



Ray Gurley

February 19, 1938 - August 13, 2022

Ray Gurley, age 84 years, a resident of rural Buncombe, Illinois and a former resident of Dixon, passed away Saturday afternoon, August 13, 2022, at 12:35 PM at the Linda E. White Hospice House in Evansville, Indiana.

Ray was born February 19, 1938 in Vienna, Illinois. He was the son of Jesse and Clara Opal (Pentecost) Gurley.

On June 1, 1957, Ray was united in marriage to Linda Lea Merriman in Buncombe, Illinois. She survives.

Ray is also survived by: 2 sons – Ronald (his wife, Sherry) Gurley of Dixon, Illinois and Jerrold (his wife, Eva) Gurley of Franklin Grove, Illinois; 6 grandchildren; and 5 great grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, Ray was preceded in death by his stepmother – Lora Mae (Greeny) Gurley; an infant grandson; a brother – Robert Calvin Gurley; and a half-brother – Storekeeper 3rd Class (SK3) Jesse Herbert Gurley – who died aboard the U.S.S. Arizona during the attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on December 7, 1941.

Ray was a 1957 graduate of Vienna High School. He was employed as a meat cutter by Swift & Company at the Rochelle, Illinois plant. Swift &

Company was later acquired by ConAgra and Ray continued working for the firm in the St. Charles, Illinois facility. Ray then worked for Schreiber Foods in Dixon, Illinois which was also later acquired by Swift & Company. Following retirement, Ray and Linda returned to Southern Illinois to reside.

Ray enjoyed hunting, gardening and finding treasures at flea markets and garage sales.

Ray was a member of Whiteash Free Will Baptist Church, near Marion.

A service honoring the life of Ray Gurley will be held Tuesday afternoon, August 30, 2022, at 1 PM at Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna. Pastor Andy Lee will officiate.

Burial will be in the Mt. Zion Cemetery, east of Buncombe.

Visitation will be held Tuesday afternoon, August 30, 2022, from 12 Noon – 1 PM at Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna.

Donations in memory of Ray may be made to the Dravet Syndrome Foundation, Inc. (in honor of Ray and Linda's grandson, Hayden Gurley) and may be mailed to P.O. Box 3026, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034. Please memo "Ray Gurley memorial." Donations may also be made online at www.dravetfoundation.org

Cemetery Details

Mt. Zion Cemetery

Buncombe, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 30. 12:00 PM - 1:00 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

AUG 30. 1:00 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



“ *Ray Gurley*

January 30, 2023 at 12:19 AM



“ *Phyllis Pentecost Schaubert lit a candle in memory of Ray Gurley*



Phyllis Pentecost Schaubert - September 02, 2022 at 03:08 PM



“ *Linda my Dear so very sorry for your loss. Ray was always pleasure to see his smiling face when he left you off for work at Borg Warner. Prayers for your family. Deb Roebuck Gorzny*

Debra L. Gorzny - August 29, 2022 at 07:01 PM



“ *Many thoughts and many memories of a life long friend. Harold and Elizabeth James*

Harold and Elizabrth James - August 28, 2022 at 10:45 PM



“ *Brenda Ames lit a candle in memory of Ray Gurley*



Brenda Ames - August 17, 2022 at 08:32 PM

RA

“ Robert Earl Ames lit a candle in memory of Ray Gurley



Robert Earl Ames - August 17, 2022 at 03:35 PM

PE

“ Paula Evans lit a candle in memory of Ray Gurley



Paula Evans - August 17, 2022 at 12:09 AM

NB

“ Nancy Breeden lit a candle in memory of Ray Gurley



Nancy Breeden - August 16, 2022 at 04:36 PM

MD

“ Margaret Dorsey lit a candle in memory of Ray Gurley



Margaret Dorsey - August 16, 2022 at 03:28 PM

SJ

“ *Steve & Darla Jones lit a candle in memory of Ray Gurley*



Steve & Darla Jones - August 16, 2022 at 03:07 PM