



## Stephen Ray Mills

August 26, 1951 - December 31, 2023

Dateline: East Alton, IL

Stephen Ray Mills, 72, died at 2:55 p.m. on Sunday, December 31, 2023 at his residence. He was born August 26, 1951 in Palestine, IL the son of the late David and Velda (Swope) Mills. He retired from the Wood River Refinery as a quality assurance tester and was a member of the Whitelaw Avenue Baptist Church in Wood River. Stephen was an avid outdoorsman he loved God and his family. On January 7, 1978 in Godfrey, he married Brenda Hodge and she preceded him in death on August 13, 2020. Surviving are his beloved daughter, Jamie Mills of East Alton, two sisters, Margaret Borries (Mike) and Suzette Mills and two brothers, David Mills and Donald Mills (Carolyn), one sister in law, Bonnie Clendenny and many nieces and nephews. Visitation will be from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 4, 2024 at Gent Funeral Home in Alton where Funeral services will be Friday, January 5, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. Reverend Richard Clouse will officiate. Burial will be at Upper Alton Cemetery with full military honors. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Siteman Cancer Center of North county, MO or the Baptist Children's Home in Carmi, IL. Additional information and online guest book may be found at [www.gentfuneralhome.com](http://www.gentfuneralhome.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 4. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

## Funeral

JAN 5. 1:00 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

JC

“ I am saddened to hear this news. I didn't know Steven very well, but we were in a men's class together at church a few years ago. I know the obituary says "full military honors" but let me know if you don't have access to a live bugler for TAPS. I would gladly volunteer my services and play TAPS to honor a fellow military veteran if the family does not already have a live bugler lined up. This is John Cavanaugh from Whitelaw Avenue Baptist Church in Wood River, I retired from the Air National Guard (USAF) two years ago after 27 years. Call or text me at (618) 381-1495 if you still need someone.

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**John Cavanaugh** - January 03, 2024 at 02:15 PM

MA

“ Always enjoyed working with Steve. He was very knowledgeable about many topics. Had a lot of great conversations. It was obvious he loved his family very much.

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**Marty** - January 02, 2024 at 06:31 PM