



Richard John King

August 5, 1950 - July 3, 2025

Richard John King, 74, of Hampshire, IL, passed away at home surrounded by his family on July 3, 2025. Richard was born August 5, 1950 in Winnebago, IL to Kenneth and Mildred King.

Richard lived a life defined by service, love for his family and life's simple pleasures.

He served in Vietnam honorably from 1969 to 1975, amongst the few and proud as a Marine. After his service he returned home to work the land and continued his service as a member of the U-46 School District with his honest work ethic and quiet kindness.

In life he enjoyed the simple pleasures of fishing on quiet mornings, sharing his kindness over coffee and always lending a helping hand. He was a man who never sought attention but made a lasting impact on everyone who knew him.

One of Richard's greatest joys was fishing, a passion he eagerly passed down through generations. To this day, his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren cast their lines with the same patience and excitement he once did. And with each fish they

catch, they'll
remember Richard: his laughter by the water, his gentle advice, and the
stories he shared under
open skies. Though he may no longer walk besides us, Richard will be
remembered every
single day. In our memories, in our traditions, and in the small moments that
bring him to mind—
his spirit lives on.

He is survived by his daughters Rebecca Bolivar and Michelle Taberna. His
grandchildren Michael Taberna, Maire Katherine Aranda (Raul), Timothy John
Taberna, Makayla
Bolivar (Nessa), and Simon Bolivar; His cherished great-grandsons, Gabriel
and Antonio

Aranda. His mother-in-law Jeanna Foster. His brother, James King (Joyce)
and multiple nieces
and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Robert King
(Sue) and
Charles King and his sister, Ruthanne.

Richard's legacy of service, love, and friendship lives on in those who knew
and loved

him. A celebration of life will be held Thursday, July 24, 2025 at Fredrick
Funeral Home in
Hampshire, IL from 5 to 7 pm.

We thank you for your love, your support, and for holding Richard in your
hearts with us.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you perform an act of kindness in
Richard's
memory—share a coffee, lend a hand, or enjoy a quiet morning by the water.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

JUL **24.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Fredrick Funeral Home
284 Park St.
Hampshire, IL 60140
(847) 683-2711
<https://www.fredrickfuneralhome.com/>

Military Honors

JUL **24.** 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Fredrick Funeral Home
284 Park St.
Hampshire, IL 60140
(847) 683-2711
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Tribute Wall

VM

“ I'll always remember coffee time with you, my friend. Rest 🙏🙏

Victor Marroquin - November 10, 2025 at 05:42 PM

JK

“ *Richard was positive and welcoming fixture at the Rose Garden restaurant. He always made a point of bringing his cup of coffee and joining customers at their table. It was a very pleasant experience sharing opinions on current affairs, farm related stories, or just sharing our family stories.*

He came across as an old farm hand, but he was up to date on many technologies and politics. We will miss his laid-back attitude and his sense of humor.

Jonn Kersting and Ronnie Pancoast, Hampshire

Jonn Kersting - July 09, 2025 at 06:41 PM

AJ

“ Richard, aka old man, aka our dear Whiskers, was truly one of a kind. As a friend, I can honestly say he was a beacon of strength, kindness, and unwavering loyalty. A proud Vietnam veteran, Whiskers carried his experiences with quiet dignity, always offering a listening ear and a wise perspective. He was a great human being, but even better, he was an extraordinary friend to all of us who worked alongside him at Rose Garden. (Even the times I would bring him 9 coffee pots right as he would try to wash all 9,000 buffet dishes after rush hour on Sunday! 🙏🙏🙏)



Whiskers always had a heart as vast as his generosity. He wasn't just someone who offered support; he was always the first to step up and help with whatever we were doing. No matter what project we were tackling at the Rose Garden, big or small, he was right there with us, ready to lend a hand and offer his unwavering encouragement. I can't count the times he was there, making sure someone's lonesome birthday felt special, or helping us deliver warm lunches to the folks at the Post Office, or Village Hall. His presence made every moment brighter, every gathering warmer, every task lighter, and every friendship deeper. Whiskers wasn't just a great human being; he was the very definition of a great friend. His spirit of unwavering support and boundless kindness will forever be etched in our hearts. We'll miss him dearly, but the love and warmth he shared will continue to inspire us every single day. Rest Easy Old Man, we will always treasure your friendship. ☐❤️
Ane and family!

Ane Jashari - July 08, 2025 at 09:01 PM