



Bassie Ray "B.R." Kerley

February 3, 1935 - July 11, 2010

Bassie Ray (B.R.) Kerley

Age: 75 years

A resident of Metropolis, Illinois

B.R. peacefully passed away in the early morning of Sunday, July 11, 2010 at Massac Memorial Hospital in Metropolis, IL after a valiant struggle with leukemia.

B.R., (as he was known by his friends and family) was born February 3, 1935 in Mayfield, KY. He was the son of Bass H. and Laura (Murrell) Kerley.

Survivors include:

His loving wife of sixteen years, Bonnie Casey Kerley

4 Sons - Danny Ray and Anita Kerley of Vienna, IL

Mike and Andra Kerley of Metropolis, IL

Larry Kerley of Metropolis, IL

Jamie Kerley of Metropolis, IL

4 Grandchildren he absolutely adored, Jamie Lee and Shannon Kerley of Vienna, IL, Curtis Kerley of Metropolis, IL, Cassidy Kerley of Metropolis, IL, and Dane Kerley of Carbondale, IL

He is also survived by, and will be forever missed by his Sister - Laura and Richard Clayton of Vienna, IL, his Brother - Andrew and Jenny Kerley of

Massac County, IL and three half Sisters - Beatrice and Randal Ford of New Burnside, IL, Rose Mary Harper of Eldorado, IL, and Joyce and Freeman Schell of New Burnside, IL.

Other survivors include Cousins, Numerous Nieces and Nephews, his Step Daughter, Cathy and Don Novakovich of Crown Point, IN, a Step-Son Guy M. Simmons of Griffith, IN and his many Step-Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren.

B.R. was preceded in death by his Mother , Laura Kerley, his Father, Bass H. Kerley, his Step-Mother, Francis Kerley, his Sister, Helen V. Robinson, his Half- Sister, Doris Jean Kerley and his Step-Son - Jon R. Simmons.

B.R. was of the Baptist faith. He spent his early childhood in Simpson Township, Johnson County, IL. He attended the one-room McKee grade school and graduated from Vienna High School, class of 1954.

B.R. served two years in the U.S. Army, he served in Korea during the peace time negotiations as a driver for the negotiators. He was a proud member of the American Legion Post 306, The Elks, a fraternal organization and the Loyal Order of Moose. B.R. felt privileged to be a member of each organization and enjoyed both the friendship and brotherhood of his fellow members.

As a young man, B.R. worked for the C & EJ Railroad in Chicago Heights, IL as a yard inspector. He later returned "home" to Southern Illinois where his heart was. He lived in Metropolis and worked at Allied Signal Corp. (now Honeywell). He retired from Allied Signal Corp. with over thirty-one years of service.

B.R. had a very strong and obvious love for his family and friends. He will be remembered by all for his kind nature, sense of humor, generosity, and

eagerness to lend a helping hand to anyone when he saw a need.

Funeral services will be held Thursday afternoon, July 15, 2010 at 1 PM at the Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna, IL. Rev. David Faulkner will officiate. Burial will be in the Rock Springs Cemetery, near Simpson, IL. Military Graveside Rites will be accorded by the Beggs-Gurley VFW Post #5222 and the Illinois National Guard Honors Team.

Friends may call after 5 PM Wednesday at the Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna, IL.

Memorials may be made to the Rock Springs Cemetery, c/o Leo Kerley, 803 Mathis Street, Vienna, IL 62995.

Tribute Wall



“ *Bassie Ray "B.R." Kerley*

January 30, 2023 at 12:19 AM