



## Harold Lee Hurst

September 30, 1937 - April 11, 2023

To join the livestream of Harold's memorial service, please select the link below. The livestream will begin at 4:50 P.M. CST Saturday, April 15, 2023. It will also be archived for later viewing.

<https://view.oneroomstreaming.com/index.php?data=MTY4MTM1NjQyNzI0NTg5OSZvbmVyb29tLWFKbWluJmNvcHlfbGluaw==>

Harold Lee Hurst, age 85 years, a resident of rural Buncombe, Illinois, passed away Tuesday evening, April 11, 2023, at 8 PM at his home.

Harold was born September 30, 1937 at his family home in Coles County, Illinois to Robert Lee and Maxine (James) Hurst.

He was united in marriage to Debbie Silverthorn in 2006 in Sikeston, Missouri. She survives.

He is also survived by: two sons - Clint Lee Hurst of Barcelona, Spain and Clay Del (his wife, Ivy) Hurst of Springer, Oklahoma; a sister - Joyce (her husband, John) Williams of Charleston, Illinois; a sister-in-law - Sonja Hurst of Charleston, Illinois; as well as nieces and nephews. Also, Harold is survived by dear friends who he considered as family: Stacey, Shelby and Nelson.

In addition to his parents, Harold was preceded in death by a stepson - Cory

Stotts; and a brother - Harry Hurst.

Harold was a graduate of Charleston, Illinois High School and served in the Army Reserves from 1960-1966.

Harold served as a Johnson County Commissioner from December 1972 - December 1975. Additionally, he was a 3 term member of the Buncombe Grade School Board of Education and was recognized in 2011, 2012, 2015, and 2020 for his dedication, commitment and accomplishments in the 50 year horse society.

He attended and served as a deacon at Vienna Church of Christ.

Harold was a lifelong rancher and cowboy. He enjoyed roping and trail riding. Catching cattle for people was his passion. Harold's partners were his dogs and horses. His love for them was unmatched. Also, checking his momma cows was his day-to-day life – being able to live this way of life since the age of 19 – 85 was the dream! His boys were his proudest possessions! He raised them to be strong, capable men; to follow their dreams. He has touched many people all over this country with his knowledge of horses and cattle. Harold never met a stranger and loved two-step dancing.

A celebration of the life of Harold Lee Hurst will be held Saturday, April 15, 2023 at 5 PM at Bailey Funeral Home. Pastor Jason Forby and Brother Phillip Jones will officiate.

The family will receive relatives and friends prior to the service on Saturday, April 15, 2023 from 3 PM - 5 PM.

Following the service, there will be a time of fellowship with a meal served at the 1818 Event Center located at 119 Harnerville Loop, Vienna, Illinois.

Memorials may be made to the Vienna High School scholarship fund, for the purpose of establishing a memorial scholarship in Harold's name. Donations may be mailed to the school at 601 North First Street, Vienna, Illinois 62995 or left in the care of Bailey Funeral Home. Please make checks payable to Vienna High School and memo "Harold Hurst Memorial".

# Previous Events

## Gathering of Family & Friends

APR **15**. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

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

## Celebration of Life

APR **15**. 5:00 PM (CT)

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

## Dinner

APR **15**. 6:00 PM (CT)

1818 Event Center  
119 Harnerville Loop  
Vienna, IL 62995

# Tribute Wall



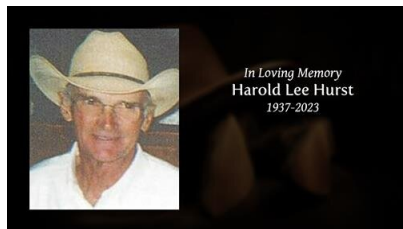
“ Bailey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Harold Lee Hurst



Bailey Funeral Home - April 17, 2023 at 09:46 AM



“ Bailey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Harold Lee Hurst



Bailey Funeral Home - April 17, 2023 at 09:46 AM

SD

*Clint and Clay  
So sorry to hear about your Dad's passing.  
Condolences to both of you.  
Sue (Johns) Schaffer Dodd.*

*Clay O was your Second grade teacher at Buncombe*

sue Dodd - April 22, 2023 at 11:46 AM



“ *Joan Briggs lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst*



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**Joan Briggs** - May 11, 2023 at 07:52 AM

BR

“ *Bobby Rentfro lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst*



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**Bobby Rentfro** - April 17, 2023 at 02:56 PM

PW

“ *Ms Debbie, So sorry for your loss. He was a great man! Prayers now & in the days to come. Love You! Jeff & Pam Wilson*



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**Pam Wilson** - April 16, 2023 at 09:58 PM

BH

“ *Condolances to the family for the loss of Cousin Harold. Harold has been a central figure in the Hurst family for generations but Harold stood out as a true cowboy followed by his son, Clay. We talked via the phone on occasion about TV rodeo and how Clay & Ivy were doing . Gonna miss that.  
Bill (Cousin) & Sharon Hurst*

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**Bill Hurst** - April 15, 2023 at 04:50 PM

JF

“ *Jami Francescon lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst*



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**Jami Francescon** - April 15, 2023 at 04:45 PM

NH

“ *Norm & Carole Hill lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst*



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**Norm & Carole Hill** - April 15, 2023 at 02:11 PM

CR

“ *Cody Robinson lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst*



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**Cody Robinson** - April 15, 2023 at 11:52 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Harold Lee Hurst.*



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April 14, 2023 at 12:23 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Harold Lee Hurst.*



April 14, 2023 at 09:59 AM



“ *Thoughts and prayers to family. This brings so many memories of cousins growing up in Charleston/Mattoon. Family gatherings were special!*

*Steve (cousin) & Joan Delle James*

**Steve James** - April 13, 2023 at 11:38 PM



“ *Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Harold Lee Hurst.*



April 13, 2023 at 11:17 PM



“ *Dave & Amy Duringer, Savannah & Chance lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst*



**Dave & Amy Duringer, Savannah & Chance** - April 13, 2023 at 09:30 PM



“ *Vivid Recollections* was purchased for the family of Harold Lee Hurst.



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April 13, 2023 at 07:37 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Harold Lee Hurst.



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April 13, 2023 at 03:56 PM



“ [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Harold Lee Hurst.

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April 13, 2023 at 02:30 PM

DS

“ I was privileged to know this man, this cowboy, a REAL COWBOY, and a true gentleman. He wasn't one who put on boots and a hat just for effect. He lived it every day as long as I knew him and that was most of my life. I still remember the first time I saw him. He was tall, with those boots on and that hat, but along with those came a kind smile and a caring heart that just jumped out at you. This man has been implanted in my youthful memories for many reasons. And for the few times I saw him after I married, he always remembered this neighbor girl and fellow church goer and always asked about my life with that same caring heart. Harold was always the same, no matter how long it had been. I will miss just knowing that you are out there in the world, Harold Hurst. Buncombe and Johnson County will miss you. All who loved you will miss you. You wore those boots and hat well. I so wish that I could be at his visitation but we will be out of town. Much love and hugs to Clint and Clay and all of Harold's loved ones.

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**Debbie Jones Shreffler** - April 13, 2023 at 11:49 AM

ST

“ Shorty And Chris Travelstead lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst



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**Shorty and Chris travelstead** - April 13, 2023 at 10:01 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Harold Lee Hurst.



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April 13, 2023 at 09:17 AM

PS

“ *Paula Sullivan lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst*



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**Paula Sullivan** - April 13, 2023 at 12:29 AM

CH

“ *So sorry to hear of Harold passing and he will be missed by everyone that knew him. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.*



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**Cheryl Harris** - April 12, 2023 at 10:12 PM

JA

“ *Oh how I will miss his hugs and him saying “Hey, Bird!” I never once left without him telling me how much he loved me and him always saying how much he could never get enough of my hugs. He is like a grandpa to me and my sisters and I will forever cherish the memories that I have with him. From teaching me and my sister how to play marbles at a young age, to bringing me one of his saddles that he had won when mine was getting fixed. Let me tell ya, I felt like a million bucks riding in Harold Hurst’s saddle! I am so thankful to have known such a wonderful all around human. My heart breaks for his family and friends but I have so much joy that his eternity just started! I will love you forever and miss you so very much. Heaven just got even sweeter with you in it. ❤️*

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**Jalynn** - April 12, 2023 at 09:57 PM

FH

“ Frederick And Betty Heaton lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst



Frederick and Betty Heaton - April 12, 2023 at 09:10 PM

KA

“ Clint & Clay—my sincere sympathy to you both & all the family. Your Dad was a good man & true gentleman. May he RIP.

Kathy(Black)Holt - April 12, 2023 at 08:35 PM

SP

“ Sending my thoughts and prayers to Clint and Clay during this difficult time. Many memories.

Sharon Proue - April 12, 2023 at 07:53 PM

SJ

“ When we were young , cousins ,Harold was my hero, still till the end!

sam james - April 12, 2023 at 07:20 PM

SD

“ Sandra Douglas lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst



Sandra Douglas - April 12, 2023 at 07:13 PM



“ Jeannie McCall lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst



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**Jeannie McCall** - April 12, 2023 at 06:06 PM

DS

“ Dale And Kathy Schierbaum lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst



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**Dale and Kathy Schierbaum** - April 12, 2023 at 05:58 PM

JB

“ Jerry, Janet Billingsley lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst



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**Jerry, Janet Billingsley** - April 12, 2023 at 05:35 PM

EH

“ Ernie Henshaw lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst



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**Ernie Henshaw** - April 12, 2023 at 03:49 PM

JG

“ Jason Grant lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst



Jason Grant - April 12, 2023 at 01:28 PM

CA

“ Cindy Arthur lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst



Cindy Arthur - April 12, 2023 at 10:55 AM

DE

“ Debbie(Stevens)Poe lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst



Debbie(Stevens)Poe - April 12, 2023 at 10:26 AM

DC

“ I was just a kid in high school when Harold "rode" into Buncombe at the age of 19. He quickly gained the nickname "Cowboy." He planted his roots on the Robinson place west of town and has lived there since. My path took me to many places, but he has always been my hero. I'm grateful I spent a few minutes with him a few months ago. Save me a place at the table, Cowboy.

Don Campbell - April 12, 2023 at 09:46 AM

MM

“ Margaret Mathis lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst



Margaret Mathis - April 12, 2023 at 09:43 AM

CW

“ Carmen Breeden Wells lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst



Carmen Breeden Wells - April 12, 2023 at 09:41 AM

KB

“ Karen Brumley lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst



Karen Brumley - April 12, 2023 at 09:26 AM

LM

“ Larry And Carolyn McGill lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst



Larry and Carolyn McGill - April 12, 2023 at 09:16 AM

DK

“ *Derek & Erin Kerr lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst*



Derek & Erin Kerr - April 12, 2023 at 08:47 AM

TJ

“ *My dad, Steve Jones, introduced me to Harold as a young child and Harold was a great and positive influence to me growing up and even as an adult. From teaching me and my brother how to rope, to just visiting on his front porch I will never forget or take for granted the time I was able to spend with Harold. He was a great man, neighbor and friend, whom I will truly miss.*

Travis Jones - April 12, 2023 at 08:42 AM

NB

“ *Nancy Breeden lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst*



Nancy Breeden - April 12, 2023 at 08:37 AM

SJ

“ *Steve & Darla Jones sent a virtual gift in memory of Harold Lee Hurst*



Steve & Darla Jones - April 12, 2023 at 08:28 AM

TR

“ *Teresa Richerson lit a candle in memory of Harold Lee Hurst*



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**Teresa Richerson** - April 12, 2023 at 07:51 AM

RV

“ *So sorry to hear this. Harold was a true cowboy!!*

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**Rita Vaughn** - April 12, 2023 at 07:26 AM