



## Bill "Rip" Rypkema

November 21, 1945 - July 1, 2019

Bill "Rip" Rypkema, 73 of Creal Springs, passed away Monday, July 1, 2019 in Memorial Hospital of Carbondale.

He was born to Floyd and Marcella (Ashley) Rypkema in Sparta on November 21, 1945.

Rip married Betty Nash on August 4, 1991.

He received a degree in criminal justice from the Southern Illinois University. He had worked for 16 years for the Carbondale Police Department earning the rank of Lieutenant. He then was the Chief of Police for 20 years at Western Springs. He also did the FBI training for the Yellow Brick Road.

Rip is survived by his wife, Betty Rypkema of Creal Springs; children, Michael (Gretchen) Rypkema; Matthew (Chaka) Rypkema, and Mandy (Jason) Rypkema, all of Portland, OR; a step-son, Dennis Nash of Springfield, MO; 8 grandchildren, a sister, Jo Ellen (Alan) Milligan of Buncombe; other relatives and a host of friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; Junior & Marcella Henderson (parents that raised him) and a step-son, Stephen Nash.

Funeral Services for Bill "Rip" Rypkema will be Wednesday, July 3, 2019 at 1:00 pm in Crain Pleasant Grove-Murdale Funeral Home with Rev. Alan Milligan officiating.

Visitation will be from 11:00 am until the hour of the service at the funeral home.

Interment will follow in Pleasant Grove Memorial Park.

Memorials can be made to the Eagle House Ministries and/or the Carbondale Police Department and will be accepted at the funeral home.

# Cemetery Details

## Pleasant Grove Memorial Park

31 Memorial Dr.  
Murphysboro, IL 62966  
(618) 687-1145  
crain@crainsonline.com

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**JUL 3.** 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Crain Pleasant Grove-Murdale Funeral Home - Old 13  
31 Memorial Dr.  
Murphysboro, IL 62966  
(618) 687-2500  
crain@crainsonline.com

## Service

**JUL 3.** 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Crain Pleasant Grove-Murdale Funeral Home - Old 13  
31 Memorial Dr.  
Murphysboro, IL 62966  
(618) 687-2500  
crain@crainsonline.com

# Tribute Wall



“ *Bill "Rip" Rypkema*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *Simply the best. Always was. Always will be.*

*Thanks for the memories, Rip.*

*mic cagney*

**mic cagney** - July 31, 2019 at 03:26 PM



“ *We are the parents of Michael's wife (Gretchen). We had the distinct pleasure to get to know Bill at various family gatherings. I see why he was special to many of you as he welcomed us with open arms. He will be missed. Greg and Karen Harp, Sammamish, WA*

**Greg Harp** - July 06, 2019 at 07:22 PM



“ *Rip was a "regular" at Bill's Guns & Sporting Goods in Carbondale when he was with CPD. Fondly remembered by CPD and the shooting sports community.*

*Dave Lattan*

**Dave Lattan** - July 04, 2019 at 04:40 PM

MP

“ I worked with Rip for the past 5 years. I will always miss talking to him and his jokes. He welcomed me with open arms when I started working there, he always smiled and even offered me a can of Country Time Lemonade. Although I miss him greatly, I'm glad he's at peace. You will be missed my friend!!  
- Mike

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**Mike Plonka** - July 04, 2019 at 04:30 AM

SD

“ So sorry for your loss. Everyone we've ever loved is a gift for us to treasure. In the midst of all the sorrow and loss, how wonderful it is to know that God has the power to comfort, to restore and to heal. My sincere sympathy to you and to your brother's family and friends.

*Sending warm thoughts at this difficult time, Sue Doctorman*

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**Sue Doctorman** - July 03, 2019 at 12:35 PM

DM

“ Betty and family, I'm so sorry to hear that Bill passed away. Everytime he made a comment on one of my post. I'd think, we need to reconnect one of these days now that I'm retired. Now that door is closed!  
I will be praying for you all. Deb Rypkema Michaud

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**Deb Michaud** - July 03, 2019 at 02:22 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bill "Rip" Rypkema.*



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July 02, 2019 at 03:39 PM



“ *Will certainly miss. Bill. He was my lab partner in Chemistry class at Spart High School. Because of him, I passed chemistry. So glad I got to visit with him at our last class reunion. Rest in peace old friend. Sue Stephenson Hooper*

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**Sue Hooper** - July 02, 2019 at 02:50 PM



“ *Writing this through my tears What a great guy loved telling him jokes and talking about our animalsHe left a great legacy three of the nicest kidsI have the pleasure of knowing*

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**Marcia Cole** - July 02, 2019 at 02:45 PM

RB

“ I grew up in Sparta and went all through school with "Billy Jim". That is what we all called him. I guess in High School we started calling him Bill. We also went to the Methodist church together. I remember many fun times we had in band and at band camp. He was always a nice and polite person. Of course with the exception when he would try to goose us majorettes with his trombone during band practice.

*It is for certain his family and many friends will miss him but we know he is in God's heaven. That is a blessing to have that assurance.*

*My Deepest Sympathy to all his family and loved ones,*

*Rhonda Crain Borutta  
"Class of "63"*

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**Rhonda Borutta** - July 02, 2019 at 01:58 PM

JS

“ Jeff, Karen, + Carmen Stephan purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Bill "Rip" Rypkema.



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**Jeff, Karen, + Carmen Stephan** - July 02, 2019 at 01:28 PM

EB

“ *Bill Rypkema was the kind of chief most police officers wish they had. He freely praised those that deserved it and corrected those who needed it. His style of supervision had a positive affect on all around him.*

*I remember him with a smile on his face almost all the time. He had a soft spoken way of mentoring young officers that made a positive impact on everyone around him.*

*Sincere condolences to Bill's family, know that a lot of people knew he was a great man.*

*Rest In Peace my brother, you will be greatly missed.*

*Ed. Broche*

*Retired Sgt. Western Springs P.D.*

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**Ed Broche** - July 02, 2019 at 11:55 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Bill "Rip" Rypkema.*



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July 02, 2019 at 10:50 AM

CG

“ I am grateful for the many years of service that "Rip" provided to the people of Illinois. He was a consummate professional. I met Bill thru Ed Hogan when he worked in Carbondale. We would often see him and Betty at the Illinois Chiefs meetings. Was delighted to see him selected to serve Western Springs as there Chief. He was devoted to his family, his communities, his fellow Chiefs, and will be missed by all as well. Rest in Peace "RIP" well served with honor and distinction.

*Chuck & Linda Gruber*

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**Charles Gruber** - July 02, 2019 at 08:52 AM

LM

“ I have neither seen nor spoken with Bill since my teenage years in Sparta. We were both raised as Methodists. We were friends. The only real memory that comes to mind was one Sunday afternoon we walked the railroad tracks to the old Moffat Mine and using his .22 rifle we killed a lot of empty and strewn cans. Later, I had to reimburse him for the shells I shot that day.

*Bill was a good guy and a good law enforcement officer. I was a deputy sheriff in Randolph County and heard good things about Bill. I wish we could have reconnected, but life takes us in different directions and oft our paths do not cross or reconnect.*

*My sincerest condolences to Bill's family. May the fond memories you hold of Bill give you comfort in this time of sorrow.*

*Larry McGuire*

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**Larry McGuire** - July 02, 2019 at 08:51 AM

LH

“ Bill, this news hit me like a brick. For the first 22 years of our lives, we were as close as two guys can get through the crazy years. Kindergarten on, church and school. I remember proudly spelling my first "tough word" in first grade: "Rypkema". We spent many hours in your basement with the comic books your dad brought home from Spartan Printing. And how many hours did we spend on our farm riding "Snowball" (white pony) and other important stuff. I now apologize for reaching out for the cattle electrified fence as I then quickly grabbed your hand. Seemed funny at the time, but it didn't draw us closer for a few hours!

Later years: you running a highway guard rail through the windshield of your brand new 67 Chevy coming back to Carbondale from Lebanon. Blessed buddy, we both agreed on that. Oh, yes, Lebanon, McKendree College. Double dating with you and your gal and her room mate. Oh my.....

You were brought up in the Lord and know in HIS Father's house there is a mansion prepared for you. Until we meet again. Larry Hoffman

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**Larry Hoffman** - July 01, 2019 at 11:10 PM

TB

“ Ryp and I shared many cop experiences and memories during the 15 years we served together on the CPD - especially those of the early 70's. He's the definition of a good person and he will be long remembered. Goodbye, Ryp, and thanks for your friendship.

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**Tom Busch** - July 01, 2019 at 06:41 PM

TR

“ *The Ashmore Family (WSPD Retired) purchased the Patriotic Throw for the family of Bill "Rip" Rypkema.*



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**The Ashmore Family (WSPD Retired)** - July 01, 2019 at 05:39 PM

JA

“ *Chief Rypkema hired me in 1996 as a Western Springs Police Officer. He and I shared many great moments together. I am truly saddened to hear about Bills passing and wish Gods comfort for his family and freinds. I will never forget what Bill did for me and will never forget all the memories we shared. Rest in peace my brother in arms and my brother in blue!*



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**James M. Ashmore** - July 01, 2019 at 05:29 PM

MH

“ *We are saddened to hear of Bill's passing. Ad Chief in Western Springs, he led with modern concepts. As President of the West Suburban Chiefs of Police Association he was a leader of leaders. His memory will continue on as a friend and mentor.*  
*Chief (Ret.) Michael Holub*  
*La Grange Police Department*

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**Michael Holub** - July 01, 2019 at 04:15 PM

MM

*Just learned of Bill passing away through Facebook friend search. Bill and I were roommates in St Louis 64-65. I was a student at Washington University but don't recall what Bill was doing at that time. One memory I have is asking him to awaken me for an important early class/test as he was an early riser and I was not to say the least. Anyway I overslept and when I asked why he did not wake me he claimed that he did but I had jumped out of bed and punched him before going back to sleep. Needless to say he did not try a second time. He was a good guy and based on his obit and all the loving comments posted here, he lead a good life.*

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**Michael Meade** - April 20, 2022 at 10:09 PM