



## Melvin Christianson

October 7, 1943 - April 3, 2022

Melvin Christianson, 78, of East Peoria, passed away on Sunday, April 3, 2022, at OSF Richard L. Owens Hospice Home in Peoria. He was born in Peoria on October 7, 1943, to Roy and Priscilla (Largent) Christianson. He married Kimmie Jo Shryock on May 27, 2006, in Groveland; she survives. Also surviving are his 4 children, Melinda Sue Webb of Giddings, TX, and Marci Marshalek, Kristin Christianson, and Jazmine Christianson all of East Peoria; 4 stepchildren, Jesica Doerr of East Peoria, Troy Heuck of Chillicothe, Shawn Jaymes of Pekin, and Shane Heuck of Chester; 2 brothers, Dale Christianson of East Peoria and Norman Christianson of TN; 7 grandchildren; 12 step-grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; and his best friend, Rusty Grammer of East Peoria.

He was preceded in death by his parents; 4 brothers, Ted, Roy, Kenny, and Loyd; and 2 sisters, Evelyn and Ruth.

In 1965, Melvin joined the Army and served as a gunner on a helicopter during the Vietnam War.

He owned and operated Christianson Enterprises as a truck driver for 30 years. In 2009, he opened Mel's Café in East Peoria, and operated it with his wife, Kimmie, since then.

Melvin was a member of the VFW and the American Legion in East Peoria. He loved watching Nascar and dirt track racing.

Visitation will be from 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, April 7, 2022, at Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services in East Peoria. A graveside service will

be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, April 8, 2022, at Camp Butler National Cemetery in Springfield.

Memorials may be made to Wounded Warrior Project. Online condolences may be left at [www.GaryDeitersFH.com](http://www.GaryDeitersFH.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Camp Butler National Cemetery

5063 Camp Butler Road  
Springfield, IL 62707

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 7. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services Inc. - East Peoria  
444 E. Washington Street  
East Peoria, IL 61611

## Graveside Service

APR 8. 2:00 PM (CT)

Camp Butler National Cemetery  
5063 Camp Butler Road  
Springfield, IL 62707

# Tribute Wall



“ *Melvin Christianson*

October 08, 2023 at 04:50 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Melvin Christianson.*



April 08, 2022 at 10:58 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Melvin Christianson.*



April 07, 2022 at 11:42 PM



“ *Kayla McGrane lit a candle in memory of Melvin Christianson*



**Kayla McGrane** - April 07, 2022 at 04:55 PM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Melvin Christianson.*



April 07, 2022 at 01:15 PM



“ *Tina Warren lit a candle in memory of Melvin Christianson*



tina warren - April 06, 2022 at 09:39 PM



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Ken Christianson - April 05, 2022 at 10:16 PM



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Ken Christianson - April 05, 2022 at 10:15 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 10:13 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 10:08 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 10:06 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 10:05 PM



*Mel in front steering*

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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 10:34 PM



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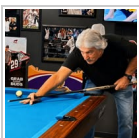
**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:57 PM



*Mel upper left*

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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 10:34 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:51 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:49 PM



*Mel bottom left*

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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 10:33 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:46 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:45 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:43 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:43 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:42 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:42 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:41 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:41 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:40 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:39 PM



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Ken Christianson - April 05, 2022 at 09:39 PM



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Ken Christianson - April 05, 2022 at 09:38 PM



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Ken Christianson - April 05, 2022 at 09:38 PM



Mel on left

Ken Christianson - April 05, 2022 at 10:32 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:38 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:37 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:37 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:37 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:36 PM



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**Ken Christianson** - April 05, 2022 at 09:36 PM



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Ken Christianson - April 05, 2022 at 09:35 PM

CT

“ Terry and I will miss your wonderful smile. God bless you and family  
🥰

Carol and Terry - April 05, 2022 at 08:05 PM

BM

“ Loved seeing Mel at the cafe. Always a firm handshake and a smile.  
He will be missed.

Brandon M - April 05, 2022 at 03:01 PM

UF

“ Uncle Norman and family purchased the Emerald  
Garden Basket for the family of Melvin  
Christianson.



Uncle Norman and family - April 05, 2022 at 12:56 PM

BD

“ O Mel there are so many memories I can't list them all. But the best one is the hug I'm going to miss from you every time I walk through that door to work and you was there. You was a great boss plus a friend. RIP MEL!  
Love you, Betty



Betty Dozard - April 05, 2022 at 08:00 AM

LB

“ I have been a friend and a employee and customer for many years. Mel would call me the bus lady. He always had a hug for me. Mel you will be missed by so many. You can rest now, no more pain. Prayers and hugs to your family.

Laura Brewer - April 04, 2022 at 11:45 PM

RB

“ I knew Mel for many many years, he always treated me with respect and kindness, he also loved my kids and grandkids. Mel never knew a stranger! I said many prayers for Mel since I found out he was l'll. I thank the Lord for taking his pain and suffering away and taking him to his Heavenly home. He will definitely be missed by many 😭🙏



Rebecca Beach - April 04, 2022 at 08:23 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Melvin Christianson.



April 04, 2022 at 08:15 PM



“ *Every day i was at work Mel would come in id say hi Mel hows your day? hed smile and say how it was normally "its ok" or sometimes he crack a small joke and sit down at the bar i will miss seeing him come thru the restaurant as he did daily he was such a nice and wonderful guy tho i not been there as long as most i know he will be missed and im sending many prayers to Kimmie and the whole family im so very sad to see him go but God has him now may he rest in peace. love always Heidi the dishwasher*

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**Heidi Mckinley** - April 04, 2022 at 07:59 PM

JW

*To all of Mel's family, so sorry to hear of his passing. Mel was long time friend of my ex husband. Joan McClure Wodstrchill*

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**Joan Wodstrchill** - April 05, 2022 at 07:42 PM

PS

*My sympathy to all the family 😞 my mom Ruby Joles always made sure that the Christiansons were always in our life Mel will always be missed. Pachie Smith*

*Houston Texas*

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**Pachie Smith** - April 08, 2022 at 09:17 PM