



Bernard D. Bankes

January 30, 1940 - December 19, 2024

Bernard D. Bankes, 84, of East Peoria, passed away peacefully on Thursday, December 19, 2024, at Carle Methodist Hospital in Peoria. He was born in Astoria on January 30, 1940, to Nyle and Hazel (Easley) Bankes. He married his wife of nearly 57 years, Rose A. Bivens, at Creve Coeur Christian Church on January 30, 1966; she preceded him in death on December 16, 2022.

He was also preceded in death by his brothers, Kenney and Mike.

Surviving are his son, Bill (Julie) Bankes of Channahon; his two grandchildren, Braden and Baylee Bankes; and his two siblings, Dollie Pokarney of Pekin and Steve Bankes of Creve Coeur.

Bernard graduated with the EPCHS Class of 1959, then went to work for Caterpillar. In January of 1962, he enlisted in the Navy and proudly served through May of 1966. He returned to work at Caterpillar in June of 1966, retiring in May of 1993.

He served as a deacon for Creve Coeur Christian Church as well as at Parkway Christian Church in Pekin. He and Rose were very active at church, volunteering at the Creve Coeur Christian Church food pantry and filling food baskets for those in need during Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter. They also helped in the nursery and with youth classes. For the last several years, Bernard and Rose attended Washington Christian Church.

Bernard enjoyed woodworking, fishing, camping with Rose in their motorhome, and going to Florida in the winter.

A Funeral Service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 28, 2024,

at Washington Christian Church, with visitation from 9:00 a.m. until the time of service. Burial, with full military honors, will follow at Hillcrest Memory Gardens in Morton.

Memorial contributions may be made to Washington Christian Church Preschool, the American Heart Association, or a charity of the donor's choice. Online condolences may be left at www.GaryDeitersFH.com.

Cemetery Details

Hillcrest Memory Gardens

21925 Washington Road
Morton, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 28. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Washington Christian Church
1012 N. Main Street
Washington, IL

Funeral Service

DEC 28. 10:00 AM (CT)

Washington Christian Church
1012 N. Main Street
Washington, IL

Tribute Wall



“ Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Bernard D. Bankes



Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services - December 30, 2024 at 07:07 PM

JP

“ Bernard was always a strong encourager of my ministry and my family . He and Rose were true servants of Christ. We had some wonderful years serving together at Creve Coeur Christian Church. We are sorry for his loss and offer our prayers for his family. John and Faye Plunkett

John Plunkett - December 27, 2024 at 09:44 PM

NM

I have so many memories of Bernie & Rose since Rog & I did a lot of camping & several trips together. We really had fun & a lot of laughs, too many to pick any one to share. Braden, please keep me up to date on you and Bayee since your Grandparents aren't here to do that. I really, really will keep missing both of them. Love & prayers as you go thru this difficult time. Nancy Mann

nancy mann - December 28, 2024 at 06:48 PM



“ 34 files added to the album Life Tributes



Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services - December 27, 2024 at 02:09 PM