



James A. Blessing

May 26, 1945 - April 18, 2026

IN MEMORY OF:

James A. Blessing

Serving Location:

CRAIN PLEASANT GROVE-MURDALE FUNERAL HOME

31 Memorial Drive, Murphysboro, Illinois

James A. Blessing, age 80, of Murphysboro, was reunited in heaven with his beloved wife, Janice on Saturday, April 18, 2026 after passing away at the VA Medical Center in Marion, Illinois.

He was born on May 26, 1945 to Aaron Lloyd and Mary Alice (Lewis) Blessing in Carbondale, Illinois. On October 1, 1966, he married Janice Sue Navrat and together they spent over 48 years.

James proudly served his country for 22 years in the United States Air Force and retiring as a Master Sergeant. After his military career, he worked for 20 years at Southern Illinois University as a mechanic and truck driver. Following retirement, he and Janice spent winters in Aransas Pass, Texas. James treasured his family and loved spending time with his grandchildren and great-

grandchildren. James was the kind of person who never met a stranger. He enjoyed bowling, golfing, and fishing in his spare time. James was a faithful member of St. Andrew Catholic Church.

survivors include his son, Shawn Blessing (Laurie Kellogg); daughter, Deanna (Allen) Crombar; three grandchildren, Corbin (Liz) Blessing, Benjamin Blessing (Karly), Andrew Logan Congo; five great-grandchildren, Peyton Blessing, Benjamin Blessing, II, Michael Blessing, Landon Blessing, Rowan Blessing; sisters, Marjorie Blessing and Jill Blessing; sister-in-law, Raetta Blessing; lifelong family friend of Janice and James, Patricia Overkamp; along with many nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

Along with his parents and Wife, he is preceded in death by his brother, Arvin Blessing.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, April 22, 2026 from 5:00 PM until 8:00 PM at Crain Pleasant Grove – Murdale Funeral Home.

Funeral Mass will be held, on Thursday, April 23, 2026 at 10:00 AM with celebrant Father Joel Seipp at St. Andrew Catholic Church in Murphysboro.

Interment will follow the service at Pleasant Grove Memorial Park.

The family requests with gratitude that memorial contributions may be made to St. Andrew Catholic Church and/or to the Marion VA Community Living Center.

Crain Pleasant Grove-Murdale Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Pleasant Grove Memorial Park

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

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **22**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (cst)

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

Funeral Mass

APR **23**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (cst)

St. Andrew Catholic Church
724 Mulberry St.
Murphysboro, IL

Interment

APR **23**. 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM (cst)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *My dear friend Marjorie and I have been wonderful friends for nearly 20 years ..she spoke of James often and in the kindest hear a sister could ever speak..I know the family will miss you James , but we also know we will meet again in Heaven ..May God give your family comfort and rest during these hours ..
Love and hugs Judy , Texas*

judy pylant - April 21 at 03:39 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of James A. Blessing.*



April 20 at 05:37 PM