



Mr. Thomas Dale Kerley

November 1, 1932 - March 21, 2012

Thomas Dale Kerley

Age: 79 years

A resident of Vienna, Illinois.

Passed away Wednesday afternoon, March 21, 2012, at 3:38 PM at Massac Memorial Hospital in Metropolis, Illinois.

Dale was born November 1, 1932 in Johnson County Illinois. He was the son of James Clarence and Etta Mae (Claxton) Kerley.

Dale was united in marriage to Clara L. "Louise" Baker on June 11, 1955 in Peoria, Illinois. She survives.

Other survivors include:

His Children – Rodger & Barb Kerley of Grantsburg, IL

Mary & Thomas Wright of the Flatwoods community

Linda & Gary Joliff of Altamont, IL

3 Sisters - Erma Lou Palmer of Vienna, IL

Eula & Bob McManus of Bartonville, IL

Eva & Dan Wheat of Copperas Cove, TX

Grandchildren – Thomas Ray Kerley & Erin Elizabeth Kerley of Grantsburg, IL

James Dale Omohundro of Vienna, IL
Robert & Kelsey Dale of Carbondale, IL
Chris & Shannon Smith of the Flatwoods community
Charles & Tracy Wright of Vienna, IL
Angel & Jason Churchill of Arcola, IL
Megan & Nic Huddleston of Yale, IL
Andrea Joliff-Joergens & Dusty Joergens of Dietrich, IL
Michael Lee Joliff of Altamont, IL
Joe & Jamie Joliff of Altamont, IL
Becky Joliff of Altamont, IL
Great Grandchildren - Lilly A. and Brenton L. Omohundro
Dalton, Logan, Keely, & Kailey Smith
Nathaniel Meyers
Taylor Anne and Mason "Fruit Jar" Churchill
Austynn Claire and Braddic Dean Huddleston
Zac Pergande
Tyler and Thomas Wright
Dale was also anticipating the birth of a great granddaughter Joergens and a great grandson Wright, both due in June 2012.

Additionally, Dale is survived by:

2 Brothers-in-Law – Jim Newton of Buncombe, IL
Carlos Wayne Baker of Simpson, IL
3 Sisters-in-Law - Georgia Kerley of Manhattan, IL
Faye Holt of Grantsburg, IL
Alice Rhudell Batey of Vienna, IL
3 generations of nieces and nephews

In addition to his parents, Dale was preceded in death by:

2 Sisters – Aretta Kerley & Norma Jean Newton

5 Brothers – James Elvis, Paul Laverne, William Russell, Ernest Edwin, & Delbert Wayne Kerley

Dale attended the McKee Public School. He was a U.S. Army veteran having served during the Korean War.

Dale had been employed as a heavy equipment operator in the construction trade. He retired from Hiram Walker Distillery in Peoria, IL.

Dale was of the Baptist faith. He enjoyed watching western movies and fishing. Dale was affectionately known as the “watermelon man” throughout Vienna, as he was often seen around town selling melons from his pick-up truck.

Dale will be greatly missed by all those he has left behind.

Funeral services will be held Friday morning, March 23, 2012, at 11 AM at Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna.

Burial will be in the Kerley Cemetery in the Flatwoods community. A military flag presentation ceremony will be conducted at the graveside.

Visitation will be from 10 AM – 11 AM Friday at Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna.

Memorials may be made to the Kerley Cemetery Fund, c/o Donnie Morris, 146 Bull Pen Road, Simpson, IL 62985.

Cemetery Details

Kerley Cemetery

Kerley Lane
Simpson, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 23. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

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

Service

MAR 23. 11:00 AM (CT)

Bailey Funeral Home
705 North First Street
PO Box 695
Vienna, IL 62995
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<https://baileyfh.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Thomas Dale Kerley*

January 30, 2023 at 12:19 AM



“ *Though you are gone, you are not forgotten. You will be missed Uncle Dale. You were a great man, a loving man, and a character as well. But I know you are with God now, and someday I'll see you again.*

*Love your nephew,
Billy*

Billy Wheat - March 26, 2012 at 08:52 AM



“ *You will be missed.*

Don & Alice Morris - March 23, 2012 at 10:03 AM



“ *Don & Alice Morris lit a candle in memory of Mr. Thomas Dale Kerley*



Don & Alice Morris - March 23, 2012 at 10:02 AM

CW

“ *Carmen & George Wells lit a candle in memory of Mr. Thomas Dale Kerley*



Carmen & George Wells - March 23, 2012 at 09:50 AM

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“ *Though you are gone my brother, I will never forget, the love I had for you, and yours for me. I will miss you forever as time passes by, but I know I will be with you one day, and that fills my heart with a great love knowing that we will share heavens gate together. I love you so, my heart aches, but, I do know God is with you now, and you are in my heart forever.*
With All My Love,
Your sister, Eva
Eva and Dan Wheat
Copperas Cove, Texas



Eva A. Wheat (Kerley) - March 22, 2012 at 10:30 AM

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As we continue to try and heal from the loss of a sister and a niece, another time of turmoil has seen fit to invade our hearts in the passing of Dale. All that we can do at this time of our suffering is to try and remember him in his life and the many happy memories that all will be able to share at this time of sorrow. We wish to pass our condolences to all the family that shared in Dale's life. He will be missed and always loved by all
Your sister, Eula
Eula and Bob Mc Manus
Bartonville, Illinois

Eula and Bob Mc Manus - March 22, 2012 at 10:58 AM