



## Neill Clugston

April 1, 1939 - May 2, 2025

IN MEMORY OF:

Neill Clugston

Serving Location:

CRAIN PLEASANT GROVE-MURDALE FUNERAL HOME

31 Memorial Drive, Murphysboro, Illinois

Neill Clugston passed away on May 2, 2025. He was surrounded by loved ones at his home in Carbondale. He will be dearly missed. Neill was born on April 1, 1939, in Garden City, Kansas, to Andrew Neil Clugston and Velma Frances Steele Clugston.

Neill loved growing up in Garden City with extended family nearby and wonderful childhood friends. He often reminisced about his travels and adventures during those happy days.

On July 29, 1961, Neill married the love of his life, Bonnye Baril, in Pawnee, Illinois. Together, Neill and Bonnye celebrated 64 years of marriage and they were blessed with 3 daughters: Mindy, Sondra, and Nancy. As a newlywed, he honorably served in the Army Reserves, training at Fort Ord, California.

Neill's life was deeply shaped by his faith. In November 1966, he joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, where he remained an active member and held several leadership positions. He gratefully served in the St. Louis, Missouri temple for 19 years . His unwavering belief in Jesus Christ guided his words and actions.

With Bonnye by his side, Neill built a reputation in Murphysboro as a respected business owner. Together, they operated Able Dry Cleaners for 31 years and launched several ventures including Village Florist, Dairy Queen, and Safety Lock Storage. Their contributions helped shape the local business landscape.

A strong community advocate, Neill actively took part in the Murphysboro Apple Festival, where his service earned him the distinguished Founders Day Award. His leadership continued as Executive Director of the Murphysboro Chamber of Commerce and later as a finance committee member.

Everyone who met Neill immediately felt welcome and comfortable. His kind words and great sense of humor always made people feel at ease. Neill was also an avid golfer, where he found camaraderie and joy on the green with longtime friends.

Family was Neill's greatest happiness. He celebrated every achievement, large or small, of his children and grandchildren. He treasured time spent with them, cheering them on in life with great love.

He is survived by Bonnye and their daughters—Mindy (Chuck) Lee and Sondra (Wendell) Jung, both of Highland, Utah, and Nancy Phipps of Round Rock, Texas. His legacy continues through his 12 grandchildren—Chelsea Alder, Mallory Green, Alexis Smith, Colette Cox, Max Lee, Matthew Jung,

Ryan Jung, Kathleen Clarke, Sophie Phipps, Adam Phipps, Carson Phipps, and Logan Phipps—and 25 great-grandchildren who filled his life with joy.

Services will be held on Thursday, May 8, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 7168 Old Highway 13, Carbondale, IL 62901. Neill's legacy is one of love, faith, service, and community—a life well-lived and deeply treasured.

Inurnment will be held at a later date at Murdale Gardens of Memory.

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

# Cemetery Details

## Murdale Gardens of Memory

137 Murdale Gardens Rd  
Murphysboro, IL 62966  
(618) 687-1145  
crain@crainsonline.com

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAY 8. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (cst)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
7168 Old Hwy 13  
Carbondale, IL 62901  
(573) 326-9594

# Tribute Wall

JS

“ Neill purchased Able Cleaners from my father, Carl Sullivan. He was very kind to my dad and to Aunt Lila Sullivan who worked for him until her retirement.

He was also kind to me through our casual acquaintance at Tippy's Restaurant for coffee. John Sullivan, Salina, KS.

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**John Sullivan** - May 09, 2025 at 08:36 AM

MB

“ Dear Clugston friends, we have been sharing memories of Neill and your family all week. Nauvoo, Christmas Eves, games, and just great friendship. Neill will be missed. Our best to all of you. Matt and Kathy Bekker & family.

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**Matt and Kathy Bekker** - May 08, 2025 at 02:11 PM

GL

“ Dear Bonnye and Family. Oh, how Gary and I loved Neill! And we are so very sad to hear of his passing. He was a stalwart to the end, a man of goodness and humor and faithfulness. We send our love to you, Bonnye, and to all your family--what a legacy and wonderful posterity you have. We are thinking of you with love, Gary and Ann Lobb

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**Gary and Ann Lobb** - May 08, 2025 at 12:32 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Neill Clugston.



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May 07, 2025 at 02:44 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Neill Clugston.*



May 06, 2025 at 09:51 AM



“ *We are so sad to hear of the passing of our dear friend, Neil! His sense of humor, his business acumen, and his service to God are a hallmark of his life. Our heartfelt sympathy goes to Bonnye and his family. Our prayers are with you all! Dale and Denise Wright*

**Dale Wright** - May 06, 2025 at 12:21 AM



“ *Brother Clugston was always a spiritual giant. I remember his voice and his smile that always reached his eyes. So many memories through my teen years. Sending love and prayers to the family.*

**Karen Shattuck** - May 05, 2025 at 09:02 PM



“ *Sophie purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Neill Clugston.*



**Sophie** - May 05, 2025 at 04:51 PM