



Curtis Dean Ehlers

July 9, 1959 - February 26, 2022

Curtis Dean Ehlers, age 62, of Ava, passed away at 1:37 a.m. on February 26, 2022, in Memorial Hospital of Carbondale.

Curt was born on July 9, 1959, in St. Louis MO to Lawrence “Larry” and Betty (Kleckner) Ehlers.

He attended Hazelwood High School and when the family moved back to Southern Illinois, he attended Trico High School where he graduated in 1977. Curt also attended Southern Illinois University obtaining an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice. After High School, Curt volunteered for the Jackson County Ambulance Service while it was stationed in Campbell Hill and then went full time for two years. He then began his 35+ year career in law enforcement as a full time Deputy Sheriff for the Jackson County Sheriff’s Department. Curt then served as a full-time police officer for the City of Murphysboro and most recently as the Chief of Police for the City of Ava until his retirement. He also received the Medal of Valor for his role in the apprehension of suspects in the Campbell Hill Bank robbery. Curt married Katie (Torrence) nee, Koss on May 5, 1987, in Campbell Hill.

Survivors include his wife, Katie, of Campbell Hill; his mother, Betty, of Chester; his sister, Linda (Jerry) Smith of Campbell Hill; nephews, Jeremiah Smith of Campbell Hill, Clayton Koss of Duluth, MN and Samuel Koss of Grand Forks, ND; and nieces, Samantha Smith of Murphysboro and Joelle

Koss-Schmid of Duluth, MN.

Curt enjoyed trains and train watching, guns, fixing CB radios, and spending time with the vast amount of people he befriended over the years. Everyone's favorite pastime was hanging out at Curt and Katie's house for good coffee and even better conversation and a mountain of storytelling.

The family will hold a Celebration of Life on at the American Legion, 1701 Gartside, Murphysboro, on Saturday, March 19, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Please bring your "Funny Curt Stories" to share.

Crain Funeral Home in Murphysboro has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Memorials may be made to Wright Way Animal Shelter. Envelopes will be available and accepted at the funeral home.

Previous Events

Family Held Memorial/Celebration of Life

MAR 19. 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM (CT)

American Legion Post 127
1700 Gartside Street
Murphysboro
Murphysboro, IL 62966

Tribute Wall



“ *Curtis Dean Ehlers*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *COREY M WILLIAMS lit a candle in memory of Curtis Dean Ehlers*



COREY M WILLIAMS - March 09, 2022 at 04:54 PM



“ *Diane and I worked with Curt and Kate at the Jackson County Sheriff's Office in the late 80's and early 90's. seems like a hundred years ago now. I learned a lot from him. I rode hundreds of miles with him all over the county, and drank gallons of coffee at their house. He will be missed. David and Diane Moore*

David Moore - March 08, 2022 at 11:30 AM



“ *3 files added to the album Curt*



Steph - March 01, 2022 at 04:07 PM

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“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Steph - March 01, 2022 at 04:04 PM