



Phillip T. Egelston

June 29, 1947 - July 23, 2016

Phillip T. Egelston, 69, of Jonesboro, went to be with the Lord Jesus Christ at 5:46 PM Saturday, July 23, 2016 at Saint Francis Medical Center in Cape Girardeau, MO.

Phillip was born in Willard Hospital June 29, 1947 in Anna, IL the son of Dresden Burdette and Adra (Echols) Egelston.

He graduated from Salem Community High School in 1965 and attended Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. In January of 1976, Brother Phil was baptized in the Holy Ghost and called soon after into the Ministry. For over 10 years he preached on the Open Door Bible Broadcast. He also served as Pastor and Guest Preacher at various local churches. In the 1980's he curated exhibits of paintings and Victorian art glass at Southeastern Missouri State University. A ten-year retrospective of his own artwork was held at the University of Tennessee at Martin in 1991. Egelston's artwork has appeared in regional and national art shows and has won many awards. Egelston was a gifted poet and author. His first published poem appeared in The Saturday Evening Post in 1977. He published 4 volumes of poetry and 1 chapbook of short stories. He was also a collector and expert on Victorian art glass. He was the first editor of the Mt. Washington Art Glass Review and was one of the founding members of the Mt. Washington Art Glass Society. Phillip was a Living Unit Supervisor at the Choate Mental Health center for 16 years and

worked many years at the Jonesboro Post Office.

Phillip is survived by his dear friend, Glen Bishop of Jonesboro; three brothers, Lyle Thomas (Paula) Egelston of St Joseph, IL, Roger Kent Williams of Madison, WI, Keith Williams of KY; one sister, Connie Williams Jourdan (James) Bonner of Edgewood, IL; two nieces, Tammy (Gale) Jourdan Sharp of Keenes, IL, Kristien Bonner of Edgewood, IL; three nephews, Jay Jourdan of Iuka, IL, Steven Jourdan, Jr. of Waltonville, IL, Gregory Thomas Egelston of St. Joseph, IL; five great nieces, Shaley Jourdan of Iuka, IL, Hannah Bonner of Edgewood, IL, Addie Bonner of Edgewood, IL, JoAnn Elise Egelston of Seattle, WA, Olivia Breann Egelston of Philo, IL; four great nephews, Andy Sharp of Keenes, IL, Caleb Jourdan of Waltonville, IL, Hunter Jourdan of Waltonville, IL, Reed Jourdan of Waltonville, IL.

He is preceded in death by his father, Dresden Egelston; mother, Adra Louise Kathlyn (Echols) Egelston Williams; one brother, Mark Kirk Egelston; one nephew, Rodney Kirk Egelston.

Visitation will be held from 11:00am to 2:00pm on Wednesday, July 27, 2016 at the Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro.

Funeral Services will be held at 2:00pm on Wednesday, July 27, 2016 at the funeral home with Brother Glen Bishop officiating. Interment will follow at Casper Cemetery.

Memorial Contributions may be made to Casper Cemetery and will be accepted at the funeral home.

To view the full obituary or to leave an online condolence for the family visit www.crainsonline.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Phillip T. Egelston*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *We were very sad to hear of Phil's passing. We knew him to be not only very talented, but kind and generous too. He will be missed.*
Ron and Nancy Leske

Nancy Leske - August 03, 2016 at 02:25 PM



“ *How blessed are those Phil left behind to have five volumes of his words to read again and again. His life touched many people and will continue to do so through the pages of his poetry and short stories.*

Kathy

Kathy Cotton - July 27, 2016 at 04:24 PM

DG

“ I met Phil at one of the first Makanda Vulture Fests where we read at a poetry reading. I never forgot the poems he read that night. Then, after becoming a member of the ISPS, I was fortunate enough to get to know him and his work better. He was perhaps the best recent poet to come out of southern Illinois. His poems are both physical and cerebral and any serious poet should seek out his books. I keep a special place for him in my heart and bookshelf.

This poem of Phil's offers a glimpse into his depth and strength.

A Spring

*I am very happy
with water today-
the going and coming:*

*with such flowing
in sickness or in health,
a life is made.*

::

*javascript:void(0);
Glen, you are in my prayers.*

He will always be with us.

Dave Gross

David Gross - July 27, 2016 at 04:18 PM

JP

“ I was fortunate to know Phil even a short time, through his poetic voices and through his kindnesses with the rest of us poets at the workshop table. And what a joy to be at his recent reading at the arts center. I remember being a bit intimidated by Phil's fine intellect the first time I met him but soon also saw that bright heart. Dear Glen and family, in this time of loss, I wish you harbor in Love.

Jan Presley - July 26, 2016 at 11:13 AM



“ So sorry to hear this. My deepest sympathy to Glen and to Phil's family. I'll always remember Phil and Glen coming into Morris Library to visit and talk about poetry. Although we weren't close otherwise, we all had a bond of sorts because of poetry and art in general.

Glen, I think memories are similar to what Robert Dana writes about poetry: "It may come to you like the cry/of children playing out/of sight across a green ravine./Or distant as the jumble/of sleepy bees, hum of flies/gorged with musky blackberries/beyond the milkhouse . . ." I'm sure you'll remember your good friend often as time passes, with a tear and a smile.



David Bond - July 26, 2016 at 09:53 AM