



## Ralph Uvalde "Punkie" Staley Jr.

September 4, 1948 - June 5, 2022

Ralph Uvalde "Punkie" Staley Jr., of East Peoria, passed away at 10:28 am on Sunday, June 5, 2022, at his residence.

He was born to Ralph U. Staley Sr. and Doris E. Kemper Staley on September 4, 1948, in Peoria. He married his High School Sweetheart, Patricia (Patti) Robbins on September 15, 1968. Punkie and Patti were blessed with two children, Ashleigh and Michael.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ralph Sr. and Doris; his infant brother, William and brother, Marshall; in-laws, Bud and Gina Robbins; brother-in-law, Chuck Robbins; and sister-in-law, Kassie Staley. Survivors include his wife of 53 years; daughter, Ashleigh (Barry) Lane of East Peoria and son, Michael (Sarah) Staley of Valencia, CA; grandsons, Patrick and Ryan Staley and Kaleb and Aaron Lane; brother, Malcolm (Kathy) Staley, sisters-in-law, Diana Robbins and Angela Robbins Hackett; nieces, Shelly Staley (Mike) Keating, Katie Staley (Rick) Tieken, Tina Robbins (Haken) Eksi, Tisha Robbins (Kelly) Thelen; nephews, Todd (Sharon) Staley, Jeff (Patti) Staley and CJ Hutt; and godchildren, Nic, Nate and Zach Hill and Kaleigh Hill Hruban.

Punkie was a proud graduate of East Peoria Community High School Class of 1967. He went on to work at Clark Food Service, which he retired from in 2010.

Punkie was a very active member of East Peoria First United Methodist Church as a member of the United Methodist Men, Church Daycare Board,

and as a communion steward. In his younger years, Punkie was a member of the Abbas Grotto, Hilton Lodge and Valley of Peoria. Punkie and Patti were proud to be on the very first Festival of Lights board and were co-chairman the of the Festival of Lights Enchanted Forest for many years. For the past 30 years, Punkie was town clerk as a part of the Fon du Lac Township; a job that he loved doing.

Punkie's greatest joys in life were his two children and his grandchildren. He coached both children in various sports, attended all dance recitals, band concerts, and was a leader in both Indian Guides and Princesses. He made many trips back and forth between colleges and different cities they lived in to always help with anything they needed. Punkie made sure to tell them every day how much he loved them and how special they were.

Punkie also loved going fishing and camping with his brothers, son, and nephews, meeting monthly with his high school friends for breakfast, and in his later years, being a snowbird in Destin, Florida with his wife. Punkie also enjoyed going to Disney World and Disneyland with his family many times over the years. Over the past 55 years, Punkie and Patti remained close with many high school friends and their spouses and still saw them regularly. Punkie was the life of the party, always had a helping hand and a hug for anyone who needed it and lived life to the fullest! He created many wonderful memories with all his family and friends.

Cremation rites have been accorded. Visitation will be from 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, June 11, 2022, at East Peoria First United Methodist Church, with a Memorial Service following at 11:00 a.m. Reverend Krista Price will officiate. Inurnment will be at Fondulac Cemetery in East Peoria at a later date. Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services in East Peoria is assisting the family.

Memorial donations may be made to the First United Methodist Church in East Peoria or Theresa Tracy Strive to Survive to help fight pancreatic cancer, in memory of his mother-in-law, Gina Robbins. Online condolences may be left at [www.GaryDeitersFH.com](http://www.GaryDeitersFH.com).



# Cemetery Details

## Fondulac Cemetery

1985 E. Washington Street  
East Peoria, IL

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

JUN 11. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church of East Peoria  
154 E. Washington Street  
East Peoria, IL

## Memorial Service

JUN 11. 11:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church of East Peoria  
154 E. Washington Street  
East Peoria, IL

# Tribute Wall



“ Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Ralph Uvalde "Punkie" Staley Jr.



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**Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - June 13, 2022 at 12:19 PM



“ Ralph Uvalde "Punkie" Staley Jr.

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October 08, 2023 at 04:50 PM



“ Punkie and Patti were quite the pair. What I enjoyed most about Punkie was he was always sincere. He shared his thoughts and most always had a smile on his face. You both welcomed children into the church graciously. You opened your house up so the kids could see the Halloween display. He worked in the kitchen with Patti whenever she needed him and even when she didn't. Stopped by one time and he was busy making the candy for the the holidays. But mostly his attitude and strength and resilience through his fight with COPD and cancer. Loving the Lord and continually serving throughout his time here on earth. Enjoy your Heavenly home.  
Steve and Danette Wetterauer

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**Danette** - July 06, 2022 at 11:51 AM

RB

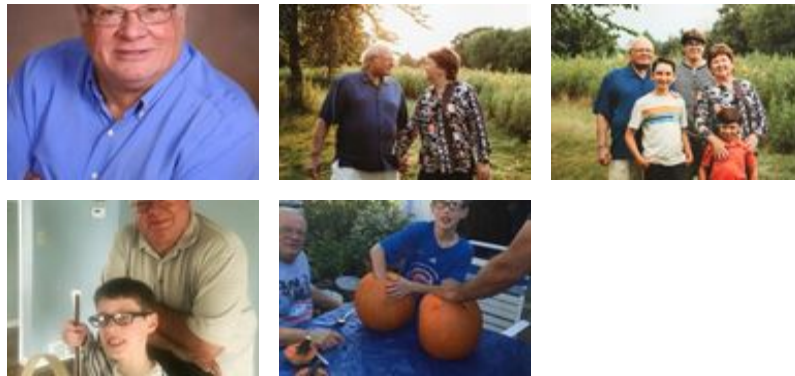
“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Ralph, Patti, Mike, Ashleigh, and the rest of the Staley family. Ralph was such a good guy and friend! He was always a gentleman around myself, my wife, and our kids! We were all better for having Ralph as a friend!  
Sincerely,  
Rick and Vicky Bohm and family

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**Rick Bohm** - June 11, 2022 at 09:03 AM



“ 93 files added to the album Life Tributes



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**Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - June 09, 2022 at 01:11 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ralph Uvalde "Punkie" Staley Jr..



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June 08, 2022 at 05:39 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Ralph Uvalde "Punkie" Staley Jr..*



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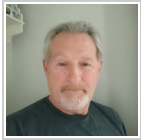
June 08, 2022 at 05:29 PM



“ *I am truly sorrow for your loss. I am a former classmate of Ralph's He always teased me about my last name I will miss his jokes and teasing from long ago.*

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**Mary Weyeneth** - June 08, 2022 at 08:20 AM



“ *Patti and family,  
Punkie was a gentle soul. I always rejoice when I find out that one of my childhood friends came to know and accept Jesus Christ. I'm not sure about the timing of his salvation but I just remember seeing some of his post on Facebook and thanking God for another friend that was now in God's family! May God give all of you His perfect peace and comfort during this time. Punkie will be sorely missed but we will all unite in the very near future with our Lord Jesus! His peace be with you, Pat.  
Doug Parnham*

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**Doug Parnham** - June 07, 2022 at 06:57 PM

SB

“ Punkie was the most wonderful person a new teacher in East Peoria could ever meet! Thanks to his wonderful wife who I had the pleasure of working with I also got to meet him...the friendship and love continue to this day...my thoughts are with all of his family...he will be missed! Sue Bussone

Susan Bussone - June 07, 2022 at 04:31 PM

JL

“ Punkie was a man that spread happiness and joy wherever he stepped. We all had many fun and crazy experiences together. He will be missed beyond words. Our prayers are with Patti and the family.

joyce Little - June 07, 2022 at 04:25 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ralph Uvalde "Punkie" Staley Jr..



June 07, 2022 at 02:32 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ralph Uvalde "Punkie" Staley Jr..



June 07, 2022 at 10:26 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ralph Uvalde "Punkie" Staley Jr..*



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June 07, 2022 at 09:38 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Ralph Uvalde "Punkie" Staley Jr..*



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June 06, 2022 at 10:22 PM



“ *I knew Punk for over 60 years, and I don't recall anyone ever saying an unkind thing about him. May God bless him and keep him, and shine His love and mercy upon Patti. and the rest of his family.*

*"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die."*

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**Mike Bush** - June 06, 2022 at 09:18 PM



*Sorry for the family's loss. Punkie was an old friend of my late brother, Millard.*

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**LD Tate** - June 09, 2022 at 07:29 PM