



Cecil Ray Champion Jr.

April 29, 1951 - September 14, 2019

Cecil Ray Champion, Jr., affectionately known to his family and friends as “Manny,” passed away unexpectedly Saturday afternoon, September 14, 2019, at 1:10 PM near Tunnel Hill, Illinois. At the time of his passing, Manny had attained the age of 68 years.

Manny was born April 29, 1951 in Alton, Illinois. He was the son of Cecil Champion and Thelma Louise (Farley) Champion.

Survivors include: a child – Jacob Hill of Louisville, Kentucky; a sister – Patricia Kay Champion of Murphysboro; 2 brothers – Herb (Patsy) Chance of Ozark and Howard Louis Champion of Murphysboro; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

In addition to his parents, Manny was preceded in death by: 3 brothers – Glenn Edward Chance, Larry Russell Champion, and Richard Wade Champion as well as a sister – Carolyn Louise Soper.

Manny attended Vienna High School. He served honorably in the U.S. Army.

Manny was employed as a deck hand by Ingram Barge Company.

He was a skilled woodcarver. Manny was also a gifted pencil sketch artist.

Visitation will be conducted Tuesday, September 17, 2019, from 5 PM – 6:30 PM at Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna. A graveside service will follow at Woodside Cemetery, 1314 Harpertown Lane, Tunnel Hill, Illinois. Pastor Pete Slivinski will officiate. Military graveside rites will be accorded by the Beggs-Gurley VFW Post # 5222 and the Illinois National Guard Burial Honors Detail.

Memorials may be made to the family to assist with expenses and may be left in the care of Bailey Funeral Home, P.O. Box 695, Vienna, Illinois 62995.

Cemetery Details

Woodside Cemetery

Harpertown Lane
Tunnel Hill, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 17. 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM (CT)

Bailey Funeral Home
705 North First Street
PO Box 695
Vienna, IL 62995
(618) 658-2311
baileyfhinc@hotmail.com
<https://baileyfh.com>

Graveside Service

SEP 17. 7:00 PM (CT)

Woodside Cemetery
Harpertown Lane
Tunnel Hill, IL

Tribute Wall



“ *Uncle Manny,
You loved us like we were your own children and loved your child with all your heart. You let it be known to anyone you talked to that everything you had was to be left to your son. My Uncle Manny's last requests were blatantly and erroneously ignored, and I believe he would be furious and disgusted with the way his final affairs were handled.
I wrote this here because no one is listening and no one seems to care about what he wanted and what his child has had to go through.
What if it were you? What if someone took away from your child all you had left to leave them? No matter what it was.
What would you want done?*

Colette Champion-Loosey - July 27, 2023 at 06:37 PM



“ *Cecil Ray Champion Jr.*

January 30, 2023 at 12:19 AM



“ *I knew Manny and all of his brothers and sisters from about 1985 to 1989. I was married to Manny's sister Carolynn and have been sad to hear of her passing as well as so many of her brothers have passed away, I know that they did all enjoy one another and their time on this Earth.*

Don Thieme - March 30, 2021 at 07:16 PM

LB

“ Larry Baity lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Champion Jr.



Larry Baity - January 01, 2020 at 02:12 PM

MR

“ Mike And Teresa Richerson lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Champion Jr.



Mike and Teresa Richerson - September 20, 2019 at 08:52 AM

TC

“ Tim & Elaine Counce lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Champion Jr.



Tim & Elaine Counce - September 16, 2019 at 10:09 PM

RS

“ Rev. Richard & Vickey Swiney lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Champion Jr.



Rev. Richard & Vickey Swiney - September 16, 2019 at 09:32 PM

RJ

“ Manny was my neighbor for years and a friend for life. One of the most memorable times was in 1968 my father (Louis Jackson) and I trained him to compete in the golden gloves in Cairo however shortly before the fights took place, the riots occurred and sadly the competition was cancelled. He was a tough individual with a big heart. I will miss him. Ron Jackson

Ron Jackson - September 16, 2019 at 09:18 PM



“ Matthew Cook lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Champion Jr.



Matthew Cook - September 16, 2019 at 06:04 PM

DT

“ Dianna Taylor lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Champion Jr.



Dianna Taylor - September 16, 2019 at 04:22 PM

TM

“ Tammy/Ravi Morris lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Champion Jr.



Tammy/Ravi Morris - September 16, 2019 at 02:52 PM

MH

“Michelle Harris lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Champion Jr.



Michelle Harris - September 15, 2019 at 11:56 PM

MH

“Mary Lou Hynes lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Champion Jr.



Mary Lou Hynes - September 15, 2019 at 11:31 PM



“Marylou Wheaton lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Champion Jr.



Marylou Wheaton - September 15, 2019 at 10:15 PM



“I have many fond memories of Manny since he was good friends with my father. RIP Manny!

Marylou Wheaton - September 15, 2019 at 10:14 PM

AG

“ *Anita Gulley lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Champion Jr.*



Anita Gulley - September 15, 2019 at 08:10 PM

 Lisa Holston

“ *Lisa Holston lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Champion Jr.*



Lisa Holston - September 15, 2019 at 07:08 PM



Sad to hear this news about your Uncle Manny.

Don Thieme - March 30, 2021 at 07:18 PM

EH

“ *Ernie Henshaw lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Champion Jr.*



Ernie Henshaw - September 15, 2019 at 06:50 PM

HF

“ *Heather Faulkner lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Champion Jr.*



heather faulkner - September 15, 2019 at 05:34 PM



“ *Manny was a lifelong neighbor who we gave a ride to occasionally. May he rest in peace. Sympathy to his family and friends. Debbie and Bobby Horn*

DEBBIE HORN - September 15, 2019 at 02:47 PM

LG

“ *Lora Goddard lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Champion Jr.*



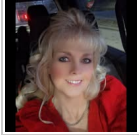
Lora Goddard - September 15, 2019 at 01:06 PM

SP

“ *See ya later bud !!!*



Steve Perry - September 15, 2019 at 11:40 AM



“ You will be missed



Belinda Sheffer - September 15, 2019 at 11:14 AM

LM

“ Linda And Jeff Mathis lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Champion Jr.



Linda and Jeff Mathis - September 15, 2019 at 11:00 AM

AS

“ Angie Street lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Champion Jr.



Angie Street - September 15, 2019 at 10:09 AM

TK

“ Tammy King lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Champion Jr.



Tammy King - September 15, 2019 at 10:05 AM