



Bernard "Bernie" K. Lawrence

March 20, 1933 - June 27, 2022

Bernard "Bernie" K. Lawrence, 89, of Petersburg, Illinois, passed away at his home on Monday, June 27, 2022. He was born March 20, 1933, in Springfield, Illinois, the son of Leonard and Mildred (Simpson) Lawrence. He married Mary "Brandy" Brady on August 17, 1957, in New York City.

Bernie served our grateful nation as a member of the United States Navy. He later graduated with his master's degree in teaching from Western Illinois University. He worked as a school teacher and in school administration. He loved hunting, gardening, country music and dogs. He also loved to paint houses.

Bernie is survived by his wife; a son, Brady Lawrence of Petersburg; a daughter, Rachel (Jeff McShane) Lawrence of Pendleton, Oregon; and a granddaughter, Maura McShane.

Bernie was preceded in death by his parents.

A graveside service will be held on Tuesday, July 5, 2022, at Oakland Cemetery in Petersburg at 10:30 am with Pastor Rick Pierce officiating.

Hurley Funeral Home in Petersburg is assisting Bernie's family with arrangement. Please visit hurleyfh.com to view his online obituary and share

memories and condolences with his family.

Cemetery Details

Oakland Cemetery

Petersburg, IL

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JUL 5. 10:30 AM (CT)

Oakland Cemetery
Petersburg, IL

Tribute Wall



“ *Bernard "Bernie" K. Lawrence*

October 12, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ *Have nothing but fond memories of Mr. Lawrence. RIP*

Deborah Price-Schrowang - July 22, 2022 at 09:55 AM



“ *I still have such good memories of Mr. Lawrence as my Sixth Grade teacher at Laketown School. I remember that his daughter Rachel was born that year and that his son Brady had a guinea pig. Mr. Lawrence was such a nice and enthusiastic guy who could keep our class interesting and make us laugh, too!*

Nancy Rigdon Minnick - June 30, 2022 at 05:06 PM



I was also in Mr. Lawrence's 6th grade class at Laketown Elementary School and loved his enthusiasm and how he made learning fun. He told my mother at a conference that I never smiled and from then on I put a smile on my face because he thought it was important 😊 And I'm still smiling 😊 My condolences to all of his family.

Laura Clark - July 01, 2022 at 09:47 AM



*I just learned today that Bernie had passed away. He was kind and thoughtful and full of energy. He and Brady printed the house several times and always did a great job. Caring thoughts to you as you continue to journey through this difficult time.
Penny Meyer*

Penny Meyer - October 20, 2022 at 02:02 PM

CP

“ Bernie was the vice principal at Benjamin Franklin when I attended. He was always the nicest person even when he had to give out a swat! He treated everyone kind and was a terrific inspiration to me as a student. Rest easy Mr. Lawrence, you made a wonderful impression on many and you were a terrific person.

Craig Perganson, “ Pergy” - June 29, 2022 at 01:49 PM

KE

“ I was the choir teacher at Washington Middle School when Mr. Lawrence was the assistant Principal. He was kind and helpful, and supportive of the arts. Rarely in my career did administrators care or support what we fine arts teachers do. Mr. Lawrence and Principal Mendenhall did. My heart goes out to his family.....he will be missed.

Kathleen Elmore - June 28, 2022 at 11:35 PM

SB

“ About 25 years ago I had to take my 18 year old dog Snoopy up to the vet clinic because it was time to let him go. The clinic was closed and I was sitting with my van door open and Snoopy lying on a blanket. We were waiting for the doctor to get there to meet us. Mr and Mrs Lawrence happened to be driving by and saw us sitting there. They stopped and sat with us until Dr Cline got there. Then they quietly drove away so that our final moment would be private. How kind it was for them to help us. I like to think that maybe Snoopy was one of many to greet Mr Lawrence in heaven.

Sue Britton - June 28, 2022 at 11:43 AM

MM

So very sorry for your loss.
Paul and Marilyn Montgomery

Marilyn Montgomery - June 28, 2022 at 06:49 PM

DH

He made the world a little brighter with his wit and many, many brush strokes. Good job Bernie, will miss you.

Donna Hitchcock - June 30, 2022 at 10:54 AM

DG

Mr Lawrence was our principal at First Ward during the 60s. He treated us sometimes unruly students with firmness and was always fair. Later, during my college years, when I would see him he always had a kind word. The world has lost a good one. My condolences to the family.

Dave Gurnsey - July 01, 2022 at 10:03 AM

ML

We were saddened learn that Bernie Lawrence died in June. Our sincere condolences to his family. Our friendship continued after retirement and it was always a pleasure to be around him. He will be missed! Melinda and Pete LaBarre

Melinda and Pete LaBarre - November 05, 2022 at 11:23 AM