



Franklin "Rich" Wilkins

April 1, 1946 - November 27, 2013

Franklin R. "Rich" Wilkins, 67, of Bourbonnais, passed away Wednesday (Nov. 27, 2013) at his home.

Visitation will be from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home, Bourbonnais. There will be no funeral services. Burial will be in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood. Memorials may be made to the Bradley American Legion Post 0766.

He was born April 1, 1946, the son of Charles and Geneva Adams Wilkins. He married Kathy Cato on Nov. 14, 1970.

He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1966, serving in Vietnam from 1967 to 1969, during which time he had three extensions, achieving the rank of Corp. E-4. He was the current commander and treasurer of the Bradley American Legion Post 0766, life member of the Bourbonnais VFW Post 9961, life member of the Marine Corps League and third vice commander of the Disabled American Veterans, Kankakee Chapter.

Mr. Wilkins was a welder for numerous manufacturers in the Kankakee area, including A.O. Smith and Roper Corp., Bradley division. He was also a carpenter in the Kankakee area.

Surviving are his wife, of Bourbonnais; one son and daughter-in-law, Richard (Teri Fenili) Wilkins, of Bourbonnais; two daughters and sons-in-law, Tracy (James) Blanchette, and Maggie (Joey) Matuszewski, all of Bourbonnais; two sisters, Barbara Jean Harvelle, of Kankakee, and Linda Gentz, of Alvin, Texas; three brothers, Dennis (Ellie) Wilkins, of Republic, Kan., Floyd (Pam) Wilkins, of Bourbonnais, and Chuck (Jean) Wilkins, of Chula Vista, Calif.; four granddaughters and three great grandchildren.

Cemetery Details

Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery

20953 Hoff Road
Elwood, IL 60421

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 30. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

MM

“ *Dad as my birthday is only 3 days away I miss you tremendously...life is seriously so hard without you....* 🥹🥹🥹



Maggie Matuszewski - October 17, 2023 at 12:05 AM

Maggie Wilkins-Matuszew

“ *Maggie Wilkins-Matuszewski lit a candle in memory of Franklin "Rich" Wilkins*



Maggie Wilkins-Matuszewski - August 29, 2017 at 10:44 AM

Maggie Wilkins-Matuszew

“ *I cant believe its been almost 4 years since you left me dad....I miss u so much...im lost witout you* 🥹🥹🥹 *rip dad til we c eachother again. I will love you forever.* ❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️

Maggie Wilkins-Matuszewski - August 29, 2017 at 10:42 AM

NB

“ *im glad you get to rest where you wanted papa.! its absolutely beautiful there.!*

Nicole Blanchette - December 04, 2013 at 12:51 PM

NB

“ Rest in paradise grandpa.! im so proud of you, and all you overcame and went through.. please rest in peace my marine,! we love you.!<3

Nicole Blanchette - December 04, 2013 at 12:48 PM

NB

“ Grandpa, you were and still are the best grandpa anyone could ever ask for. you mean so much to so many people. we all love and miss you.! don't think for a second that we will ever forget you, because we won't! your physical body may not be here with us anymore, but we all know you're still here with us grandpa.! This has been the hardest thing i've ever had to do.. you were always there for us, no matter what the situation.. you would always help us.. and i know you'd still be here if you could.. i dont blame you papa.. i know you were just tired. :(its just so hard knowing i cant hug you anymore, kiss you anymore, thank you anymore.. i cant do anything anymore.. you were the rock grandpa.. you made all of our lives better.. i just wish i knew why we had to lose people so close to us so soon.. i didnt think i would lose you so soon grandpa.. im sorry i didnt come over enough,. im so sorry. i wish i could just see you one more time.. id tell you everything i didnt get to say before you left us..i love you grandpa.. and i always will.! you're always and forever in our hearts.! <3 :(

Nicole Blanchette - December 04, 2013 at 12:45 PM

NB

“ Nicole Blanchette lit a candle in memory of Franklin "Rich" Wilkins



Nicole Blanchette - December 04, 2013 at 12:36 PM

LC

“ So sorry that I couldn't be at the memorial. May God be with your on your final journey. Thinking of Kathy, Richie, Tracy, and Maggie and this difficult time..

Linda Courville

Linda Courville - December 02, 2013 at 08:08 AM

HW

“ Heather Wilkins sent a virtual gift in memory of Franklin "Rich" Wilkins



Heather Wilkins - December 01, 2013 at 01:48 PM

NY

“ Godspeed Marine! Semper Fidelis! Major Nickey Yates (USMC, Ret.)



N. F. Yates - December 01, 2013 at 11:33 AM



“ My thoughts are with Kathy, Tracy, Richie, Maggie and all the extended family. Rich made an impact in our lives. Although we may have lost touch over the years, we still hold you all in our hearts as wonderful neighbors. I have many memories of just hanging out on Sundays while the ladies played cards, we kids ran the neighborhood, and Rich grilled the chicken. :) Good times. Much love to you all. We will be thinking of you tomorrow and always.

Ingrid Schamel - November 29, 2013 at 10:35 PM

RW

“ Love u Dad!!

Rich Wilkins - November 29, 2013 at 09:39 PM

MP

“ Big Rich was like a dad to me, always caring about what was going on in my life. He was a great man, and will be missed dearly. He made us all better people, by knowing him!

Love ya "Pops"

MIKE PURKEY - November 29, 2013 at 09:15 PM



1W

“ 1st Grandchild Heather Lynn Wilkins lit a candle in memory of Franklin "Rich" Wilkins

1st Grandchild Heather Lynn Wilkins - November 29, 2013 at 08:31 PM



HW

I Love You All, and I will NEVER forget you Papa and I Love You so much forever and always

Heather Wilkins - December 01, 2013 at 01:46 PM

TW

“ Tracy Wilkins-blanchette lit a candle in memory of Franklin "Rich" Wilkins

tracy wilkins-blanchette - November 29, 2013 at 07:37 PM



KO

“ *Kelsie O'Brien lit a candle in memory of Franklin "Rich" Wilkins*



Kelsie O'Brien - November 29, 2013 at 05:22 PM

KW

“ *Karlee Wilkins lit a candle in memory of Franklin "Rich" Wilkins*



Karlee Wilkins - November 29, 2013 at 05:21 PM

KW

“ *Grandpa, I love you and miss you so much. I know you would want us all to be happy so that's what we're all trying to do. You were the most amazing grandpa, and just person, in the whole world. I love you so much. Rest in peace. <3*

Karlee Wilkins - November 29, 2013 at 05:20 PM

PM

“ *Paige Matuszewski lit a candle in memory of Franklin "Rich" Wilkins*



paige matuszewski - November 29, 2013 at 05:15 PM

PM

“ *papa I love and miss you so much I don't know what im gunna do with out you. you were like my bestfriend and you meant the world to me. we all love you to death and we'll all miss you dearly. rest in paradise grandpa love you so much<3 love paige.*

paige matuszewski - November 29, 2013 at 05:15 PM

TF

“ *You will be sorely missed, Dad, love you.*

Teri Fenili - November 29, 2013 at 04:29 PM

TF

“ *Teri Fenili lit a candle in memory of Franklin "Rich" Wilkins*



Teri Fenili - November 29, 2013 at 04:28 PM

TB

“ *Maggie- am so sorry for your lost. You and your family are in my prayers*

Tonya Baker - November 29, 2013 at 02:39 PM

JB

“ *I delivered mail to the Wilkins house for many years, and you'll never find a nicer or friendlier guy than Rich, always enjoyed talking to him. Jerry the Mailman*

jerry bjick - November 29, 2013 at 01:38 PM

MW

“ *Maggie Wilkins-matuszewski lit a candle in memory of Franklin "Rich" Wilkins*



maggie wilkins-matuszewski - November 29, 2013 at 11:43 AM

MW

“ *Dear Daddy, i love you w all my heart n i miss u so much already i'm lost without you!!! i no that one day we will be together again until then watch over us and make sure we all make it thru this. The holidays just aren't the same without you!!!! i will always love you and u will be greatly missed!!!! I will NEVER forget u!!! you were the best dad any one could ever ask for!!!! Thank you for always being there for me and giving me a great life!! u will be forever in our hearts and memories!! I LOVE YOU DADDY!!!!*

maggie wilkins-matuszewski - November 29, 2013 at 11:41 AM

KV

“ *Tracy-So sorry to see that your Dad passed away. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. God Bless you. Kay VanderBol*



Kay VanderBol - November 29, 2013 at 10:37 AM

TF

awe thanks kay

Teri Fenili - November 29, 2013 at 04:54 PM

VD

“ Dear Kathy and family, I do not have enough words to tell you how sorry I am about Rich. What a great man. I am going to really miss the hugs. I know Don was there to welcome him My thought ,prayers, and love are with all of you. Virginia Dominick

Virginia Dominick - November 28, 2013 at 06:58 PM

VD

“ Virginia R. Dominick lit a candle in memory of Franklin "Rich" Wilkins



Virginia R. Dominick - November 28, 2013 at 06:45 PM

SO

“ Going to miss you bro!
S/F
Stan Olenjack

stan olenjack - November 28, 2013 at 05:43 PM