



Melvin Dale Dearing

March 19, 1935 - November 19, 2016

Melvin Dale Dearing, 81, of Peoria, Illinois, passed away at St. Francis Hospital on November 19, 2016 with his family by his side. He was born on March 19, 1935 to Russell Sr. and Delphia (Lowe) Dearing in Virginia, IL. He married Elizabeth J. Childers-Walker on June 26, 1955 at the Baptist Church in Tallula, IL.

Melvin worked at Caterpillar in East Peoria, IL for 33 years. He ran a factory crane at the LL Building and retired in 1985. He later worked for Horan Construction Laborers Local 165. Melvin had a passion for motorcycles from a young age and bought his first Harley-Davidson in 1953. He was a lifetime member and former president of the Peoria Motorcycle Club. He was also a lifetime member of the American Motorcycle Association. He served as president of the Monroe School Board and was a member of the Monroe Booster Club. Melvin was a member of the Bartonville Christian Church where he and his wife worked as loyal volunteers for the church's food pantry. His favorite sport teams were the St. Louis Cardinals and the Chicago Bulls. He lived his life through his family. His wife, children, and grandchildren were his heart and soul. He never missed a sporting event for his children or grandchildren, which were the highlight of his life. He portrayed unconditional love and devotion to his beloved wife of 61 years as he selflessly cared for her. Melvin gave true meaning to "giving the shirt off his back".

Melvin is survived by his wife Elizabeth, six children; Mike Dearing, Kevin (Margie) Dearing, Mason Dearing, Chris Dearing, Robin (Ericka) Dearing, and Dawn Dearing-Harbison, thirteen grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Melvin was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers; Russell Marvin Dearing and Clyde Dearing.

Visitation will be held at the Bartonville Christian Church, 4900 Pfeiffer Rd., Bartonville IL, 61607, on Tuesday, November 22, 2016, from 4-7pm with a service following at 7pm. A funeral service will be held at Hurley Funeral Home in Petersburg, IL on Wednesday, November 23, 2016, at 10am with a graveside service following.

Memorials for Melvin may be made to the Christian Church of Bartonville Food Pantry.

Please visit Melvin's obituary online at www.hurleyfh.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **22.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Bartonville Christian Church
4900 Pfeiffer Rd.
Bartonville, IL 61607

Service

NOV **22.** 7:00 PM (CT)

Bartonville Christian Church
4900 Pfeiffer Rd.
Bartonville, IL 61607

Service

NOV **23.** 10:00 AM (CT)

Hurley Funeral Home - Petersburg
122 West Douglas Avenue
Petersburg, IL 62675
(217) 632-2500
<https://www.hurleyfh.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Melvin Dale Dearing*

October 12, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ *I was born on 19 March 1956, which was Melvin's 21st birthday. We shared a birthday but did not share in the height department. I am 6'4". Even though Uncle Melvin lacked in height he was very big in respect, loving and helping others. We always talked on our birthday wishing each other a "Happy Birthday!!" I will miss those & other talks we had about life, respect & beliefs. Anyone that knew Melvin Dearing knows how giving he was and the world was a much better place because of the things he did. I will miss him greatly but will continue to talk to him & wish him a 'Happy Birthday' every year. Heaven got a great angel today. I know he will still be helping everywhere he can and looking over us from above. Kit Childers*

Kit Childers - November 23, 2016 at 08:09 AM



Love you so much daddo. Sending many hugs and kisses from Guam!

Crystal-Carmel AJ Cruz - November 23, 2016 at 04:29 PM



“ To my dearest, most sweetest uncle Melvin. I have so many AMAZING memories of you. From motorcycle rides.. to eating ribs ... even our matching outfits while you helped grandma make a new border for her garden. You will always share a special place in my heart. I know you're up there riding your Harley. I wish i could give you a big Giant hug! I love you and aunt Betty so much! Xoxo. Rest in paradise uncle Melvin
Crystal Childers Cruz

Crystal-Carmel AJ Cruz - November 23, 2016 at 02:43 AM



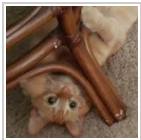
“ Sending my condolences to Dawn, Sean, Zach, Brandon, Breanna and the rest of the Dearing Family. I know how much you all love him and Betty. Love, Janeine

Janeine Huhn - November 22, 2016 at 10:09 PM



“ I am a nurse that worked for Dr Jongerius, so I had the privilege of getting to know Melvin and Betty. I was so sorry for Betty's illness but I have never seen a more committed and dedicated care giver than Melvin. He always had a smile. He was just a good man. I am very sorry for your loss. Marilyn

Marilyn Dreessen - November 22, 2016 at 02:39 PM



“ We have such great and fun memories of Melvin and Betty, the Limestone baseball team and Dawn. Jack & Melvin were good friends & Motorcycle buddies. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of the Dearing family and especially to Betty & kids. He is with our Heavenly Father and the rest of the family now. Nancy Dearing Ashurst, Darrell Dearing & Marci Dearing Hunt.

Nancy Ashurst - November 22, 2016 at 02:08 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Melvin Dale Dearing.*



November 22, 2016 at 01:43 PM



“ *I met Melvin and Betty I believe was 1957 in morton il. My mom and dad and me moved into Grimm Apts on South First st. I believe I was 12 years old and when I looked out our kitchen window, there was Melvin cleaning his harley. Well I had to go look at that harley, so out the door I went. Melvin and I talked about motorcycles and that was the beginning of a friendship that lasted some 60 years. My parents to met Melvin and and Betty and even though I moved away for many years Melvin and Betty always stayed in touch with my mom and dad and treated them with great respect that I appreciated so very very much. No matter where I was my mom always told me she had been in touch with Betty and Melvin and that gave me such a heartfelt comfort. Over the years when my dad passed and then my mom, there Betty and Melvin were at the funeral, my heart was. Once again touched by these two Godly people. Today as I read this obit in the paper my heart was broken as my friend Melvin Dearing had gone home to be with the Lord. I so wish I could be there, but have be in the hospital with bonchitis. I truly am there in spirit with a true angel here on earth Miss Betty and her lovely family. My thoughts and prayers are with you all, until that glorious day that we all meet again. May God bless and comfort you. My. condolences to you all.
Jim and Jane Allen*

Jimmie Jack - November 21, 2016 at 10:53 PM

JA

“ I am so sorry for your loss Betty and family. Wish I could have made it to service, but am sick with bronchitis. You and Mel were such good friends to Harry and Myrt Allen over the years and me Jim. My heart goes out to you all, the Dearing family will always have a special place in my memories, God bless you all! Love Jim and Jane Allen



Jim Allen - November 21, 2016 at 06:37 PM

OS

“ One Source purchased the Heavenly and Harmony for the family of Melvin Dale Dearing.



One Source - November 21, 2016 at 10:53 AM

KB

“ I have such fond memories of Mel and his whole family growing up. Mel was my Dad Bill Crocker's best friend. We would spend the Fourth of July for years with the whole family. Fireworks in Pekin for years and my Dads fried chicken was always a hit. We'd make homemade ice cream for after the fireworks. What great times spent with this wonderful family. We'd spend times at cookouts at Mel's house and have fun swimming and games and just visiting. Love this family so much. I'm truly gonna miss this wonderful and Godly man. See you in Heaven some day my friend. Love, Karen Crocker Blair.

Karen Blair - November 21, 2016 at 12:46 AM