



Staff Sgt. Harry James Giffin

October 13, 1944 - February 10, 2025

IN MEMORY OF:

Staff Sgt. Harry James Giffin

Serving Location:

CRAIN FUNERAL HOME – MURPHYSBORO

1421 Walnut Street, Murphysboro, Illinois

Staff Sgt. Harry James Giffin, age 80, of Murphysboro, passed away on February 10, 2025, at John J. Cochran Veterans Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri.

He was born on October 13, 1944, to Jacob Richard and Ethel (Swaar) Giffin in Jackson County, IL. On June 20, 1964, he married Nancy Bush at Centenary Methodist Church in Murphysboro, IL. They shared over 60 wonderful years together, and she survives.

Harry served his country proudly in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War and was stationed in various locations overseas. He later became a Professor at Lewis and Clark Community College in Godfrey, IL, where he originated the Automotive and Diesel Program, running it until his retirement in 2002.

Harry enjoyed vacationing with his family, had a passion for NASCAR, and was an avid outdoorsman who loved hunting and fishing, especially with his grandson. Known for his kind heart, he found great joy in helping others.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy; his children, Jay Joseph Giffin of Murphysboro, IL, Cynthia (Andrew) Bell of Dow, IL, and Chase (Cassie) Giffin of Wood River, IL; his grandson, Daniel Fitzgerald; his granddaughter, Kairi Giffin; step-grandchildren, Lilah Bell, Elijah Bell, and Hunter Gish; two sisters, Mary Ann Allard and Dorothy Langworthy; and two brothers, Jerry Giffin and Frank Giffin.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Funeral Services will be held on Monday, February 17, 2025 at 2:00 PM with Rev. Sue Trexler officiating at Crain Funeral Home in Murphysboro. Visitation will be held the day of the service from 12:00 PM until 2:00 PM at the funeral home.

Inurnment with military honors will follow the funeral service at Pleasant Grove Memorial Park.

The cremation of Staff Sgt. Harry James Giffin will be personally handled by the staff of Crain Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests with gratitude that memorial contributions be made to the American Cancer Society.

Crain Funeral Home in Murphysboro 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

FEB 17. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Crain Funeral Home - Downtown Murphysboro
1421 Walnut St
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 684-2131

Funeral Service

FEB 17. 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM (CT)

Crain Funeral Home - Downtown Murphysboro
1421 Walnut St
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 684-2131

Inurnment with Military Rites

FEB 17. 2:45 PM - 3:15 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

AD

“ I owe a lot to my teacher and friend of 40 years. From the first day of school he was fair to everyone and if needed help or had a question he was there for you. A group of us would go to lunch or just talk after school about life skills at times. He always cared and wanted us to succeed in life. He will be missed. Your friend Al Dunaway.



Al Dunaway - February 16, 2025 at 09:31 PM

DS

“ Condolences to you Nancy and to all the families. Remembering Harry from the old neighborhood. A kind and gentle man. 🙏

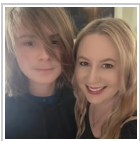
Don Shadron - February 15, 2025 at 07:01 AM

DL

“ Dorothy L. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Staff Sgt. Harry James Giffin.



Dorothy L. - February 14, 2025 at 03:49 PM



“ Cyndi Giffin Bell lit a candle in memory of Staff Sgt. Harry Giffin



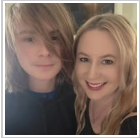
Cyndi Giffin Bell - February 14, 2025 at 03:10 PM

FD

“ Frank and Deborah purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Staff Sgt. Harry James Giffin.



Frank and Deborah - February 14, 2025 at 03:04 PM



“ Dad, I could not be more proud to be your daughter. You were kind to everyone you met, and you meant the world to so many. You were a great teacher and mentor, a devoted husband, a loyal friend, and the best father and grandfather anyone could ask for.

Your love, wisdom, and strength continue to guide us, even though you're no longer here. Your legacy lives on in your grandson, Daniel, who carries so much of you within him—your kindness, your curiosity, and your ability to fix anything.

I miss you every day, but I find comfort in the memories we shared and the lessons you taught me. Thank you for everything, Dad. You will always be loved and never forgotten.

Rest in peace.

Cyndi Giffin Bell - February 14, 2025 at 03:03 PM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Staff Sgt. Harry James Giffin.



February 14, 2025 at 02:36 PM



“ *I remember hearing your first cry the night you were born. I was so proud, I told all my class at school that I had a new baby brother.*

Your loving sister, Mary Ann

Mary Ann Allard - February 14, 2025 at 01:01 PM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Staff Sgt. Harry James Giffin.*



February 14, 2025 at 12:49 PM