



Brian Lee Himmel

July 14, 1963 - April 26, 2026

Brian Lee Himmel, 62, formerly of Bluffs, Illinois, passed away on Sunday, April 26, 2026. Born on July 14, 1963, Brian lived a life rooted in faith, family, and music.

Brian was known for his incredible gift as a bass singer, using his talent to magnify the Lord and touch the hearts of many. He sang with the group 2 By 2 and later went on to form the group Anticipation, sharing his love of gospel music wherever he went. His voice was not only powerful, but deeply meaningful to those who had the privilege of hearing it.

He was also well known for his sense of humor. Brian was often considered the “class clown,” always joking around and bringing laughter to those around him. His lighthearted spirit and quick wit made him someone people loved to be around. In his free time, he enjoyed golfing, finding both relaxation and joy out on the course.

Above all, Brian cherished his family. He is survived by his two sons, Brandon (Stephanie) and Chris (Erica); his six beloved grandchildren, Graham, Arie, Samuel, Lily, Oliver, and Xander; and his three brothers, Randy (Karen), Allen (Shelia), and Tony (Michelle), along with numerous nieces and nephews. He took great joy in being a father and grandfather, and his love for them was evident in all he did.

He was preceded in death by his father, Keith Himmel, and his mother, Nancy Himmel.

Brian will be remembered for his strong faith, his musical talent, his joyful sense of humor, and the legacy of love he leaves behind. His life was a testimony of praise, and his song will live on in the hearts of those who knew him.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to support his grandchildren's future or to advance research for Frontotemporal Dementia.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, May 1, 2026, at 2:00 p.m., with visitation two hours prior to the funeral, at Forest City Community Church. Burial will follow the services at Pleasant Hill Cemetery, near Forest City. Rev. Steve Surratt will officiate.

Maas-Hurley Funeral Home, in Manito, is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Pleasant Hill Cemetery

28798 East Co Road 1900 N
Forest City, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 1. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Forest City Community Church
203 W. Market
Forest City, IL 61532
(309) 597-2111

Funeral Service

MAY 1. 2:00 PM (CT)

Forest City Community Church
203 W. Market
Forest City, IL 61532
(309) 597-2111

Tribute Wall



“ I first saw Brian at Shopko in Jacksonville then when you all came to sing at Bader church and other various other churches you all sang at miss his deep bass singing but enjoy Chris also lowering his voice to sound like him i know he is singing in heaven and i will get to hear him again when i go to heaven someday love you all you have my deepest sympathy.

Laura Thomas - May 04 at 12:43 PM



“ Remember him & brothers swimming at Evening Star many moons ago. So sorry for your family's loss!



Ljt Thomp - April 30 at 08:33 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Brian Lee Himmel.



April 30 at 01:45 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Brian Lee Himmel.*



April 30 at 01:22 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Brian Lee Himmel.

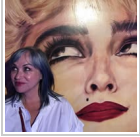
April 30 at 01:22 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss. I worked with Brian at the Journal Courier. He was such a fun, helpful guy. He was proud of his kids and the music you all made.*



Jenna - April 30 at 12:54 PM



“ Dear Himmel Family, My deepest condolences. I haven't seen Brian since High School graduation except years later at a gas station in Havana Illinois. My fondest memory of Brian was in 5th grade. It was 1973 and the TV show "Columbo" was the number 1 show on Sunday night. Brian did a spot on impression of Columbo, a bumbling homicide detective in a crinkled rain coat, funny walk, wonky eye and always smoking a small cigar and scratching his messy head of hair. Brian had it ALL down even with a jacket and rolled up paper as the cigar. Looking back, he was 11 and I swear he was Columbo. He always was the funny one in class. It's nice to see he had music family and love in his life. Sincerely Victoria Holland aka Vicki Kelly



Victoria Holland - April 29 at 06:16 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Brian Lee Himmel.



April 29 at 03:52 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Brian Lee Himmel.

April 29 at 03:52 PM

LH

“ Larry and Mary Hundt sent a virtual gift in memory of Brian Himmel



Larry and Mary Hundt - April 29 at 09:40 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Brian Lee Himmel.



April 29 at 09:35 AM

DL

“ I am so sorry your loss.

Danille Morris Lacey - April 28 at 11:14 PM

CC

“ Cheryl Cockerham lit a candle in memory of Brian Himmel



Cheryl Cockerham - April 28 at 10:02 PM

HB

“ Went to school with Brian we rode the same bus to school. He was a great friend always cutting up and was fun to be around.
To the family ,prayers for you all.

Harold Butler - April 28 at 09:34 PM

AM

“ Phone calls to Goofy Ridge from HNB

Alice Miller - April 28 at 09:16 PM

AM

“ Alice Miller lit a candle in memory of Brian Himmel



Alice Miller - April 28 at 09:11 PM

SP

“ Sorry for your loss Prayers to your family at this time.



Sandy Pedro - April 28 at 08:08 PM

CK

“ Charles Kurfman planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Brian Lee Himmel.

Charles Kurfman - April 28 at 07:51 PM

TT

“ *I had the pleasure of going to school with Brian and he was always such a fun caring person it breaks my heart that he has passed and my thoughts and prayers are with the family*

Teri Teed - April 28 at 07:25 PM

NE

“ *Brian worked with me at HNB when I first started. Hugs and prayers for his family*



Nancy Elliott - April 28 at 07:01 PM