



Rodney W. Horner

March 3, 1939 - February 16, 2024

Rodney W. Horner, 84, of Manito, passed away at Hopedale Nursing Home, at 11:45 a.m., on Friday, February 16, 2024. He was born March 3, 1939, in Peoria, Illinois, to Dorwin and Cornelia (Wade) Horner. He married Jeanette Mehlenbeck, who was also a graduate of Peoria Central High School, on February 9, 1963, in Peoria.

Mr. Horner is survived by his wife, Jeanette; three sons: Glen Horner, of Pekin, Mark (Laura) Horner, of Lindenhurst, Illinois, and Craig Horner, of Manito; two granddaughters: Sarah (Tom) Reusché, of Libertyville and Ashley (Otis) Johnson, of Loveland, Colorado; as well as one sister, Karen Williamson, of Seattle, Washington. He was preceded in death by his parents, and one brother, Richard Horner, in 1994.

Mr. Horner attended church at Manito Community United Methodist Church. He served in the US Army from 1963 – 1965, as a Medical Technician. He was later an active member of the Hill-Palmer American Legion Post #561, in Manito. He was also active with the Manito Popcorn Festival, and had played “Santa” in the community. He graduated from Bradley University in 1961, with degrees in English Literature and Biology. He worked for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, retiring after forty years as the Fisheries Pathologist at Jake Wolfe Fish Hatchery. He had served as Chairman of Great Lakes Fish Disease Commission. He enjoyed being outdoors, and was an

avid hunter, fisherman, gun enthusiast, and Firearm Safety Instructor. He also loved the Spoon River Drive, antiques, and reading in his spare time.

Memorial services will be held on Saturday, March 9, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. at Manito Community United Methodist Church, with visitation one hour prior to the services. Rev. Steve Oaks will officiate. Burial will follow the services at Meadowlawn Cemetery, in Manito. Military rites will be provided at the graveside by Hill-Palmer American Legion Post #561.

Memorial contributions may be made to Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation or Tazewell County Resource Center. Online memorial messages may be left for the family at www.hurleyfh.com.

Maas-Hurley Funeral Home, in Manito, is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Meadow Lawn Cemetery

801 E. Meadow Lawn St.
Manito, IL 61546

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 9. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Manito Community Methodist Church - Manito
109 S. Washington
Manito, IL 61546
(309) 968-6226

Memorial Service

MAR 9. 11:00 AM (CT)

Manito Community Methodist Church - Manito
109 S. Washington
Manito, IL 61546
(309) 968-6226

Tribute Wall

BN

“ *I worked for the IDNR and talked to Rod a few times about fish problems I had in my pond at home. Bryon N*

Bryon N - April 12, 2024 at 12:53 PM

JD

“ Some Rod Memories

Rod did grocery shopping for Aunt Corn and would ride his bicycle over to Main Street, get two sacks of groceries and the ride home holding the sacks hands free of the handlebars. I never figured out how he did that!

Fishing in Cross Lake with Darrell and me when I was 15 years old. Dad had painted some signs for one of his friends who owned a fishing resort. We spent two weeks fishing, fishing and more fishing.

I always thought Rod had the perfect job. Checking lakes and ponds and carrying his shotgun during hunting season to take a pheasant or two.

I went with Rod at a local lake when he was shocking the lake to sample the fish population. That was so much fun, and Rod was so informing about the fish we caught and the sample numbers. He was a fisheries biologist at this time.

I never kept track of the numerous rabbits hunts we went on but neither of us could wait for hunting season each year. Fall with Rod was my favorite time of the year.

And who could forget Christmas Eve at Aunt Corn's and Uncle Jack's with Rod directing all the cousins present in the front room with all of the old time Christmas Carols!

Rod always treated me like a brother instead of a cousin, I will always remember the good time we has together and I will always miss him.

Jack Dixon - March 07, 2024 at 02:47 PM

JA

“ Jeanette and family, I'm so sorry for your loss. I always enjoyed talking to Rod. He had such a broad knowledge, and I know this will leave a big gap in your life. The good memories help.

Jane Armbrust - March 07, 2024 at 10:22 AM

JA

“ I remember my dad knew your dad as working with fish, so when our son, Nate decided to raise fish in our old swimming pool for an FFA project and they all started dying my dad brought your dad up to investigate. I think it a tally stumped your dad. I appreciated him trying to figure out what was going on. Also seeing your parents every Sunday in church all those years. They both were devoted Christians. Our condolences to your family, Jan and Tim Anderson

Janet Anderson - March 03, 2024 at 06:48 PM

CC

“ Cherie and Tim. Rodney's cousins. purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Rodney W. Horner.



Cherie and Tim. Rodney's cousins. - March 02, 2024 at 02:42 PM

CC

“ Cherie and Tim. Rodney's cousins. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rodney W. Horner.

Cherie and Tim. Rodney's cousins. - March 02, 2024 at 02:42 PM

SS

“ Steve Kim Singley lit a candle in memory of Rodney Horner



Steve and Kim Singley - February 25, 2024 at 12:04 AM

LH

“ Larry Mary Hundt sent a virtual gift in memory of Rodney Horner



Larry and Mary Hundt - February 23, 2024 at 08:35 AM

JS

“ Jackie Schier sent a virtual gift in memory of Rodney Horner



Jackie Schier - February 22, 2024 at 07:08 PM