

Obituaries

Robert D. Wilson

Robert D. "Scooter" Wilson, Jr., 61, of Trilla, formerly of Tuscola, passed away at 11:21 p.m., Saturday, July 31, 2021 at the Memorial Medical Center, Springfield, IL as a result of an automobile accident.

Funeral Services were held at 11 a.m., Saturday, August 7, 2021 at the Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home, 705 South Main Street, Tuscola, IL. Burial was in the Tuscola Township Cemetery with military rites accorded.

Visitation was held two hours prior to the service on Saturday at the funeral home.

Rob was born on October 17, 1959 in Charleston, IL, the son of Robert D. and Sharon M. Millage Wilson, Sr.

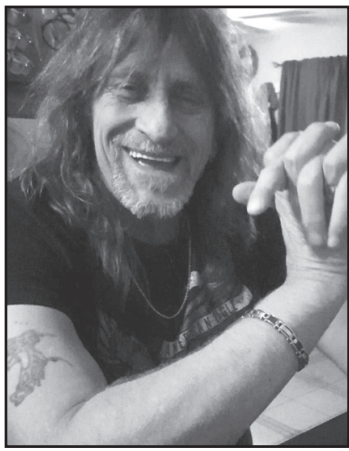
He is survived by his parents of Tuscola, daughter: Kelsey (Dylan) Philpott of Trilla, son: Caleb (Kayla) Wilson of Tuscola, grandchildren: Jayden and Vayda Wilson, his dogs: Skye and Jake, grand pups: Oakley, Tuff, Chance and Denali.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents: Kenneth Millage and Lucy Schrader, paternal grandparents: Hubert and Alma Wilson, sister: Regina K. "Gina" Wilson, fiancé: Christina L. "Chrissy" Little and his dog: Ace.

Rob graduated from Tuscola Community High School in 1978 and served his country in the US Army. He worked as a truck driver for many years. He enjoyed riding his motorcycle, sitting in a boat fishing, going to the beach in Florida and spending time with his family.

Memorials are suggested to help pay for funeral expenses.

Online condolences may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com



Mary J. Williams

Mary Joan (Knight) Williams, 91, passed away on August 4, 2021 at Newman Rehabilitation and Health Care Center.

Mary was born in Danville to Dale and Joy (Willison) Knight on November 21, 1929. She graduated from Indianola High School in 1947 and the University of Illinois in 1951. She married her high school sweetheart, Jack Williams, in Las Vegas, Nevada on June 14, 1952, and he preceded her in death on November 13, 2005.

Mary taught high school business classes at Arthur from 1951 to 1953 and Oakland from 1953 to 1957. She worked as the plant laboratory's secretary at USI (Quantum, Lyondell-Basell) beginning in 1977, and she retired in 1991.

Mary belonged to the Tuscola Women's Club, where she became a Jewel member for her 50 years of membership in 2012. Mary was also a member of the Douglas County Retired Teachers, Douglas County Museum, and the Mary Circle of the Tuscola United Methodist Church.

Mary was a proud U of I graduate. She was an avid sports fan of the U of I, the Chicago Cubs, and the Chicago Bears. She enjoyed being with her grandchildren and attending as many of their extracurricular activities as possible.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband of 53 years, Jack Williams; her infant son, Ray; her parents; her three brothers, Glen Dale (Myrtle), Franklin, and Robert (Ruth); her brothers-in-law, Dale (Virginia) Williams, Don Williams, Glen (Barbara) Williams, Fay Williams, and Wade (Amber) Williams; and her sister-in-law, Juanita (Harold) Hance.

Mary is survived by her son, Don (Fran) Williams; her grandchildren, Laurel Williams, Caroline Williams, and Keith Williams; her daughter, Mary Ann (Jim) Pattenaude; her grandchildren, Rachael (fiancé Dean Kamps) Brewer and Courtney Brewer; her step-grandchildren, Jim Pattenaude Jr., Ryan (Melanie) Pattenaude, and Scott (Shannon) Pattenaude; her great-grandchildren, Evie and Leo Pattenaude; her sisters-in-law, Marie (Franklin) Knight and Toby (Fay) Williams; and 14 nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to the Woodlawn Cemetery, 120 Wild Rose, Indianola, IL 61850 or to the Tuscola United Methodist Church, 901 N. Prairie Street, Tuscola, IL 61953.

Funeral arrangements were held on Monday, August 9 with visitation starting at 1:00 p.m. followed by service at 2:00 p.m. at the Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home, 705 S. Main Street, Tuscola, IL. Graveside service and burial were at the Woodlawn Cemetery in Indianola, IL at 4:00 p.m.

Online condolences may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com



William D. Montgomery

William D. "Bill" Montgomery, 58, of Tuscola, IL, passed away at 1:20 a.m., Sunday, August 1, 2021 at the Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana, IL.

Funeral Services were held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, August 6, 2021 at the Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home, 705 South Main Street, Tuscola, IL. Burial followed in the Hewitt Cemetery, rural Lovington, IL with military graveside rites accorded.

Visitation was held from 5 to 7 p.m., Thursday, August 5, 2021 at the funeral home. An additional visitation was held 1 hour prior to the services at the funeral home.

Bill was born on December 1, 1962 in Decatur, IL, the son of John E. Montgomery and Betty June Burrous. He married Dawn M. Oestreicher-Carmichael on November 18, 2011 in Urbana. She survives.

Also surviving are his mother: Betty J. Hammer of Petaluma, CA, sons: Travis Montgomery and wife: Tanya of Tolono, Derek Montgomery and fiancé Lindsey Tucker of Mattoon, step-sons: Samuel (Laurie) Carmichael of Sierra Madre, CA, Andrew Carmichael of San Diego, CA and James (Allie) Carmichael of Buena Vista, CO, sisters: Betty Linn Cravens of FL, Cara Hammer of PA and Deborah Merritt of ID, step-brothers: David (Candi) Haynes of Charlestown, IN and Johnny Haynes of OR, step-sisters: Loretta Haynes of Mattoon, Bonnie Conner of Tuscola and Nikki (Ron) Smith of Sullivan, aunt: Karen Davis of PA, several other step-brothers, step-sisters, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father.

Memorials are suggested to the Douglas County Animal Shelter.

Bill served his country in the US Marine Corps. He formerly worked as a forklift operator for Masterbrand Cabinets in Arthur, IL. He was a member of the Arcola American Legion Post. He enjoyed woodworking and he loved his dogs: Bear, Lucy and rabbit: Ruby.

Online condolences may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com



Phillip Lee Witt

Phillip Lee Witt, 74, passed away at IU Health University Hospital in Indianapolis, IN Aug 3 at 6:06 p.m.

Phillip was born March 23, 1947 to Roscoe Witt and Vernita Berry.

Phil was born and raised in the Hume & Chrisman area. He married Linda Ash from rural Hume on June 18, 1976 in Chrisman, IL. Phil attended Young America HS in Metcalf, IL. In 1966 Phil was drafted in the US Army and he served as an infantry soldier from 1966-1968 in the Vietnam War. Phil worked at Shiloh School as a maintenance worker for 36 years. In 2010 Phil and Linda renovated the family farm home and opened Aunt Ariel's Bed and Breakfast where they reside. He and his wife also managed Quality Housing in Hume and handled the family farm.

Phil enjoyed traveling, his family & grandkids and anything to do with an engine. He was an avid Chicago Cubs and Fighting Illini fan. His favorite thing was having meals with his family. Phillip was an active and devoted member of the Hume United Methodist Church his whole life. He was a 52-year member of the Hume Roth Williams American Legion Post #369. As a service officer Phil enjoyed placing the flags on Memorial Day and Phil & Linda received donations for the avenue flags throughout the town of Hume for holidays.

He was preceded in death by his father Roscoe Witt, mother Vernita Englum and sister Delya Witt.

He is survived by his wife, Linda King Ash-Witt of Hume, IL; two children, Chandra (Sean) Gerberding of Hume, IL and Brad Witt and Erika Anzo of Tuscola IL; six grandchildren who were three pairs of twins, Alexandria Gerberding of Paris, IL, GSEFN Samantha Gerberding of Everett, WA US Navy, Landon and Logan Gerberding of Hume, IL and Lincoln and Memphis Witt of Tuscola, IL; one sister, Nita Rae McCallum of Terre Haute, IN; and two nephews and one niece.

A visitation was held from 5 to 7p.m. on Friday, August 13, 2021 at Joines Funeral Home in Newman, IL. Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, August 14, 2021 at the Hume United Methodist Church with Pastor Gene Creek officiating. Burial followed in Young America cemetery in Hume, IL. We encouraged all of Phil's friends, family or strangers to attend a luncheon following the service Saturday at the Hume Community Center 101 Front St Hume, IL.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made for a Memorial scholarship to the Hume Roth Williams Legion Post #369 or www.gofundme.com and search for Phil Witt.

James W. Matthews

James W. Matthews, 54, of Rantoul, IL, passed away on Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at his residence.

Funeral Services were held at 12:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at the Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home, 705 South Main Street, Tuscola, IL with Cecil Smith officiating. Burial was in the Camargo Cemetery, Camargo, IL.

Visitation was held from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. on Tuesday at the funeral home.

James was born on September 10, 1966 in Urbana, IL.

Survivors include his mother: Sharon Waugh of Beecher City, sons: Derrick Matthews (Jessica Lasswell) of Inverness, FL, Taylor Matthews of Lafayette, IN and Joel Matthews (Rachel Paris) of Champaign; brothers: Ryan (Heather) Waugh of Herrick and Killy Waugh of Tuscola, sister: Julie (Glenn) Dunn of Beecher City, his ex-wife: Rhonda Matthews of Monticello, close friends: Ron Humphrey, Donnie Rice and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father: James W. Waugh, grandma and grandpa Burke and grandma and grandpa Sims and his border collie: Nova.

James worked in Building Services at the University of Illinois for over 20 years. He enjoyed attending auctions and Fighting Illini athletics.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Champaign County Humane Society, 1911 East Main Street, Urbana, IL 61802.

Online condolences may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com



Robert J. Vukelich

Robert J. "Bob" Vukelich, 79, of Tuscola, IL passed away at 12:55 a.m., Tuesday, August 3, 2021 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana, IL.

Funeral Services were held at 10:30 a.m., Monday, August 9, 2021 at the Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home, 705 South Main Street, Tuscola, IL with Rev. Joe Carter officiating. Burial was in the Tuscola Township Cemetery with military graveside rites accorded.

Visitation was held from 4 to 6 p.m., Sunday, August 8, 2021 at the funeral home.

Bob was born January 22, 1942 in Davenport, IA, the son of Henry and Elizabeth "Betty" Showalter Vukelich. He married Joan Reifsteck Webster on April 8, 1983 in Sadorus, IL. She survives.

Also surviving are his daughter: Laura (Derrick) Hahn of Trivoli, IL, son: David Vukelich (Jeanne Pettry) of Tuscola; step-daughters: Rinda (Hugh) Ponder of Tuscola and Bonnie (Michael) Tomback of Grand Prairie, TX, 16 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and a sister: Judy Vukelich of Davenport, IA.

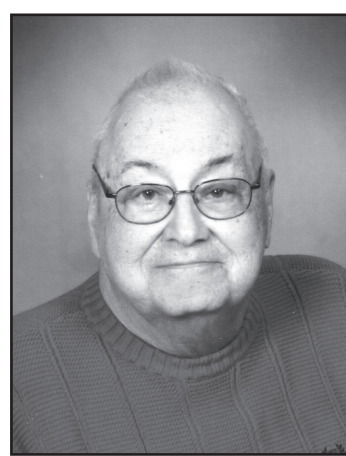
He was preceded in death by his parents.

Bob was a 1960 graduate of Tuscola Community High School and attended Eastern Illinois University. He worked at Cabot Corporation for 39 years retiring in 2002 as an environment specialist. He was a 53 year member of the Elks Club and 3rd Degree member of the Knights of Columbus. He served on the Tuscola City Council for 6 years. Bob coached Little League Baseball, Senior Division Baseball and Bidly Basketball. He was a diehard Green Bay Packers fan, liked watching the Orioles and Phillies baseball games and all the Illini athletics.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are suggested to TUSCOM Little League or SAM Food Pantry.

The family requests in Bob's memory that everyone please wear sport themed attire to the visitation and service.

Online condolences may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com



Ruben Gauna

Ruben "El Chore" Gauna, 73, of Arcola passed away at 7:56 a.m. on Friday, August 6, 2021, at Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana, IL.

Graveside Funeral services were held at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, August 11, 2021, at the Arcola Cemetery. Pastor Jose Gutierrez officiated. Visitation was held from 4:00 p.m to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 10, 2021, at the Edwards Funeral Home, 221 East Main in Arcola, IL.

Ruben was born on January 17, 1948, in Cadereyta, Mexico. He was a son of Cruz Gauna and Silveria Rocha de Gauna. He married Esthela Garza on June 6, 1968, in Cadereyta, Mexico.

He is survived by his wife, Esthela of Arcola, IKL; six children, Baltazar Gauna and his wife Hilda, Norma Davila, Nadya Gauna all of Arcola, IL, Maria Gauna, Patricia Oatman and her husband Thomas and Connie Collins all of Mattoon, IL; 18 grandchildren and one great-grandchild; four brothers, Oscar Gauna and his wife Janice of Mattoon, IL, Jose Gauna of Arcola, IL, Angel Mario Gauna of Gays and Juan F. Gauna and his wife Martha of Arcola, IL; three sisters, Maria Elia Dela Cruz Pharr, TX, Aida Rosas and her husband Martin, Adriana Herrera and her husband Jose all of Arcola, IL and one half-brother, Ruben Gauna and his wife Lydia Cecilia of Cadereyta, Mexico

Ruben was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers, Valdemar Gauna, Juan Gauna and Julio Gauna, and one sister, Rosa Nelly Gauna.

Ruben went to work at The Libman Co. in Arcola as a broom stitcher; he retired in 2013 with 42 years of service.

Ruben was a St. Louis Cardinals fan. He enjoyed spending time with friends at It'll Do and The Dog House. Don Sol was his favorite restaurant. He also liked going to Rural King and mowing his yard as well as his grandchildren's yards, but most of all he always looked forward to spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.



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