



David L. Downs

December 22, 1947 - October 7, 2014

David L. Downs, 66, of Bonfield, passed away Tuesday (Oct. 7, 2014) at Northwestern University Hospital in Chicago.

He was born Dec. 22, 1947, in Chicago, the son of Wendell and Dolly Misplay Downs.

David and Bobbi Downs were married on Oct. 10, 1970, at Zion Lutheran in Bonfield. She survives in Bonfield.

He served in the U.S. Army during Vietnam. He was in the service from 1967 to 1969 and returned home in October 1969.

David worked as a Local 597 pipefitter, was a member of the NRA, the VFW in Aroma Park, Zion Lutheran Church in Bonfield and AMA Motorcross Association. He loved dirt bikes, participating in motorcross races and won many trophies in go-cart races in his younger days, enjoyed NASCAR and drag racing. He was very handy and could fix anything, was talented at making toys and furniture out of wood, fixing the cabinets in their house, making and riding ATVs, he was an avid hunter and enjoyed target shooting. Most importantly, he enjoyed spending time with his children and grandchildren. He had a great sense of humor and never complained, even during his sickest days.

Surviving are two sons, Jeffery and Cassie Downs, of Kankakee, and James Downs and Amanda Vining, of Bonfield; one daughter, Dena and Bradley Gray, of Kankakee; two grandsons, Jaime and Gavin Downs; three granddaughters, Kendall, Riley and Ruby Gray; sister, Crystal and Michael

McWilliams, of Finley; brothers, Dennis and Suzanne Downs, of Chebanse, Don and Laurie Downs, of St. George, and Dale and Maureen Downs, of Bourbonnais; many nieces and nephews; and sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Jane and Arthur Serena, of Bonfield.

Preceding him in death were his parents.

Visitation will be from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at Clancy-Gernon-Hertz, Kankakee. An additional time for visitation will be from 10 a.m. Saturday until the 11 a.m. funeral services at Zion Lutheran Church in Bonfield. Burial will be Zion Lutheran Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Zion Lutheran Church or for family wishes.

Cemetery Details

Zion Lutheran Cemetery

Bonfield, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **10**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Kankakee - Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home
1480 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Visitation

OCT **11**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Zion Lutheran Church
11478 W. Route 17
Bonfield, IL 60913
(815) 426-2650
<http://zionbonfield.org/>

Funeral Service

OCT 11. 11:00 AM (CT)

Zion Lutheran Church
11478 W. Route 17
Bonfield, IL 60913
(815) 426-2650
<http://zionbonfield.org/>

Tribute Wall

TT

“ David & I were in Vietnam together 1968 / 1969 we were close friends,we spent a lot of time hanging out at the fire station.I went to his home in 1985 to see him then I called him,I should have stayed in contact with him more than I did,but we both had kids,wives & being so far apart we just didn't.He has some pictures of us together in Vietnam,we had a Honda 50cc we used to ride into the village on two crazy guys going all over on that Honda & we didn't ever have a gun,lol.I got shot down in the helicopter,I was a door gunner we were out there 3 days before we got out,when we landed at our base David was standing out there waiting for me.He told me he wanted to come out there to get me & I said thanks brother but I am just glad we are both here.To his family I know his loss is a hard thing to understand but a lot of us came home thinking we made it only to find out later we didn't.They killed us a long time ago with agent orange PTSD,but we are still lucky we got married had kids,grandkids we may not have been the easiest people to live with but there must have been something that keeps you together for so long.David was one of the best I will always remember him.Tony Tedesco 48th Assault Helicopter Company Ninh Hoa Vietnam.If you or any of you family want to contact me email me at cvotony@gmail.com send phone Number & I will call.Dec.24,2015

Tony Tedesco - December 24, 2015 at 03:19 PM

JH

“ Julie And Janet Hertz lit a candle in memory of David L. Downs



julie and Janet hertz - October 10, 2014 at 03:01 PM

CP

So sorry for your loss Bobbi, your cousins Connie and Jill

Connie Papineau Puckett - October 10, 2014 at 05:04 PM

VB

“ *Our Deepest Sympathy to Bobbi & Family. David was such a good hearted & loving person. He & Bobbi & the Downs family were our family, too. Growing up next door to our Cox Family we always enjoyed his company and the Down's family. I can remember him going with us to the Illinois State Fair back in the day and taking me (Vickie) down that Big slide. You will always be remembered David. RIP David. I know you will be working on some type of engine, go kart ect in Heaven. We Love & will miss You. Hugs & Prayers.*

Love Tim & Vickie (Cox) Bertrand

Sylvia Cox

Billy Jr. & Melissa & Evan & Ethan Cox

Vickie (Cox) Bertrand - October 10, 2014 at 01:18 PM

GB

“ *Bobbi and family-Larry and I are very sorry at David's passing, but I'm sure he was ready. He fought so hard and endured so much. You, Bobbi, took such loving care of him and it's not easy to watch a loved one suffer. Super-hearted woman. We always had fun with you guys and when the whole gang got together--look out. Many fond memories. Take care.*

Genice and Larry Bailey - October 09, 2014 at 06:35 PM

LG

“ *Lecia G lit a candle in memory of David L. Downs*



Lecia G - October 09, 2014 at 03:47 PM

LG

*My sympathy to you in this sad time. Sorry for your loss.
Love,
Lecia Geiger*

Lecia Geiger - October 09, 2014 at 03:49 PM

KS

“ *Sorry to hear of David's death. Prayers and condolences to the family.
Kathy Sullivan*

Kathy Sullivan - October 09, 2014 at 12:49 PM