



## Willard C. Cunningham

March 12, 1943 - April 29, 2026

IN MEMORY OF:

Willard C. Cunningham

Serving Location:

CRAIN FUNERAL HOME – ANNA

135 West Vienna Street, Anna, Illinois

Willard C. Cunningham, age 83 of Anna, passed away on Wednesday, April 29, 2026 at his home surrounded by his family.

He was born on March 12, 1943 to Paul H Cunningham and Ondean (Karraker) Cunningham in Anna, Illinois. March 21, 1964, he married Mary Kietzman and they have been together for over 62 years.

Willard was a journeyman electrician starting in 1962, later starting Highway Electric, an electrical contracting business in 1982. He was an active member of Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church, serving multiple terms on church council. In addition, he was a 57-year member of Anna Kiwanis, served on the Union County Hospital Board for over 15 years and was on the Anna State Bank Board of Directors for over 20 years.

Willard was an avid outdoorsman and in his younger years won numerous state championships in duck calling. He enjoyed raising cattle on the farm. In retirement, he and wife Mary traveled extensively on the waterways of the United States in their boat and spent time traveling across the country in their RV.

Survivors include his wife; two daughters, Melissa Kinder of Goreville, IL and Sarah Long (David) of Smithville, TN; one son, Ted Cunningham (Ashlee) of Salem, MO; grandchildren, Kaleb (Abbie) Kinder of Marietta, GA, Kyle Kinder of Louisville, KY, Isabella Long, Anna Long, Nora Long all three of Smithville, TN, Raymond (Alley) Cunningham, John Cunningham, and Edlyn Paige Cunningham all three of Salem, MO.

He is preceded in death by his parents; and siblings, John Cunningham and Martha Holbach.

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2026 at 3:00 PM with Pastor Mark Hasty officiating at Crain Funeral Home in Anna. Visitation will be held prior to the service from 1:00 PM until 3:00 PM at the funeral home.

Interment will follow the service at Trinity Cemetery in Anna, Illinois.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests with gratitude that memorial contributions may be made to Trinity Cemetery.

Crain Funeral Home in Anna, Illinois is in charge of arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

**Trinity Cemetery**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

**MAY 2.** 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (cst)

Crain Funeral Home - Anna  
135 W. Vienna St.  
Anna, IL 62906  
(618) 833-2176  
crain@crainsonline.com

### Funeral Service

**MAY 2.** 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM (cst)

Crain Funeral Home - Anna  
135 W. Vienna St.  
Anna, IL 62906  
(618) 833-2176  
crain@crainsonline.com

### Interment

**MAY 2.** 3:45 PM - 4:15 PM (cst)

Trinity Cemetery

# Tribute Wall

AM

“ *Sending our deepest condolences and love to Willard’s family. I have such fond memories of him having grown up at Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church. Sending hugs during this sad time to Mary, Melissa, Ted, and Sara. —Allison Livesay McDougall*

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**Allison McDougall** - May 02 at 02:00 PM

MK

“ *As Mary's youngest brother, I stayed with them for a week during the summer when I was 10 or 12 years old, and enjoyed fishing their farm ponds. My dad had been showing me how to filet fish, but I could not get the hang of it since I was left-handed. Willard was a lefty also, and taught me how to clean fish. I really appreciated that, as did my dad!*

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**Michael J Kietzman** - May 01 at 09:36 PM

LS

“ *So sorry to hear of Willard's passing! Willard was one of the mainstays in Kiwanis Club and a person you could always count on to help when needed. He was a very active member of the community and a loving family man. Praying for Mary and the rest of the family!*

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**Larry Swope** - May 01 at 07:31 PM

MF

“ *So very sorry! He was a top notch man- -conscientious, kind, thoughtful, & talented.  
Thinking of you at this sad time,  
Mickey Finch*

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**Mickey Finch** - May 01 at 05:16 PM

NW

“ Willard was a wonderful man, and a wonderful friend to my brother, Tom Boyd.

Nancy Boyd Warren - May 01 at 02:00 PM

DK

“ Dr Kure and Kourtney purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Willard C. Cunningham.



Dr Kure and Kourtney - May 01 at 10:34 AM

CD

“ Mary, I am so very sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my prayers. Willard was one of our really good board members. He was honest and level headed about our issues of running a hospital. When problems came up, he stayed calm and always seemed to be able to think things through. I appreciated him. Again, I am sorry for your loss, but when our loved ones pass, God will give us the strength to keep going and get us through. With fond memories, Carol Goodman Duke. 🙏❤️

Carol Duke - May 01 at 10:05 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Willard C. Cunningham.



May 01 at 07:48 AM

BD

“ Sorry for your loss. ❤️🙏❤️



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**Bryan & Rene Davis** - April 30 at 07:47 PM