



Richard "Rick" French

December 24, 1949 - June 19, 2020

Dateline: Godfrey

Richard "Rick" French, 70, died at 7:59 a.m. Friday, June 19, 2020 at OSF St. Anthony's Health Center. Born December 24, 1949 in Blytheville, Arkansas, he was the son of Aubrey and Lora (McCollum) French. Mr. French was a member of St. Ambrose Catholic Church in Godfrey and retired as the Animal Control Officer for Godfrey after 22 years of service. He was a volunteer fireman for the Godfrey Fire Department for 10 years and was the first recipient of the Fireman of the Year award. He served as the past Chapter Director of GWRRA Chapter E. On May 22, 1982 he married the former Carol Schwierjohn in Alton. She survives. Also surviving is a son, Richard A. French (Shannon) of Godfrey, twin daughters, Michelle Pulaski (Scott) of Godfrey, and Megan French of Godfrey, and six grandchildren, Zachary Stewart (Christina), Mya Liles, Colton French, Caty Pulaski, Lucas Pulaski, and William Pulaski. Along with his parents he was preceded in death by a brother, Bob French and a sister, Carolyn Lovin. Visitation will be from 4:00-8:00 p.m. Monday, June 22, 2020 at Gent Funeral Home in Alton. A Mass of Christian burial will be at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at St. Ambrose Catholic Church in Godfrey. Father Steven Janoski will officiate. Burial will be at Upper Alton Cemetery. Memorials may be made to St. Ambrose Catholic Church. Online guestbook and information may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Upper Alton Cemetery

Oakwood Avenue
Alton, IL 62002

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 22. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

Mass of Christian Burial

JUN 23. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Ambrose Catholic Church
820 West Homer Adams Pkway
Godfrey, IL 62035

Tribute Wall



“ *Richard "Rick" French*

January 28, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ *Richard "Rick" French*

January 28, 2023 at 08:19 AM



“ *Met Rick, when I started working at the shop. Great guy and always had a way to get you to laugh, even when you weren't feeling very upbeat. We will all miss seeing him, while we are setting up for class. Prayers for Carol and the rest of his family and friends.*

Randy Smith - June 23, 2020 at 07:43 PM



“ *To Carol and Family,*

We were so sorry to hear of Rick's passing. He was a good man and will be missed by many. Lots of good times were had and lots of memories were made. Always had a good time and lots of laughs!

Our deepest sympathy goes to all of you.

The Smoot's



Lisa Smoot - June 23, 2020 at 09:13 AM

DH

“ To Carol and family...you have my sympathy
... he always made me smile at Riverboat..



Deborah Hamilton - June 22, 2020 at 09:44 PM

JH

“ Rick was a great guy and will be missed. He always made me laugh
and the shop wont be the same without him.

Jason H

jason heeren - June 22, 2020 at 11:15 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the
family of Richard "Rick" French.



June 22, 2020 at 08:57 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family
of Richard "Rick" French.



June 21, 2020 at 08:57 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" French.*



June 21, 2020 at 08:13 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" French.*



June 21, 2020 at 12:51 PM



“ *What an honor to meet such an amazing couple, prayers for your family Carol. God bless you.*

Debi Nasello

debi nasello - June 21, 2020 at 11:42 AM

LH

“ I knew Rick when we were kids growing up in Flint, MI. and riding bicycles. He went by the name of Ricky then. We were friends from the 7th-9th grades at Utley Jr High School. We were both in band, where he played the trumpet. We were also in other classes together and both played sports

He was a good friend back in the day. We were in the same troop and Patrol together in Boy Scouts. In the summer, our troop would spend two weeks camping in the wild Woods on the Muskegon River. We swam in the river everyday. We camped in tents and cooked all our meals from scratch. We went on 20 mile hikes called the Wilderness Trail and received a medal for our efforts to pin on our scout uniform. We had a lot of fun and laughs together back then. He was a happy person, had a big heart and a big smile!

A few years ago we met again, after all those years apart. It was on Facebook. We found we still had similar interests. He told me about his family and love for motorcycling, which I also enjoy. He told me that he and his wife had taken many cross-country trips on his Honda Goldwing, even driving on the Blue Ridge Parkway in NC where I live. I was hoping they would come to visit me someday.

Rick liked to deer hunt, like me. He shared some of the big trophies he had taken on his FB posts. I truly believe our time in scouts helped teach us how to appreciate and enjoy nature and the outdoors in our later life

I am really sorry “Ricky” is gone and saddened by his death. It is the end of a chapter that began in our youth. I am glad that we had te-connected. It sounds like he has a nice family and I am glad for that.

God Bless you old friend.

Larry C. Harmon
Hendersonville, NC

Larry Harmon - June 21, 2020 at 07:39 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" French.*



June 20, 2020 at 10:22 PM



“ *Rick was the life of the party in the best of ways. He helped everyone to have as good a time as he was having. I remember a surprise birthday party when he did much of the work thinking it was a party for someone else. When he found out he took it with good grace and had fun. He will be missed by many of us.*

Vicki Vasileff - June 20, 2020 at 10:00 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" French.*



June 20, 2020 at 09:57 PM



“ *Connie Lovin lit a candle in memory of Richard "Rick" French*



Connie Lovin - June 20, 2020 at 08:34 PM

LA

“ So terribly sorry to hear of the passing of Rick, I have so many fond childhood memories of my favorite brother in law, from vacations, to snowmobiling, to canoeing, swimming “at the lake”, he was always the life of the party. My sincere condolences to Richie, Shannon, The twins, and Carol, he will surely be missed...



Laurie(Bencheck)Geror

Laurie(Bencheck)Geror - June 20, 2020 at 07:54 PM

NB

“ So Sorry for Your Loss Prayers

Nancy Brakeville - June 20, 2020 at 07:28 PM

CR

“ Cindy Reed lit a candle in memory of Richard "Rick" French



Cindy Reed - June 20, 2020 at 06:51 PM

BP

“ Dear Carol and Family,
I'm so very sorry for the tremendous loss of your husband, dad, and grandpa. Rick loved his family fiercely and I hope that love will cradle you as you mourn. God bless.
Your cousin Barb

Barb Perl - June 20, 2020 at 06:06 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" French.



June 20, 2020 at 06:04 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" French.



June 20, 2020 at 06:03 PM