04:45 PM