



## Melvin Esselman

November 3, 1937 - May 9, 2021

Melvin Esselman, 83, of Havana, passed away at Renaissance Care Center, in Canton, at 11:41 p.m., on Sunday, May 9, 2021. He was born November 3, 1937, to Herman and Florence (Holste) Esselman. He married Barbara Hall, on February 14, 1957, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Havana.

Melvin was a 1955 graduate of Havana High School. He farmed his entire life and took great pride in his ability to be a responsible steward of the land. Throughout his farming career he would often have a secondary job particularly throughout the winter months including working at Bonnett's turkey farm, International Harvester, working as a carpenter with "Cap" Schmidt, and finally working many years as a custodian at Havana Community Schools. He was a man who believed in and valued hard work. Even in his final years of full retirement, he always had a project that would often allow him to work outside.

Melvin is survived by his wife, Barbara, of Havana; one daughter: Vicki (Joe) Carr, of Fairfield, Iowa; two grandchildren that were his pride and joy: Katelyn (Brian) Steele, of Overland Park, Kansas; and Matthew Carr, of Des Moines, Iowa; as well as two great-grandchildren: Graham and Brooke Steele. Also surviving are his brother Nelson Esselman, sister Margaret Trimpe, both of Havana; cousin Carol Kolves, of Bath; sister-in-law Mary Stanfill, of Columbus, Georgia; sister-in-law Leona Bradley, of Havana; and several

nieces and nephews.

Melvin was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Havana and Mason County Farm Bureau. He was also a multiple gallon American Red Cross blood donor. He was also a great fan of watching his grandchildren participate in their many sports activities.

An open visitation will be held at Hurley Funeral Home in Havana, from 9:00 a.m., until Noon, on Thursday, May 13, 2021. The family will not be present. Graveside services will be held at Laurel Hill Cemetery, in Havana, at 3:00 p.m., on Thursday, May 13, 2021. Rev. Brian Lesemann will officiate.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Havana or the Havana Public Library. 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

## Visitation

MAY 13. 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Hurley Funeral Home - Havana

217 North Plum Street

P.O. Box #648

Havana, IL 62644

(309) 543-2244

<https://www.hurleyfh.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ Hurley Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Melvin Esselman



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**Hurley Funeral Home** - May 12, 2021 at 05:49 PM



“ *Melvin Esselman*

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October 12, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ *OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO THE ESSELMAN FAMILY...LLOYD AND NANCY INGERSOLL*



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**LLOYD AND NANCY INGERSOLL** - May 18, 2021 at 02:11 PM

PR

“ *Barbara, Vicki, and family,  
My deepest sympathy in your loss but  
thankful for the faith in Christ that has given  
him eternal life!  
That is definitely a precious gift that many do  
not know.  
Sincerely  
Paula Sebade Redenius*



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**Paula Redenius** - May 14, 2021 at 12:29 PM

PH

“ *I remember Melvin as the tall, quiet young man who captured the  
heart of my dear friend Barbara Hall. I sang at their wedding those  
many years ago. My heart goes out to Barbara and the family, he  
was the rock and will be sorely missed. God Bless.*

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**Priscilla Griffin Hughs** - May 14, 2021 at 10:24 AM

PG

“ *Sending prayers to Barbara.*

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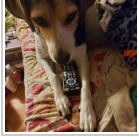
**Pam Oggs Glaser** - May 13, 2021 at 04:55 PM

CB

“ *Uncle Melvin was always such a large part of my families life. From  
playing on the farm as kids, to visits at Aunt Barb and Uncle  
Melvin's house to visits at our house. All the events they showed up  
to from sporting events to graduations to birthdays and on and on.  
They created such a great sense of family and Melvin with his love  
of racing we always had something to talk about. Uncle Melvin was  
always such a good influence about working hard and creating a  
strong work ethic. Uncle Melvin will be greatly missed.*

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**Casey Barker** - May 13, 2021 at 02:45 PM



“ *My thoughts and prayers go out to Barb and Vicki. I have lots of fond memories with you all.*



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**Nancy Elliott** - May 13, 2021 at 10:19 AM



“ *I am so sorry, Barb.* ❤️

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**sandra may** - May 13, 2021 at 09:26 AM



“ *Barb and Vicki, I'm so sorry. It's so hard to lose someone you love. My prayers are with you....I pray that your happy family memories will be a comfort.*

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**Jane A. Armbrust** - May 12, 2021 at 01:02 PM



“ *Larry And Mary Hundt lit a candle in memory of Melvin Esselman*



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**Larry and Mary Hundt** - May 12, 2021 at 08:17 AM

LT

“ So sorry for your family's loss! Thoughts & prayers! Roger and Lisa Thompson



Lisa Jill Ulrich Thompson - May 11, 2021 at 10:44 PM

LS

“ Barb you are in my thoughts and prayers. All the years I worked with Melvin I enjoyed all of them. He was the best.



Lynne Shoemaker - May 11, 2021 at 10:38 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Melvin Esselman.



May 11, 2021 at 09:14 PM

CK

“ Prayers to Barb , Vicki,Joe and family. So sorry for your loss. I enjoyed visiting with them at there home and when they came to see me. Melvin will be missed.

Carol Kolves - May 11, 2021 at 08:05 PM