



## Donald E. Kerley

December 15, 1930 - February 27, 2021

Donald E. Kerley, age 90 years, a resident of Goreville, Illinois, passed away peacefully Saturday afternoon, February 27, 2021, at 4:20 PM at his home.

Don was born December 15, 1930 in Simpson, Illinois. He was the son of Hubert Ray Kerley and Helen Rose (Stewart) Kerley.

On August 13, 1950, Don was united in marriage to Lois Holland at Tunnel Hill, Illinois. She survives.

In addition to his wife, Don is survived by: 3 daughters – Donna Joplin of Gurnee, Illinois, Cynthea (her husband, Dan) Skvarce of Waukegan, Illinois, and Michele (her husband, Frank) Sullivan of Goreville; grandchildren – Jason (his wife, Krystal) Joplin of Fox Lake, Illinois, Carly Skvarce of Round Lake Park, Illinois, Jayme Skvarce of Kenosha, Wisconsin, Joshua (his wife, Destenie) Sullivan of Goreville and Zachary (his wife, Mary Nell) Sullivan of Ridgetop, Tennessee; 10 great grandchildren; and a brother – Harold Ray (his wife, Sylvia) Kerley of Kenosha, Wisconsin.

In addition to his parents, Don was preceded in death by: a brother – Ronald Gene Kerley and a son-in-law – Thomas Joplin, Jr.

Don was a 1949 graduate of Vienna High School. He served in the United

States Army from January 2, 1952 until his honorable discharge on October 18, 1953.

Don was employed as a distributor for Coca-Cola for 15 years. He was also a self-employed carpenter for 35 years. Don built many homes and buildings throughout the region. In one particular year, Don constructed three homes. In more recent years, when Don had retired from full-time construction, he was known as Goreville's "handy man" and assisted many people by undertaking home repair projects with his ability to fix just about anything.

Don served his community as a member of the Goreville Village Board for 27 years. He and Lois were faithful and longtime members of the First Baptist Church in Goreville. Don served as a greeter and church trustee for over 30 years.

Don's skill as a carpenter instilled a passion for woodworking. He handcrafted many intricate and detailed wooden objects, including a number of clocks.

Don was an avid and loyal fan of the Chicago Cubs.

A memorial service celebrating the life of Don Kerley will be conducted Thursday, March 4, 2021, at 12 Noon at Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna. Dr. Stephen Seaford and Dr. Ron Ferguson will officiate.

Private inurnment will be in the Gilead Cemetery near Simpson.

The family will receive relatives and friends from 10 AM – 12 Noon Thursday at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to the Gilead Cemetery Fund, c/o Norman Lee, 690 Gum Springs Roads, Simpson, Illinois 62985 or to St. Jude Children's

Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tennessee 38105-1905.  
Donations may also be made online at [www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org)

For those unable to personally attend the memorial service, it will be live-streamed on the Bailey Funeral Home Facebook page and will be archived for later viewing.

Those attending the visitation and service are respectfully reminded to observe customarily accepted social distancing practices. The wearing of a face mask or covering is strongly encouraged.

# Cemetery Details

## Gilead Cemetery

4385 Gilead Church Road  
Simpson, IL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 4. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

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

## Memorial Service

MAR 4. 12:00 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Donald E. Kerley*

January 30, 2023 at 12:19 AM



“ *Lois, prayers for you and your family. Pat McCann*



**Patricia McCann** - March 02, 2021 at 12:05 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald E. Kerley.*



March 02, 2021 at 10:01 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Donald E. Kerley.*



March 02, 2021 at 09:59 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Donald E. Kerley.*



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March 01, 2021 at 08:02 PM



“ *Lois and family; so sorry to learn of your loss. Don was a special person and will be greatly missed. You are in our prayers.*

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**Glenn D Hight** - March 01, 2021 at 02:36 PM



“ *Great man lots of memories from when I was young. My heart is with you all during this very difficult time. He is reunited with my parents now and we all have the best guardian angels looking after us my love to you all. ❤️🙏*

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**sandy futch** - March 01, 2021 at 09:24 AM



“ *Linda Koehler lit a candle in memory of Donald E. Kerley*



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**Linda Koehler** - March 01, 2021 at 08:14 AM



“ *Lois and family, you have my most sincerest condolences. All of you will be in my prayers.*

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**Joy & Wes Trammell** - February 28, 2021 at 09:39 PM

WF

“ With love From Randy and Jane Ochoa and Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Donald E. Kerley.



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**With love From Randy and Jane Ochoa and Family -**  
February 28, 2021 at 05:35 PM

TW

“ The Dills, Lee, Ballard, Lockhart, and Waldroup purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Donald E. Kerley.



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**The Dills, Lee, Ballard, Lockhart, and Waldroup -** February 28,  
2021 at 05:32 PM

RH

“ Michelle and Family you all are in my thoughts and prayers.



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**Russ & Karla Haleq -** February 28, 2021 at 04:47 PM

MR

“ Our Sympathy to the Family of Dons May the Lord Comfort you all during this time . Love and Prayers from Pat Lingle and Michelle and Phil Roberts and family

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**Michelle Roberts -** February 28, 2021 at 03:58 PM

JS

“ *The Sullins family were so sorry to hear of the loss. Don was such a kind and wonderful man. The Sullins's go way back & knew the Kerley family very well. God Bless!!*



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**Jimmy & Deborah Sullins** - February 28, 2021 at 01:21 PM

BF

“ *Bob & Linda Forbes lit a candle in memory of Donald E. Kerley*



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**Bob & Linda Forbes** - February 28, 2021 at 11:11 AM

PS

“ *Peggy Jean Smoot lit a candle in memory of Donald E. Kerley*



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**Peggy Jean Smoot** - February 28, 2021 at 10:09 AM

FF

“ *RIP watch over your family as they remember the great times shared and what you taught them. You will be missed*



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**Franny Fiesel** - February 28, 2021 at 09:28 AM



“ Jeannie McCall sent a virtual gift in memory of Donald E. Kerley



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**Jeannie McCall** - February 27, 2021 at 10:33 PM

MH

“ Don was such a wonderful man. Prayers for comfort for the family.



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**Mike and Laura Hood** - February 27, 2021 at 10:16 PM

DH

“ Lois I am so sorry for your loss. You and Don were a perfect couple. Much love and prayers.

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**Donna Hettinger** - February 27, 2021 at 09:58 PM

TE

“ Don was a wonderful ol' soul. I'm so happy to have know him. Prayers to Lois and the rest of the family.



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**Teresa** - February 27, 2021 at 09:44 PM

JL

“ *John R. Lenard And Phyllis Taylor Lenard lit a candle in memory of Donald E. Kerley*



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**John R. Lenard and Phyllis Taylor Lenard** - February 27, 2021 at 09:41 PM

JR

“ *Jeff And Allison Robison lit a candle in memory of Donald E. Kerley*



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**Jeff and Allison Robison** - February 27, 2021 at 09:19 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Donald E. Kerley.*



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February 27, 2021 at 09:10 PM

JJ

“ *My favorite memories growing up of my grandfather are always wanting to wear his cowboy boots. Also watching his face light up when meeting all of his great grandchildren when they where being born! I'll miss you and always love you grandpa!*

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**Jason joplin** - February 27, 2021 at 08:32 PM