



Dr. Richard F. Farmer

July 25, 1931 - August 31, 2025

IN MEMORY OF:

Dr. Richard F. Farmer

Serving Location:

CRAIN FUNERAL HOME – CAPE GIRARDEAU

829 North West End Boulevard, Cape Girardeau, Missouri

Dr. Richard F. Farmer, of Cape Girardeau, passed away on Sunday, August 31, 2025 at 4:00 PM at the Chateau Girardeau in Cape Girardeau.

He was born on July 25, 1931 in Welch, West Virginia, son of Raymond H. and Betty L. Farmer. Richard married Shirley A. Harlow on June 3, 1951 in the bride's home church of Epworth United Methodist Church in Mt. Vernon, Illinois.

Mr. Farmer graduated from Lynch, Kentucky High School and attended Asbury College and Southern Illinois University Carbondale from which he earned his BS, MS, and Ph.D. Degrees. Dr. Farmer had a long and distinguished career as a teacher, school administrator, and university professor covering a career of 49 years. He was a member of many

professional organizations to which he was often elected or appointed leadership positions. Both as a practicing public school superintendent and university educator, Dr. Farmer was a frequent speaker at educational conclaves, authored numerous professional articles, and served as a consultant to school systems. He was proud of being the third Farmer to be an educator and the father and grandfather of teachers. He was an active member of Cape Bible Chapel and loved his Sunday School Class.

Survivors include his daughter, LaDonne Farmer (John) Beardsley of Lexington, KY; sister, Betty Lee Lane of Plano, TX; son-in-law, Kenneth Williams of Benton, IL; four grandchildren, John Williams, Lisa Williams, Carolyn (Nathan) Young, and Grace (Chase) Peterson.

Along with his parents, he is preceded in death by his wife Shirley Ann; and daughter, Lee Ann Williams.

Funeral Services will be held on Wednesday, September 3, 2025 at 11:00 AM at Crain Funeral Home and Cremation Service. Visitation will be held from 10:00 AM until 11:00 AM at the funeral home on the day of the service.

A Private Entombment will be held at Egyptian Memorial Gardens in Energy, Illinois.

In Lieu of flowers, the family requests with gratitude that memorial contributions be made to Cape Bible Chapel.

Crain Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Cape Girardeau is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Egyptian Memorial Gardens

3208 S. Park Ave.
Energy, IL 62933
(618) 942-6051
crain@crainsonline.com

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 3. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Crain Funeral Home - Cape Girardeau
829 N. West End Blvd
(4 blocks north of Southeast Hospital)
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 335-3223
crain@crainsonline.com

Funeral Service

SEP 3. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Crain Funeral Home - Cape Girardeau
829 N. West End Blvd
(4 blocks north of Southeast Hospital)
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 335-3223
crain@crainsonline.com

Tribute Wall

DS

“*Dr. Farmer and Lee Ann were wonderful neighbors and friends of ours for many years. We will always cherish the memories of visiting with him on his front porch and talking about everything from politics to religion. Our lives were made richer by knowing Dr. Farmer. I know God has welcomed him home...*”*Well done my good and faithful servant.” Ted and Donna Spencer*

Donna Spencer - September 02, 2025 at 02:12 PM

LB

“*Love, Jane and Bertram purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Dr. Richard F. Farmer.*



Love, Jane and Bertram - September 02, 2025 at 09:16 AM

BE

“*Dr Farmer's visits to the bookstore and our chats were always a bright spot in my day. What an amazing life he had, and what an even bigger impact he had on so many lives. Thinking of you all during this time.*

Becky - September 01, 2025 at 09:14 PM