



John Charles Briar

March 15, 1946 - February 4, 2022

John Charles Briar, 75, of Virginia, passed away at home, on his family farm, which had been in his family since 1849, at 1:00 p.m., on Friday, February 4, 2022. He was born March 15, 1946, in Jacksonville, Illinois, to Earl Clark and Dorothy Isabelle (Smith) Briar. He married Mary Lou Beard in 1965. While they later divorced, they remained friends throughout the years.

Mr. Briar is survived by two children: Aaron Briar of Chandlerville, and Heather Collins of Beardstown; two grandchildren: Levi Atterberry and DaLana Tribble; and four great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Mr. Briar graduated from Chandlerville High School in 1964. He later earned an Associate's Degree from Lincoln Land Community College when he was in his 50's. He liked to take classes and learn different things, even taking a welding class with his grandson, Levi. He started his career working for Besco as a Sound Man. He set up sound systems for county fairs and the Florida State Fair. On one occasion he was in charge of the sound for Roy Clark. He owned and operated Briar TV and Appliance, in Virginia, until selling the business in the 1970s. He then farmed until 1986. He then opened Sangamon Coachworks Body Shop. He later worked at RAC Adjustments until his retirement. In retirement, he enjoyed riding his motorcycle all over the United States and into Canada.

He had served as a Sangamon Valley Township Trustee and as Commissioner of Jobs Creek Drainage District. He was a 50 year member of Virginia Masonic Lodge #544 as well as the Beardstown Elks Club. He enjoyed woodworking, building clocks and rolltop desks, and restoring old furniture. He also liked to work on old cars. His most recent project was the restoration and modernization of a 1950 Ford Woody wagon.

A memorial service will be held at Sangamon Valley Presbyterian Church, on Saturday, February 12, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. Visitation will be held two hours prior to the service at the church. A Celebration of Life will be held by the family at a later date. Rev. Tim Bauler will officiate.

Memorial contributions may be made to Cass County Home Health Visiting Nurses. Online memorial messages may be left for the family at www.hurleyfh.com.

Lintner-Hurley Funeral Home in Chandlerville is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 12. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Sangamon Valley Presbyterian Church
18006 Chandlerville Rd
Virginia, IL 62691

Memorial Service

FEB 12. 11:00 AM (CT)

Sangamon Valley Presbyterian Church
18006 Chandlerville Rd
Virginia, IL 62691

Tribute Wall



“ *John Charles Briar*

October 12, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ *Aaron, Heather and family,
I was sorry to learn of John's passing. He was truly a unique person. We had many great conversations regarding local history and other assorted topics. A quick breakfast with John usually turned into a two hour conversation. My sincere sympathies to all of you. Heavens gain is our loss.*



Ramona Douglass - February 08, 2022 at 09:57 PM



“ *Best memory ever, I gotta listen to all the persnickety comical comments as a beautiful father n son hanging a door moment happened right in front of my eyes! Best guy ever! I truly smiled every time he was around! And watching him work on that woody in person was so amazing, he truly was an artist who perfected his craft! Great guy, big heart, best whit, n most talented! ❤️ My heart and deepest sympathies goes out to you all!! ❤️❤️*



Nichole Jarrett - February 07, 2022 at 02:31 PM

LB

“ aaron...so sorry to hear the news but very thankful for our time together last summer. have great memories of the farm when we all were young. love you all. linda

linda I brian - February 06, 2022 at 03:34 PM

ES

“ My prayers and sympathy to the Briar family. Being raised in the Sangamon Valley and neighbors for many years, a lot of memories come to mind. John was always a fun, friendly and a loving guy. He will be missed by all who knew him. Condolences to all.
Love, Ellen Henry Standish

Ellen Standish - February 06, 2022 at 11:14 AM

TR

“ He was such a nice guy. You have my sympathy

Tricia Ruppel - February 06, 2022 at 10:32 AM

LH

“ Larry And Mary Hundt sent a virtual gift in memory of John Charles Briar



Larry and Mary Hundt - February 06, 2022 at 07:47 AM

ML

“ I well remember working with John when I had the hardware store and he was in the TV repair business. John was very friendly and we enjoyed being together. He will be greatly missed.

Marvin Losey - February 05, 2022 at 10:16 PM