



Melburn R. "Buddy" Trover

May 6, 1922 - January 8, 2015

Melburn "Buddy" Trover, age 92 years, a resident of Vienna and a former resident of Ozark, passed away Thursday, January 8, 2015, at 1:15 AM at Hillview Health Care Center in Vienna.

Melburn was born May 6, 1922 in Burnside Township, Johnson County Illinois. He and his twin sister Wilma were the sixth and seventh of eight children born to Edward S. and Esty Ann (Murrie) Trover. Buddy was the last surviving sibling of his family, who additionally included Alice, Edward M., Bob, Paul, Olive, Wilma, & Jackie.

Buddy was united in marriage to Garnelle Bethel on August 3, 1940 at Jackson, Missouri. Together, they have enjoyed over 74 years of marriage. They were dedicated to their family and enjoyed spending time with them. In addition to his wife, Buddy is survived by their children: Jerry (Cena) Trover, Larry (Patti) Trover, and Bobby (Marleis) Trover. Buddy & Garnelle's daughter, Alice Trover Jackson, preceded him in death.

Buddy is also survived by his grandchildren – Kevin (Tatia) Trover, Amber (Chris) Taylor, Laura (Chad) Alsip, Leslie (Sid) Liles, Chad (Deborah) Vaughn, Kristi (Dustin) Moll, Aaron Trover, Justin (Sarah) Trover, Sara (Keith) Socki, Lance Trover, Ashley Trover, and Donnie Gaddis; great grandchildren – Matthew Summers, Jake Palozola, Landon Trover, Emily Horn, Jacob Horn,

Macey Alsip, Kaitlyn Moll, Amelia Moll, Ethan Trover, Chayse Socki, Taylor Socki, Rachel Liles, Quentin Speir, Bryce Vaughn and Brendan Vaughn; great-great grandchildren – Leela Horn, Asher Palozola, and Bryce Beason. He is also survived by a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In addition to his parents, daughter, brothers and sisters, Buddy was preceded in death by: a grandson – Charlie Summers, a grandson-in-law – Vernon “Bub” Horn, and 2 great grandsons – Gabriel Moll and William Cory Trover.

Buddy grew up on a farm near Ozark, Illinois and continued farm work in the produce business for several years. He enjoyed selling peaches, apples, and floral items, particularly fall mums of all colors and varieties. Buddy is remembered for his love of and ability to “sell” anything. Selling was in his blood.

In 1964, Buddy and his family moved across the field to his parent’s family home. There, he planted an orchard of apples and peaches to add to his reselling produce business. Packing tomatoes, shipping them, and orchard work created many jobs for people in the area. The Trover children all worked in the business and delivered produce to stores, two of his sons, Larry and Jerry, are continuing the tradition of the family produce business. After retiring from the produce shipping business, Buddy continued to “peddle” produce at a fruit stand in Harrisburg. Buddy and Garnelle hauled watermelons and cantaloupes from Indiana and Missouri and peaches from Cobden. He might be seen selling mums in Vienna, Harrisburg, Metropolis or any other local community.

Buddy enjoyed attending his kids and grandkids games and activities. He had a love for all kids, encouraging, quizzing and giving money for learning Bible verses. He had a knack for learning Bible verses and would quote them often to anyone at anytime. A few of his favorites included Proverbs 3:6, Jeremiah

33:3 and Isaiah 40:31.

Buddy was always a giver and helper. If a child or family didn't have money for produce, he would give them produce and/or loan them money. He was generally aware of the fact that he wouldn't get the money back. If asked again to help, he would do the same. He would always stop to help anyone stranded on the roadside and would always pick up hitchhikers.

He taught Sunday School for approximately 25 years, first at the Ozark Baptist Church and later at Pleasant Ridge Church. Not only would he teach but also he would pick the children up and take them home again. He taught Bible classes every Saturday evening for approximately 5 years at the Illinois Youth Facility in Harrisburg.

Buddy and Garnelle developed a nursing home ministry. For 20 years, they took their dogs to nursing homes for resident therapy. Buddy loved his dog Rolly, the main attraction during the last 8 years, as he blessed residents at the nursing facilities. Rolly now resides with Buddy's best friend, Lloyd and Kay Holder. Lloyd partnered with Buddy the last few years of the nursing home ministry.

Buddy had a zest for life and loved every day. When asked how he was at anytime during his life, he would quickly reply, "I am Blessed." His daily prayers were "Blessing For Others."

The family wishes to thank the administration and nursing staff of the Hillview Health Care Center in Vienna for their tender care and love shown to Buddy during his residency in that facility.

A Celebration of the Life of Melburn "Buddy" Trover was conducted Saturday,

January 10, 2015, at 2 PM at Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna. Pastor Jeff Owens officiated. Burial was in the Reynoldsburg Cemetery near Tunnel Hill.

Visitation was conducted from 11 AM – 2 PM Saturday, January 10, 2015, at Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna.

Memorials may be made to the Reynoldsburg Cemetery Fund, c/o Bob Harper, 30 Harpertown Lane, Tunnel Hill, Illinois 62972 or to the Hillview Health Care Center (Activities Fund), 512 N. 11th St., Vienna, Illinois 62995 or to the Health Occupation Students of American (H.O.S.A.) c/o Vienna High School, nursing program, 601 North First Street, Vienna, Illinois 62995.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 10. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (CT)

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

Service

JAN 10. 2:00 PM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Melburn R. "Buddy" Trover*

January 30, 2023 at 12:19 AM



“ *Buddy Trover was such a good man. I met him when I was in 7th grade when he would give me rides to ballgames with his son Bob. I admired him always and especially appreciate all the work he did with his dogs in his final years. He brought a lot of joy to people who could no longer have their own pets. My sympathy to the whole family but especially to my dear friend Bob and his children Lance and Ashley.*

Myra Wood Bennett

Myra Wood Bennett - January 17, 2015 at 11:22 PM



“ *Tod & Lindsey Childers lit a candle in memory of Melburn R. "Buddy" Trover*

Tod & Lindsey Childers - January 14, 2015 at 07:35 PM



“ *SO BLESSED to have had this man as a friend, he will be dearly missed. I will always think of him when I get hanging baskets in the spring, strawberries and of course MUMS IN THE FALL and APPLES AND ORANGES @ CHRISTMAS Love ya Buddy*

Ellen Williams - January 12, 2015 at 10:53 AM

SH

“ *Sandra Harner lit a candle in memory of Melburn R. "Buddy" Trover*



sandra harner - January 10, 2015 at 09:45 PM

SH

HE KNEW IF SOMETHING WAS NOT RIGHT WITH YOU WHEN I STOPED TO GET SOME FRUIT AND HE WOULD END R TALK WITH GOD WILL BLESS YOU

sandra harner - January 10, 2015 at 09:48 PM

FM

“ *I will always remember Buddy's warm smile and friendly conversation during my visits to their home. He always enjoyed the pecan pie and other special treats I would take, but insisted that he give me a Mum as soon as they arrived. Of course, will never forget his love of his dog, Rolly.*

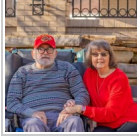


Faye Mize - January 09, 2015 at 11:34 PM

ML

Buddy thank you for being the kind man that you've always been , what a gentlemen rest in piece you've earned it

Mike and dorain lingle - January 11, 2015 at 01:10 AM



“ *Sherry Belcher lit a candle in memory of Melburn R. "Buddy" Trover*



Sherry Belcher - January 09, 2015 at 10:16 PM



“ *Some of my best highschool memories are sitting on the back of his red truck selling his watermelons and strawberries with Sara. He was a people person and loved his dogs.*

Chelsi Ringstaff-Diles - January 09, 2015 at 08:23 PM



“ *I remember the last time I was at Hillview, and I saw him , sitting in his wheelchair, with a smile on his face, greeting everyone that came into the facility. Always seemed to be a wonderful , caring person.*

Wayne Dunn - January 09, 2015 at 08:19 PM



“ *I have heard stories of the Trover family all my life. They lived close to the Ross family, Rocky and Annie. They were good stories and were well thought of by my Ma Rocky (Grandma Ross). When in church with Buddy he would tell me that I had the voice of my Ma Rocky, which I counted as a great compliment. His ministry at the nursing home was wonderful May the Angles in Heaven rejoice at your homecoming.*

Clearon And Jane Ross Wright - January 09, 2015 at 04:32 PM

FB

“ *Faye Bowman lit a candle in memory of Melburn R. "Buddy" Trover*



Faye Bowman - January 09, 2015 at 01:02 PM

DH

“ *David & Ellen Hill lit a candle in memory of Melburn R. "Buddy" Trover*



David & Ellen Hill - January 09, 2015 at 10:34 AM

LS

“ *Linda Simmons lit a candle in memory of Melburn R. "Buddy" Trover*



Linda Simmons - January 09, 2015 at 09:33 AM

JF

“ *Always enjoyed seeing Buddy around town and talking to him. He will be missed. Prayers and thoughts with the family.*

Richard and Joan Faulkner-Owen



joan faulkner - January 09, 2015 at 08:23 AM

RH

“ He was a great guy with a heart of gold. He helped so many with his ministry and his dog and I always loved when he brought me veg and fruit. I will miss him hollering my name at Hillview when I came in.

Robin Harper-Whitehead - January 09, 2015 at 07:47 AM

DH

“ Dennis And Pat Harner lit a candle in memory of Melburn R. "Buddy" Trover



Dennis and Pat Harner - January 09, 2015 at 07:17 AM

EK

“ Elizabeth Kerley lit a candle in memory of Melburn R. "Buddy" Trover



Elizabeth Kerley - January 08, 2015 at 09:21 PM

VM

“ Virgil D. & Arlene Miles lit a candle in memory of Melburn R. "Buddy" Trover



Virgil D. & Arlene Miles - January 08, 2015 at 09:11 PM

GB

“ *Goddard's Auto Body lit a candle in memory of Melburn R. "Buddy" Trover*



Goddard's Auto Body - January 08, 2015 at 06:02 PM

JR

“ *James & Diane Rainbolt lit a candle in memory of Melburn R. "Buddy" Trover*



James & Diane Rainbolt - January 08, 2015 at 03:35 PM

JB

“ *Jim & Pat Blankenship lit a candle in memory of Melburn R. "Buddy" Trover*



Jim & Pat Blankenship - January 08, 2015 at 02:46 PM

MB

“ *He was such a wonderful person! Always had a smile and willing to help others. He will b missed. Prayers to the family .*

michelle cagle bundren - January 08, 2015 at 01:04 PM

JB

“ Joy Beggs lit a candle in memory of Melburn
R. "Buddy" Trover



Joy Beggs - January 08, 2015 at 12:40 PM

JB

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R. "Buddy" Trover



Joy Beggs - January 08, 2015 at 12:40 PM

JM

“ I love you Buddy. And I will miss you. It was amazing getting to
know you. I first met you and there was a friendship. :-) Love JO!!!!
And Jennifer!

Jo Matheny - January 08, 2015 at 11:54 AM

CM

“ To this day every time I eat an apple I think of Buddy, I remember as
a kid picking strawberries for money to go swimming, we always
picked "just enough" to get the money we needed in a short amount
of time. Heaven received a true angel today who will be missed by
many.

Cheryl Whiteside Monette - January 08, 2015 at 10:15 AM

LM

“ Larry And Carolyn McGill lit a candle in memory of Melburn R. "Buddy" Trover



Larry and Carolyn McGill - January 08, 2015 at 09:53 AM

RB

“ Rich And Karen Brumley lit a candle in memory of Melburn R. "Buddy" Trover



Rich and Karen Brumley - January 08, 2015 at 08:23 AM



“ Cracra Morris lit a candle in memory of Melburn R. "Buddy" Trover



Cracra Morris - January 08, 2015 at 08:09 AM

DB

“ Dorothy Bacon lit a candle in memory of Melburn R. "Buddy" Trover



Dorothy Bacon - January 08, 2015 at 07:04 AM

SB

“ *I have fond memories of Buddy and his generous soul. Working in the fields on the occasional weekend with friends created some great stories to re-tell. The world has lost a great man, but heaven rejoices at the return of one of their Angels!! He will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with all the family. Miss you guys.*
Suzi Lanfear Barker

Suzi Lanfear Barker - January 08, 2015 at 07:04 AM