



Byron L. Martin

February 11, 1946 - January 19, 2016

Gridley- Byron L. Martin, 69, of Gridley, IL passed away at 11:24 pm on Tuesday, January 19, 2016 at OSF St. Joseph Hospital in Bloomington, IL.

He was born on February 11, 1946 in Bloomington, IL a son of Harold R. and Laura Lydia Yergler Martin. He married Carolyn "Katie" Aberle on August 2, 1969 in Sabetha, Kansas. She survives.

Also surviving are two daughters, Heather (Justin) Meece of Bloomington, IL; Debra (Grant) DesCarpentrie of Normal, IL; one son, Richard (Jackie) Martin of Gridley, IL; two brothers, Stan (Karen) Martin of Omaha, NE; Sid (Nancy) Martin of Crystal Lake, IL; and six grandchildren, Emma and Sophia Meece; Samuel, Nathan, and Anna DesCarpentrie; and Brynn Martin.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Byron worked as the Gridley Township Road Commissioner for 25 years. He also owned and operated his own excavating business.

An Army veteran, he served his country in Korea as a mechanic. He was a member of the Gridley American Legion and served as a volunteer for the Gridley Fire Department.

Some of his most enjoyable times were spent with the Hendren/Rawley racing team, fishing with his brothers and friends, and spending time with his family and especially his grandchildren on his pontoon boat.

He attended the Gridley Apostolic Christian Church where funeral services will be held at 10:00 am on Saturday, January 23, 2016. Church ministers will officiate. Visitation will be held from 4-7 pm on Friday at the Ruestman-Harris Funeral Home in El Paso and from 9-9:45 am at the church prior to the service. Burial will be in Gridley Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Gridley American Legion or the El Paso/Gridley School Foundation. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.ruestmanharrisfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery

Events

Gridley Cemetery

Gridley, IL, 61744

JAN **Visitation** 04:00PM - 07:00PM

22

Ruestman-Harris - El Paso

40 West Main Street, El Paso, IL, US, 61738

JAN **Funeral Service** 10:00AM

23

Gridley Apostolic Christian Church

319 E. Seventh St., Gridley, IL, US

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Ruestman-Harris Funeral Home - January 21, 2016 at 12:53 PM



“ Katie and Family, We are extremely saddened by Byron's passing. Very proud to have you all as friends. As everyone knows he was so kind and nice; definitely one of the good ones. So many memories we have. Prayers to you.

Ken & Gail Rowley - January 22, 2016 at 09:04 AM



“ Dear Katie, Heather, Deb and Rich,

I am so very sorry for your loss. I just watched the tribute video and smiled through the tears remembering all the sweet memories of babysitting the kids when they were young. Now they are grown with families of their own! I loved being part of your family all those years ago. I hope your memories will bring you comfort and peace. Most importantly, we know that you will see him again one day soon in Heaven. There will be much rejoicing!

Keeping you all close in my thoughts and prayers.

Sonja Miles

Sonja Miles - February 11, 2016 at 11:56 AM



“ Katie and family,
Very sorry and shocked to hear the news about Byron. I am reminded about our days growing up on the farm,
Artie Stoller, Bryon and I lived within a few miles of one another and spent many a day "hanging out" together. We never got into real trouble (only once did we get a visit from the county sheriffs dept.), just doing the things that boys do when growing up on the farm. Byron was a year behind me in H.S., in Karen's class of '64. He was a "tight end" on our undefeated team my senior year. He nicknamed me "sparkles". From a news paper article in the Bloomington Panagraph. Those were the days!

Our heart felt condolences go out to you, family and Stan/Sid.

Dick + Karen Wilson

Oceanside, CA

Richard Wilson - February 02, 2016 at 10:31 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers go out to your family. When we think about 4-H or the Rowley race team, your name always comes up. You were a good friend to everyone. RIP Byron. You will be thought of with fond memories.

Cheryle Robbins and the Robbins family

Cheryle Robbins - January 28, 2016 at 10:37 PM



“ What a beautiful service for a wonderful guy. Everyone loved Byron which was certainly evident by the number of people at the funeral home viewing. We will miss him so much!

Prayers are always with you Katie, Heather, Rich, Deb and families.

Love, Abe and Carrie Aberle

carrie aberle - January 27, 2016 at 02:41 PM



“ To the Martin Family - I am sorry for your loss. Knowing Byron has been a privilege. Fishing with him in South Dakota allowed me to enjoy his humor and commitment to family. He will be missed. My sympathy and thoughts are with his family and may you find comfort in your memories of Byron.
W. "Pete" Smith

W. Pete Smith - January 23, 2016 at 02:50 PM



“ Katie and family,
Sorry to hear that Byron had passed away.
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and yours.
God be with you.

Cathy and Lyonel

Cathy Leonard - January 23, 2016 at 09:42 AM



“ Katie and family, Leila and I were shocked to hear about Byron, we are in Phoenix, Az. but are certainly thinking and Praying for you all. We can get together when we get back in March.

Bruce & Leila

Bruce & Leila - January 22, 2016 at 09:24 PM



“ To the Martin family: Our prayers are with you as you mourn the loss of such an important man in your life. We pray that God will comfort you as you wait to see him again. Much love from Cara Hibbs Lemenager and family

Cara Lemenager - January 22, 2016 at 05:48 PM



“ Kate,

We know what a loss this must be. We will keep you and your family in our thoughts and prayers. Bryon will be missed!

Thinking of you,

Bill Hurckes

Bill Hurckes - January 22, 2016 at 02:47 PM



“ So sorry --Good memories of him growing up as Stan & Sid's little brother, love for his family, and of his dedication in always serving his country and community. Praying the Lord will surround you with His peace and His comforting arms strengthen you. With our Love, Ben & Lois Klein

Lois Klein - January 22, 2016 at 10:38 AM



“ Dear Rich and Jackie and the entire Martin family
You have our deepest sympathy and prayers. You are loved and lifted up in prayer at this time of loss.
Virgil and Suellen Kaeb

Virg Kaeb - January 22, 2016 at 07:10 AM



“ Dear Martin family So sorry we will not be there to see your family but our prayers and sympathy are with you all. Jack and Sharon Hoobler

jack hoobler - January 22, 2016 at 10:54 AM



“ Katie, we would like to you to know you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. You have our sympathy. God bless you and your family.

Greg and Gilda Maurer

Gilda Maurer - January 22, 2016 at 06:50 AM



“ We were deeply sad to hear of Byron's passing. Our friend, classmate, teammate, customer, and comrade will be greatly missed by us. Katie, our prayers are with you and your family at this time. God's peace be with you.

Bob and Sharon Hughes

Bob and Sharon Hughes - January 21, 2016 at 04:16 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time, God be with you!

Jon & Cindy Wilson
and Family



Cindy & Jon Wilson - January 21, 2016 at 03:01 PM



“ May God give you comfort and strength. You have my sympathy.

Liz Gramm - January 21, 2016 at 12:27 PM



“ Katie and family, we are shocked! Don will miss him at the coffee table. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. He was a great guy! God bless....

Don and Roberta Leake - January 21, 2016 at 11:42 AM



“ Katie, you have my sympathy. I have pleasant memories of chatting with Byron over a cup of coffee at the restaurant. May God be with you during this time of loss.

Jack Gramm - January 21, 2016 at 11:28 AM



“ Byron was a great guy...lived across the street from him in my youth...I remember helping him at Heinold Hog Market as it was the last stop on my paper route....he was a good athlete in high school and played end on what I remember as a very good hard nosed Gridley football team...he had a great personality and always had time for everybody around him.

Michael Morin - January 21, 2016 at 09:18 AM



“ Sis. Katie,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Mike Monica Fritz - January 21, 2016 at 08:34 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the Martin family during this time. Byron will be greatly missed.

Keith McNamara & family - January 21, 2016 at 08:18 AM