



## Larry "Buck" Kenneth Pierson

August 14, 1939 - May 26, 2022

Larry "Buck" Kenneth Pierson, 82, of Havana, passed away on Thursday, May 26, 2022, at 7:37 p.m., at his home, surrounded by loved ones. He was born August 14, 1939, in Havana, Illinois, to Calvin and Mabel (Taylor) Pierson. He married Clara "Ruth" Wilcoxon on July 4, 1963. She survives.

Buck is survived by his wife, Ruth, of Havana; one daughter, Beckie (Allen Johnson) Beard, of Lewistown; two sons: Robby (Chrissy West) Pierson of Havana, and Mark Pierson, of Lewistown; two step-sons: Billy (Laura) Welbourne of Pekin and Rich Welbourne of Port Charlotte, Florida; four grandchildren: Dustin Pierson of Havana, Robby Pierson of Arkansas, Delaney (Dylan) Beach of Lewistown, and Sydney Beard of St. David; three great-grandchildren: Alec Pierson, of Havana, Marley Pierson of Oakford, and Henry Pierson of Arkansas; as well as twelve step-grandchildren: Gina, Amber, Melvin, Billy, Chris, Jay, Matt, Christopher and Misty Welbourne and Joshua, Kira and Junior West; several step-great-grandchildren and many loving nieces and nephews. Also surviving are sister, Loretta Hurt of Havana and brother, Donny Lippert of Morton. He was preceded in death by his parents, seven siblings: Wilbur Pierson, Shirley Kelly, Colleen Otto, Sharon Richardson, Dixie Watkins, and Butch Lippert; two step-sons: Melvin Welbourne and Lloyd Welbourne; and one great-granddaughter, Allena Ruth Pierson.

Buck was known as a hard worker his whole life. Most of his career was spent in service to others. He had his own taxi service and car wash. He also worked at Du-Rite Laundry in Havana. He worked for the fire department, ambulance service and local police departments before retiring from the Mason County Sheriff's Department. In retirement, he went back to work as Kilbourne Chief of Police. In addition to these jobs, he served as Alderman for the City of Havana for several terms and later became Mayor of the City. Buck was an outstanding person at his jobs and was loved by many in the community.

Buck enjoyed traveling to many attractions throughout the United States, including Nashville, Graceland, Florida and many others. He enjoyed Lucky Strikes, Pepsi, playing cards, casinos, gardening his immaculate yard and watching NASCAR. He loved being outside and soaking up the sun, especially if he could be near the ocean. Most of all he loved spending time with his family. There are many cherished stories and memories of Buck that could be shared.

A celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, June 26, 2022 at 1:00 PM at the VFW Post #6408 in Havana, 415 W. Adams St, Havana, Illinois 62644.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Online memorial messages may be left for the family at [www.hurleyfh.com](http://www.hurleyfh.com).

Hurley Funeral Home in Havana is in charge of arrangements

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JUN **26**. 1:00 PM (CT)

VFW Post #6408  
415 W. Adams St.  
Havana, IL 62644  
(309) 543-9120

# Tribute Wall



“ *Larry "Buck" Kenneth Pierson*

October 12, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ *Beckie and Ruth and Family-So sorry For your loss.Buck was a Great Person,we grew up togeather and were friend's are whole Life.He will be missed by many People. James (Gus) Stroh.*



**James L. Stroh** - June 26, 2022 at 03:00 PM



“ *Our deepest condolences for your loss. Galen and Tracy Miller.*

**Galen Miller** - June 24, 2022 at 01:23 PM



“ *Ruth & Family, was so sorry to read of Buck's passing. I will keep him in my prayers. May your memories be of comfort to you. Mary Pat & Steve Bares (Med.Records @MDH for many years).*

**Mary Pat Bares** - June 04, 2022 at 10:41 PM



“ *So sorry for your family's loss*



**Kevin & Kelly Noble** - June 02, 2022 at 08:18 AM

MS

*So sorry for your loss*

Mary smith - June 02, 2022 at 10:45 AM



“ *I worked with him at the Steele's laundries in the summer of 1966. It was a privilege every young person should have. Buck and everyone else there passed on good work habits. He was friendly and good even to a 16-year-old. He also did a lot for his community.*

Hugh McHarry - June 01, 2022 at 11:09 AM

JW

“ *John Witherall lit a candle in memory of Larry "Buck" Kenneth Pierson*



John witherall - May 31, 2022 at 11:15 PM

KP

“ *I remember Buck from my childhood. He knew my parents, family. He was a resident where I work so I was able to help him and visit with him. We reminisced about my mother who passed away a little over 4 years ago. I was sad I didn't get to tell him bye when he left the nursing home that day. I did get to go in and help him and chat a bit though. I always liked him. My condolences to Ruth and the rest of the family. He will be missed.*

Kristy Pedigo - May 31, 2022 at 07:54 AM

BK

“ *Buck was just Buck. What you saw is what you got. That is what made him so likeable and what the people liked about him when they elected him Alderman and then Mayor of the City of Havana. Buck gave me the privilege of representing the city when he was Mayor, where one of his first accomplishments was to work with Councilman Gilson to establish the first Tax Increment Financing district in Havana, The results are still flowing and he deserves much of credit for that. My condolences to Ruth, Beckie and the rest of his family. He will be missed. Bill Knuppel*

Bill Knuppel - May 31, 2022 at 06:04 AM



*Thank you so much Bill. He spoke highly of you as well! He is and always will be missed by so many good people in the community.*

Beckie Pierson Beard - June 02, 2022 at 10:24 AM

NW

“ *Nancy M Wilson lit a candle in memory of Larry "Buck" Kenneth Pierson*



Nancy M Wilson - May 30, 2022 at 04:28 PM

PS

“ *Grew up knowing buck and ended up being my neighbor so sorry for his loss my prayers to Ruth and family*



Penny Smith - May 30, 2022 at 01:15 PM

PS

“ *Patti Specketer lit a candle in memory of Larry "Buck" Kenneth Pierson*



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**Patti Specketer** - May 30, 2022 at 11:18 AM

DW

“ *Sorry for your loss Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family 🙏*



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**Dan and Chris Wilson** - May 30, 2022 at 10:23 AM

JS

“ *Sorry for your loss. Buck was A Great Friend and Person. Gus&Jan*



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**James L. Stroh** - May 29, 2022 at 06:35 PM

CH

“ *Chuck Hunter lit a candle in memory of Larry "Buck" Kenneth Pierson*



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**Chuck Hunter** - May 29, 2022 at 06:19 PM

RJ

“ So sorry to hear about Buck, he was quite a guy, will miss his smiling face. Rick & Rhonda Johnson  
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**Rick & Rhonda Johnson** - May 29, 2022 at 01:48 PM

BM

“ Brenda McKenzie lit a candle in memory of Larry "Buck" Kenneth Pierson



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**Brenda McKenzie** - May 29, 2022 at 12:52 PM

LS

“ Our very deepest sympathy to Buck's family. Many fond memories of the entire family as I grew up in Havana and later as well. My wife, Lorenda worked with Becky at H.N.B. Lewistown and send her deepest sympathy as well. Everyone shall be in our prayers and thoughts. Alvin & Lorenda Spilker.



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**Lorenda Alvin Spilker** - May 29, 2022 at 11:41 AM

JH

“ Jim Hough lit a candle in memory of Larry "Buck" Kenneth Pierson



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**Jim Hough** - May 29, 2022 at 11:24 AM

NE

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with Buck's family. He was one of the good guys.* ”



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**Nancy Elliott** - May 29, 2022 at 10:26 AM

JB

“ *Sorry for your family's loss* ”

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**Jack and Donzia Boggs** - May 29, 2022 at 10:03 AM

DW

*Ruth and families, so sorry for your loss. Hugs and prayers to you all. I didn't know Buck real well, but I could tell he was a good guy, he had to be, to have a special woman fall in love with him. I'm sure he will be solemnly missed. prayers to you, and if you need anything, I'm here!*

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**Debbie Ward** - May 29, 2022 at 02:43 PM

LJ

“ *So sorry for your family's loss* ”



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**Lisa Jill** - May 29, 2022 at 09:21 AM

BU

“ *Buster lit a candle in memory of Larry "Buck"  
Kenneth Pierson*



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**buster** - May 29, 2022 at 09:07 AM