



David Allan Wheeler

April 21, 1954 - July 28, 2025

David "Wheels" Allan Wheeler, 71, of Petersburg, Illinois, passed away on Monday, July 28, 2025, at Springfield Memorial Hospital. He was born April 21, 1954, in Springfield, Illinois, to Wendell and Mary (Harwood) Wheeler. On June 8, 1974, David married the love of his life, Patricia Yoakum, in Springfield. Their marriage was the foundation of a life built on hard work, dedication, and unwavering love.

David lived a very fulfilling life, never met a stranger, always had places to go, things to do and people to see. He always said "I can sleep after I'm gone". His most treasured time was spending time with his "little buddy" Everett and breaking bread and having a beverage (or two) with family and his many friends.

A true family man, David's greatest pride and joy was his family. He cherished every moment spent with Patricia, his devoted wife of 51 years. Whether working side-by-side on their farm or enjoying quiet evenings together, David and Patricia shared a bond that was evident to everyone who knew them. He was a proud and loving father to his two sons, Chad and Shawn, and nothing brought him more happiness than watching them grow into the men they are today.

David was the owner and operator of Wheeler Construction Company and

was widely respected for his craftsmanship and integrity. Outside of work, he gave generously of his time to his community, serving as a former Grand Master of the Petersburg Masonic Clinton Lodge #19 and a member of Director Staff of the Ansar Shriners in Springfield.

An avid outdoorsman, David found great joy in nature. He loved hunting, fishing, boating, and camping. He was passionate about gunsmithing and trapshooting, and he found peace working on the family farm raising Gelbvieh Angus cattle, baling hay, and enjoying the quiet satisfaction of a day's honest labor. These pastimes often became family affairs, as he loved sharing them with his sons.

David is survived by his beloved wife, Patricia; his sons, Chad Wheeler and Shawn (wife Melissa) Wheeler; his cherished grandson, Everett Wheeler; and his sisters, Terry McMillan and Karen (husband Bill) Dodd. He also leaves behind many nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Linda Lund.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A private memorial service for family will be held at Hurley Funeral Home in Petersburg, Illinois, with Pastor Ken Gennicks officiating. Masonic and Shriners rites will also be part of the service.

The family invites everyone to join in celebrating the life of David on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM at the American Legion Post #32 (1120 E. Sangamon Ave., Springfield, IL 62702). All are welcome to come together, share memories, and honor David's incredible life and legacy.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in David's honor to the Shriners Children's Hospital, 2900 N. Rocky Point Dr, Tampa, FL 33607.

Hurley Funeral Home in Petersburg is assisting the Wheeler family with arrangements. To share condolences or memories, please visit David's online obituary at hurleyfh.com.

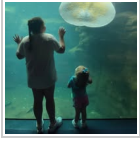
Previous Events

Celebration of Life

AUG **19**. 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

American Legion Post #32
1120 E. Sangamon Ave.
Springfield, IL 62702

Tribute Wall



“ I'm so very sorry for the loss of dave! So many of my childhood memories are with him. I'm sure him and my Papa (George Southard) are living their best life right now. Hugs!

Kayla Burrell-Clark - October 26, 2025 at 06:44 PM

BM

“ Bob & Lynne McDaniel lit a candle in memory of David Wheeler



Bob & Lynne McDaniel - August 14, 2025 at 06:26 PM

BS

“ Wheels was a great friend and even a mentor for me. Once Pat and Wheels stop in at my shop with a flat tire on a trailer and we sat down and had a couple drinks and chatted about work and the good ol days.
He will be missed so Rest in Peace my Friend.

Brett Seward - August 06, 2025 at 09:51 PM

KP

“ Patty and family - you have my condolences.
Karen Pope,
RR2 carrier Petersburg

Karen Pope - August 06, 2025 at 08:24 PM

CB

*Dave you were good friend Christy brown (good times hanging out)
miss you always*

Christy brown - August 19, 2025 at 05:37 PM

MS

“ *The day I first met David he drove up in his blue Javelin to pick my sister Patty up for prom . The rest is beautiful history! God bless and rest in peace Dave . You were a true hero to a lot of people and the lives and hearts you touched .*

Mary Smith - August 02, 2025 at 02:40 PM

LH

“ *Larry and Mary Hundt sent a virtual gift in memory of David Wheeler*



Larry and Mary Hundt - August 02, 2025 at 09:26 AM