



Raymond Blanchette

July 27, 1953 - October 12, 2007

Raymond Blanchette -- Manteno Raymond J. Blanchette, 54, of Manteno, died Friday (Oct. 12, 2007) at his home. Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday at Clancy Gernon Funeral Home, Manteno. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday at St. George Church in Bourbonnais. Burial will be in St. George Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Hospice of Kankakee Valley or to St. George Church, where he was a member. Mr. Blanchette farmed in the St. George area and was a dairyman. He was owner and operator from 1992-2007 of Blanchette Sales & Service, a dealer for Simplicity Outdoor Power Equipment. He was born July 27, 1953, in Kankakee, the son of Leo and Mildred Boudreau Blanchette. He was a member of AMPI (Associated Milk Producers Inc.) and the Kankakee Farm Bureau. He was a member and president of the Holy Name Society at his church, where he was also a former member of the parish council and always involved in fundraisers at the church. Surviving are his wife, the former Linda Bertrand, whom he married April 22, 1972, at St. Joseph Church in Manteno; two sons and daughters-in-law, Craig and Ann Blanchette, Cory and Alisa Blanchette, all of Manteno; one daughter and son-in-law, Carrie and Nathan White of Herscher; seven grandchildren, Blake Blanchette, Tyler Blanchette, Peyton Blanchette, Luke Blanchette and Addison Blanchette, all of Manteno; Tucker White and Tate White, both of Herscher; his mother of Manteno; one sister and brother-in-law, Doreen and Bennie Sariff of Manteno; and two brothers and three sisters-in-law, Phillip and Margaret Blanchette, Dale and Gina Blanchette, all of

Manteno, and Pat Blanchette of Bourbonnais. Deceased are his father and one brother, Leroy Blanchette.



“ I WAS VERY SORRY TO HEAR OF THE DEATH OF RAY.

I WAS A CLASSMATE OF LINDA FROM KINDERGARTEN
THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL AND A CLASSMATE OF GINA
THROUGH OUR HIGH SCHOOL YEARS. WHILE I DID NOT
KNOW RAY WELL AT THE TIME I LIVED IN MANTENO IT WAS
STILL A TOWN SMALL ENOUGH THAT EVERYONE KNEW
EVERYONE.

MY SISTER MARY LEE DIED SEVERAL
YEARS AGO AFTER A FOUR YEAR ILLNESS SO I KNOW TO A
DEGREE THEPAIN AND HARDSHIP SUCH A THING CAN
CAUSE.

MY PRAYER FOR YOUR FAMILY IS THAT
GODS GRACE GIVES YOU RELIEF AND COMFORT.

MY
PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS ARE WITH YOUR FAMILY.

GODS BLESSINGS

JOE BAIRD
EDWARDSVILLE##imported-begin##JOE BAIRD##imported-
end##

October 12, 2007 at 01:55 PM



“
½This machine is supposed to bring the world into our homes, but lately all it does is fill me in on who's left! This is the third one of these things I've written TODAY, and I'm the one who should be on the way out; this MS is a b....!

½Been some years, man. I always enjoyed coming out to the farm for a chat. Your place was always so orderly, compared to the others I worked for around there; I suppose Linda was the one keeping everything on the strait and narrow. I STILL tell folks (even out here) about the night that we were accused of "putting Bourbonnais under seige" when we were shooting empty beer cans out of that home-made PVC "cannon" with the oxy-acetetyne charge! All those cops for a loud plastic pop-gun, damn that was fun!

½Remember now Ray, we are all gonna get together on the dark side of the moon for a party when we're all "out there", so be watchin' for the rest of the gang. Linda and kids, you are all in our thoughts today. Give his hand a big squeeze for me. Take care.

½Good-bye old friend.##imported-begin##Mitch Booth##imported-end##

October 12, 2007 at 01:55 PM



“ I wish so much I could have been there with you Linda. I won't forget the specialness of being with someone at death and as the pain heals I'm sure you will appreciate more and more those last moments you had together. I hate being so far away from family, especially in times like these. If my arms could reach the 2000 miles I would be giving you a big hug right now. Ray is probably smiling down on us now, surrounded by all his favorite animals out of pain and at peace. I'm so proud of your kids, Craig, Cory and Carrie and the way they have come through to help during this illness. You all did everything humanly possible to make Ray's last days the best of his life. The trip to Custer's Last Stand, to the Grand Canyon and to all the daily and weekly visit to the farm to ensure the crops were in and animals fed. I know Ray must be proud of you all too! You are in my thoughts and prayers. Wish I were there.
Mary Lou
##imported-begin##Mary Lou Paquette##imported-end##

October 12, 2007 at 01:55 PM



“ Linda and Family, We are so sorry to here about Ray. I am traveling to Pennsylvania Monday morning for work and will not be able to make it to Manteno this week. It seems that when ever I am telling stories about growing up that I end up talking about bailing hay for Ray when I was 14.
You will be in our prayers.
Bryant
Marti and family
##imported-begin##Bryant Bertrand##imported-end##

October 12, 2007 at 01:55 PM



“ He was always entertaining at the Family Gatherings. I will miss that the most. Aunt Linda, you and your family are in our prayers. Love, Duane, Hannah, and Taylor Paquette##imported-begin##Duane Paquette##imported-end##

October 12, 2007 at 01:55 PM



“ Aunt Linda, Craig, Cory, & Carrie, I just wanted to let you know that you are all in my thoughts and prayers. I'm so glad I was able to come home over Labor Day and visit w/ Uncle Ray. He told us all about the trips ya'll had taken. You could really tell he enjoyed not just talking about the trips, but being able to go on them. Take care of yourselves...and know that he's not in pain anymore. I love and miss you all. Marie##imported-begin##Marie Perry##imported-end##

October 12, 2007 at 01:55 PM



“ Our prayers are with you all today and we wish it had been possible to stay.##imported-begin##Ray & Karen Bertrand##imported-end##

October 12, 2007 at 01:55 PM



“ So sorry you have my deepest sympathy. Ray will be miss by alot of people. If you need anything or just to talk call me.##imported-begin##Nancy Gagnon##imported-end##

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“ *My prayers are with you and your family.*##imported-begin##Julie Wasson##imported-end##

October 12, 2007 at 01:55 PM