



Clarence O. DeSpain

July 12, 1935 - June 9, 2023

Dateline: Salem, IL

Clarence O. DeSpain, 87, died at 8:08 p.m. on Friday, June 9, 2023 at Helia Healthcare of Salem. He was born July 12, 1935 in Mill Creek Village, IL, the son of the late Clarence and Fern Grace (McDonald) DeSpain. He worked as a foreman with Butler Factory for many years. Clarence was a member of Friendship Church in East Alton. He enjoyed gardening, dogs and was a Boy Scout leader with the River Bluff Council and was an avid St. Louis Cardinal fan. On December 19, 1959 in Cottage Hills, IL he married Dolores Malley, and she preceded him in death on April 17, 2006. He later went on to marry Helen Nation on November 21, 2009 and she survives. Also surviving are his children; Donna Sanders (Tim), Debra Martin, David DeSpain (Jeff Walker), two grandchildren, Dre DeSpain and Kara Martin-Deck and one great grandchild, Mason Deck. Two stepdaughters, Martha Reeves (James), Helen Stauffer (Dennis), one stepson, Robert Coleman, 21 step grandchildren, 24 step great grandchildren and 18 step great great grandchildren. Besides his first wife he was preceded in death by one sister, Loretta Ozee and two stepsons, LeRoy Coleman, Jr. and William Coleman. Visitation will be Wednesday, June 14, 2023 from 10:30 a.m. until time of funeral service at 12:30 p.m. at Gent Funeral Home in Alton. Burial will be at Rose Lawn Memory Gardens in Bethalto. Memorials may be made to the family. Additional information and online guest book may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 14. 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM (CT)

Gent Funeral Home Inc
2409 State Street
Alton, IL 62002
(618) 466-5544
<https://www.gentfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral

JUN 14. 12:30 PM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ One of my fondest memories of Dad was him teasing me as a young adult when I would be dressed to go out: "Are you wearing your hunting clothes?"When his mom passed, he said "I am an orphan now." Funny, but it does feel that way.

Donna Sanders - June 18, 2023 at 11:09 PM

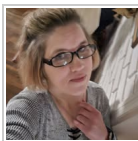
DD

“ My father was a very hard working man that over the years experienced many obstacles and hard times in his life. However, he always made sure that his kids and wife had food on the table and a place to live. He was married to my mother Dolores for over 46 years until she passed away in April 2006. My mother was his rock and she was always there to assist him in any way she could throughout the many years of their marriage. I am glad that he is no longer in pain and can rest in peace.

Your Loving Son,

David DeSpain

David B DeSpain - June 14, 2023 at 07:40 PM



“ Sorry for ur loss Karen and Susan Nation from alton il

Karen Nation - June 12, 2023 at 01:51 PM

KP

“ So sorry for your loss! You are in my thoughts and prayers. Sending hugs! Kim (Wathern) Partridge

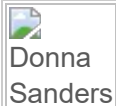
Kim Partridge - June 12, 2023 at 12:38 PM

DD

Thank you, Kim. I still remember when we were kids and would go over to your house or you would come over to our house in Wood River. I now live in Palm Springs, CA and moving soon to Sacramento. Once again, thank you for your kind words.

*Best,
David DeSpain*

David B DeSpain - June 14, 2023 at 07:30 PM



Donna Sanders

Thank you Kim. Many fond memories of you, Penny and the rest of the family.

Donna Sanders - June 18, 2023 at 11:01 PM

LC

“ We were first cousins though we seldom got to see one another. He was in Illinois and I was in Tennessee but I thought highly of him and I extend my sympathy to all the family.



Leon Cole - June 11, 2023 at 12:28 AM



“ So sorry for your loss. I knew a Clarence DeSpain who lived in Bunker Hill. He looked a lot like this Clarence. Hate to bother you, but were they related? I have good memories of him taking me fishing for the first time, my first bonfire, and my first s'mores.

Nancy Marlow - June 10, 2023 at 10:09 PM

DD

Hi Nancy,

Yes, Clarence DeSpain, Jr. is my father and his father was Clarence DeSpain, Sr. and he lived in Bunker Hill. Thank you for your message.

David DeSpain

David DeSpain - June 11, 2023 at 11:02 AM