



Roger D. Wagner

September 13, 1935 - May 1, 2016

Roger looked at life as a performer. You could always see the anticipation to go out and give all he could to make others enjoy their time with him. He never seemed to have a plan, but lived life his way. He never wanted his children to sit in a corner and just read a book, but instead to know that if you wanted more butter for bread you just needed to politely ask.

He was a fortune teller from his favorite book—the Farmer's Almanac. The flowers dropping from the catalpa tree meant rain, rain on Easter Sunday meant it was going to rain the next 7 Sundays, if you could hang a bucket on the sliver of the moon – then it's a dry moon.

Roger was a strong observer of beer thirty; you could often find him in the shed sitting on an overturned bucket after a hard day's work, kibitzing with whoever would join him. The commitment to his family and community was unparalleled. He was an authentic man, a humble man who wasn't interested in shiny objects, who was always easy to talk to and had something to contribute to anyone's story when listening. A story, a saying, a memory, a wink, or a shrug. He was a creative master, that only required a pair of pliers, bailing wire, ducttape, and a pocket knife.

He will be remembered in part for his general common sense and love for life. Roger was a master of simple expressions "Roger-isms", like Hey bucko, you

must be confused, you ask too many questions, or you must drink a lot of water (you know people didn't get smart until they started drinking bottled water). When asked where he was headed he would often respond, "to see a man about a horse". Roger's quick wit and exceptional sense of humor will continue to live on through his children and grandchildren whom he taught to add a little humor to each day.

Roger's grandchildren will remember him by his friendly ponytail tugs, his loving pinch accompanied by a wink, and most of all, the valuable life lessons that were learned while picking up rocks in the fields. He was proud of his 8 grandchildren, and if asked, any one of those 8 will tell you he had a part in shaping them into the young adults they are becoming today.

He was a husband, father, grandfather, captain, boss, mechanic, turkey slicer, barbequer, wanna be golfer, and a friend.

As Roger faced health struggles throughout the last 12 months of his life, he fought with everything he had. In that year Roger kept celebrating; like his 80th birthday with family and friends, Andrea and Mark's 25th Anniversary, his granddaughter's college graduation, Easter, and a good old fashion country fried steak after some of his cancer treatments.

With such a vibrant spirit and open heart that seemed to have no limits, Roger Wagner, greatly impacted the world around him in countless ways. When some experience success, it can make them prideful or even arrogant at times, but nothing could have been further than the truth in regards to Roger.

He served in the Army reserves. He was a farmer since 1953. Roger was a member of the Herscher Lutheran Church, Honor Guard at the Abraham Lincoln Cemetary, member of the Herscher Historical society, the Herscher Chamber of Commerce, Herscher Merchants, and a patron at Carol's Cage.

Roger D. Wagner, 80, passed away on Sunday, May 1st. He was born on September 13, 1935, in Kankakee to Elwyn and Viola (Larke) Wagner. Roger married Patricia Hanrahan July 29, 1961 in Kankakee, IL. Roger's family includes his wife; Pat; son and daughter-in-law, Adam and Teresa (Barr) Wagner; daughter and son-in-law, Andrea (Wagner) and Mark Smiley; son and daughter-in-law, Aaron and Jenny (Hozie) Wagner; 8 grandchildren. Visitation will be Thursday, May 5th at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais. Funeral service will be Friday, May 6th at Trinity Lutheran Church in Herscher, IL. Inurnment will be at Sts. Peter and Paul Cemetery in Herscher. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to wishes of the family, Hospice of Kankakee Valley, or The Herscher Historical Society.

If there's one thing that should be remembered about Roger, it's the mark he left on his family and friends. He was an honest man who taught us all about life, a little about love, a lot about hard work and the true meaning of friendship. To say he will be missed is a tremendous understatement, therefore; let's not say goodbye, instead – we will see you again!

"To say the things he truly feels and not the words of one who kneels
The record shows I took the blows and did it my way" -Frank Sinatra

Cemetery Details

Sts. Peter & Paul Cemetery

Herscher, IL 60941

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 5. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

MAY 6. 10:00 AM (CT)

Trinity Lutheran Church
255 E. 3rd
Herscher, IL 60941

Tribute Wall

BW

“ Thoughts and Prayers to Pat and all family and friends. Our deepest Sympathy!!

bobby warhurst - May 06, 2016 at 09:53 AM

JS

“ Rodger always brought sunshine and happiness. Miss you.
Jacquie Sterr

Jacquie Sterr - May 06, 2016 at 07:27 AM

RR

“ Sorry for your loss.
Ron Ramsey

Ron Ramsey - May 05, 2016 at 04:12 PM

JF

“ Your family has our sympathy at this difficult time.

JOE AND CAROL FRITZ - May 04, 2016 at 06:20 PM

GG

“ Gloria Graham lit a candle in memory of
Roger D. Wagner



Gloria Graham - May 04, 2016 at 12:03 PM

PH

“ Pat: Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your wonderful family. Roger gave cancer a good fight with his positive attitude. Pat and Bruce Huot

Pat Huot - May 04, 2016 at 08:27 AM

MJ

“ Dear Pat and Family.
I am looking at the awesome Pictures of our joining you and Rog in Panama City Beach, FL in 2004. I just smile and sometimes laugh when looking at what a wonderful vacation that was. Imagine Roger on the beach sitting at his own picnic table with a bottle of wine and his cell phone and a HUGE Smile on his face.. He was the life of the party and will be deeply missed by everyone. Love and Prayers to his family.
Mary Jo & Tony.

Mary Jo & Tony Janc - May 03, 2016 at 05:22 PM

CM

“ Pat and family you have my sincere sympathy in your loss. Roger always had that wonderful smile & wink. Thoughts & prayers are with you during this time.

Cathie (Bergan) Miedema

Cathie Miedema - May 03, 2016 at 10:20 AM



DQ

“ So sorry for your loss! He was an awesome man and friend! Wishing the family strength during these next days.

Debi Quain - May 02, 2016 at 08:18 PM