



## Denzle W. Painter

December 6, 1944 - March 27, 2026

Denzle W. Painter, age 81, of Kankakee passed away Friday, March 27, 2026 at his home. He was born December 6, 1944 in Kankakee, the son of Denzle & Isabelle (Gerard) Painter. Denzle married Carole Sue Maxfield on August 14, 1965 at the First Baptist Church in Kankakee. She preceded him in death on November 25, 2022.

Denzle owned Safe Way Cab Company and was co-owner of Riverview Motors. During his retirement, he worked part time at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home and was a bailiff at the Kankakee Court House. He was a member of the Kankakee Valley Boat Club. Denzle loved boating and skiing on the river and pulling up to the sand bar. He raced stock cars at the Kankakee Speedway. Denzle enjoyed golf and cars. He was a great father and enjoyed spending time with his family and friends.

Denzle was a member of the College Church of the Nazarene.

Surviving are two sons, Jason (Ashley) Painter of Nashville, TN and Justin Painter of Chicago; step granddaughter, Noel True of CO; and one step great-granddaughter, Selah True; and two brothers-in-law, David (Madonna) Raiche of Bourbonnais, Dave (Jill) Braun of Bourbonnais. In addition to his wife, Carol Sue Painter, Denzle is preceded in death by his parents and two sisters, Charlotte West and Shirley Wesson.

Visitation will be held from 10-1 p.m. on Monday, March 30, 2026 at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais. Interment will follow at Mount Calvary Cemetery in Kankakee.

Memorials may be made to Uplifted Care.

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Calvary Cemetery

2000 E. Court St.  
Kankakee, IL 60901

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 30. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.  
295 Main St., NW  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914  
(815) 932-1214  
cgfuneral@gmail.com

## Cemetery Chapel Service

MAR 30. 1:30 PM (CT)

Mount Calvary Cemetery  
2000 E. Court St.  
Kankakee, IL 60901

# Tribute Wall

NP

“ Jason and Ashley, as Shannon's parents , we reach out to thank you for standing by our Shannon over the years in special friendship and support. We share a special Concern for your grief after his nightmare of losing his home and his health through all of that . This memorial tree will be planted in his name as a forest receives new growth for a healthy environment. May peace come to you in time.

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**Norm /Karon Pfile** - April 09 at 08:00 PM

NP

“ Norm/karon P. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Denzle W. Painter.

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**Norm/karon P.** - April 09 at 07:49 PM

DM

“ Darryl and I were so sad, first to learn of the tornado destruction to Denzle's house, then of his passing. We have so many fun--and even tender--memories of spending time with Denzle and CarolSue. He always had his 50s music on as we traveled on our bikes; more than once at a stop we'd start singing together, especially Buddy Holly's "Every Day"! We loved those light-hearted moments, as well as our "pew pal" gatherings! Denzle is now with the love of his life, and may you, Justin and Jason, and all the family always be encouraged by the eternal Hope they now share!...Darryl n Carol Mest

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**DarrylnCarol Mest** - April 01 at 11:16 AM

DB

“ I met your dad before I knew your mom. We both worked out at the “Y” and were always waiting on each other for a nautilus machine. At the same time I was subbing a few afternoons a week for your mom while she taught her “ gifted “kids. I saw your dad’s picture on her desk. I told her “ Hey, I know him from the “Y”. We had a good laugh. So sorry for your loss boys. DeeDee Baker

DeeDee Baker - March 31 at 05:50 AM

JG

“ Joseph Giacchino lit a candle in memory of Denzle W. Painter



Joseph Giacchino - March 30 at 04:55 PM

GK

“ My deepest sympathies to Denzel’s family. You’re such a nice guy and his wife was a sweetheart. Prayers for all of them.

Glendal Kilbride - March 30 at 12:03 PM

TM

“ Tom Mallaney lit a candle in memory of Denzle W. Painter



Tom Mallaney - March 30 at 09:06 AM

JG

“ Our prayers go out to Justin and Jason and family at this difficult time and send our sincere condolences on your Dads passing. We loved Denzle and Carol Sue. They were the best friends and neighbors to us . Your parents had such a beautiful love story, and I hope it brings you peace knowing they are reunited at last❤️



Jan Glazar - March 29 at 05:16 PM

MM

“ Mike Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Denzle W. Painter



Mike Mitchell - March 29 at 09:42 AM

KA

“ Kaye lit a candle in memory of Denzle W. Painter



Kaye - March 28 at 10:37 PM

TA

“ Thomas Anthony lit a candle in memory of Denzle W. Painter



Thomas Anthony - March 28 at 03:17 PM

SL

“ Peace and blessings to you Jason and Justin. I have many fond memories of you all during your days of the swim team at the Y. Your momma always made me laugh during our high school days. I remember running into Denzle and Carol Sue during homecoming one year. Your dad said your momma still had her banner from being homecoming queen. He wanted her to wear it and he would drive her in the corvette in the parade where she could do the queen wave. How fun and would be so appropriate for those two. The loved each other so much. We had a laugh at the thought of it. We are so sorry for your loss. You always have them in your memories and hearts.

*Sharon Lagacy*

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**Sharon Lagacy** - March 28 at 02:06 PM

MH

“ So so sorry to read this. Prayers for you and your families.



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**mary hutchinson** - March 28 at 09:04 AM

KM

“ Justin and Jason, I'm so very sorry for your loss. My father just passed on 1/26/26. It's a painful thing to lose such loving parents. You're in my thoughts and prayers. May your dad rest easy.

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**Karla Moore** - March 27 at 06:02 PM

MT

“ Hugs n prayers are with Justin n Jason n family at this very sad time. Denzle was a very special friend n we will miss him greatly. May God hold you close, fill the hole in your in your hearts n dry your tears n may your fond memories bring smiles.  
John n Mary Thomson



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**Mary Thomson** - March 27 at 05:50 PM

HP

“ Justin and I have been friends since grade school. Denzel and Carol Sue were a fixture at our basketball games. Denzel always made it so fun by cheering with us and making up a few cheers on his own. He always had a smile and big hug whenever I saw him. He will be missed and my condolences go out to his family. ❤️

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**Heather Parkhurst** - March 27 at 04:32 PM