



## Jerry Wayne Richards

December 10, 1947 - May 8, 2026

Jerry Wayne Richards, 78, beloved husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin and friend, passed away May 8, 2026 at John Cochran VA Hospital in St. Louis, MO. Born December 10, 1947 in Wood River Township, he was the son of Samuel Lee and Laura (Shepherd) Richards. He served in the U.S. Army as a machine gunner in Vietnam, 1967-1970.

He married Shirley (Wolf) Dorsey in Alton, IL on March 23, 1972.

He was taught some carpentry, plumbing and all-around handyman skills, by his late father-in-law, Carl Wolf.

He worked as a Journeyman Tree Trimmer and eventually owner and operator of "Richards and Son Tree Service." He taught our son, Michael, to climb and he also became a great tree trimmer who is still working today. Jerry loved spending time with his family. He loved anything chocolate. He also loved having the TV on, whether he was watching it or not and he was a jokester. He is survived by his wife, daughter, Kristina Richards, son, Michael Richards (fiancé Terri Brant). Six grandchildren, Jake Richards, Alyssa Moore, Zachariah Moore, and Mariah Moore, Mike Richards II, Devin Green (wife, Morgan), five great grandchildren, Sophia (her sister) Hensley, Brooklyn, DJ, Avery and Elijah. A sister, Shirley Gonzales (husband, Felix) in Texas City, TX, and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents, brothers, Henry Edward, William Lee, Donald Eugene, and sister, Mary Evelyn Williamson.

He is now with his Savior, Jesus Christ.

He was cremated per his wishes, and a private military funeral service will be held at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery. Gent Funeral Home in Alton is in charge of arrangements. Online guestbook and information may be found at [www.gentfuneralhome.com](http://www.gentfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

**Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery**

St. Louis, MO

# Events

**Details are pending.**