

Area Obituaries

Jerry Adkisson

Jerry Adkisson, 86, of Tuscola passed away Friday, January 21, 2022, at the Arthur Home with his wife and children at his side.

Funeral Services will be held at 11 a.m., Wednesday, January 26, at the Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home, 705 South Main Street, Tuscola, with Father Angel Sierra officiating. Burial will follow in the Tuscola Township Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 9:30 a.m. until the time of the service on Wednesday at the funeral home.

He was born on October 21, 1935, to Homer and Vera Goodwin Adkisson in Bellair. He was employed at USI where he worked as an

ironworker, and later a crane operator. He also operated a water conditioning service, delivering salt and repairing water softeners throughout the area.

When he wasn't working, he could be found at the Tuscola Airport where he acted as airport manager for many years. He was instrumental in keeping the airport operational; ensuring that the runway was serviceable, the grounds were mowed, and buildings were kept in good condition. He owned several small planes and won many awards with his polished Luscombe 8-F at fly-ins he and his wife Delores attended.

Mr. Adkisson got his passion for flying from his brother, Earl

"Skeezix" Adkisson. Skeezix ran an airplane mechanic shop at the Tuscola Airport, where he and Jerry built an experimental aircraft dubbed "The Headskinner." It won an award for outstanding workmanship at the EAA fly-in, then held in Milwaukee, Wis.

Mr. Adkisson was also a contributor to the Tuscola Review with his AV Tales column about notable local airplane-related history.

Mr. Adkisson is survived by his wife of 61 years, Delores Adkisson; his three children, David (Carrie) Adkisson, Ellen (Paul) Patzer, and Debbie (Frank) Angelotti; four grandchildren; and two great grandchildren.

Memorials can be made to



Adkisson

the Antique Airfield Association in Blakesburg, Iowa.

Online condolences may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com.

Doris Shambarger

Doris Marie Shambarger, 81, of Arcola, passed away at 4 a.m. on Thursday, January 20, 2022, at the Arcola Health Care Center.

Funeral services were held Saturday, January 22, at the Edwards Funeral Home. Pastor Matt Stump officiated. Visitation was held before the funeral at the funeral home. Burial will be at a later date in the Arcola Cemetery.

Mrs. Shambarger was born on February 11, 1940, in Arthur. She was a daughter of Leroy and Mary Margret (Deerman) Helmuth. She married Eugene Shambarger on February 25, 1956. He passed away on May 6, 2014.

Mrs. Shambarger is survived by three children, Kathy M. Tristhan and her husband Rogelio of Arcola, Danny Shambarger, and Bessie Brannin (Rick Zsareti) of Shreveport, La.; eight grandchildren, David and Alan Graber, Connie, Daniel, Tracy and Selena Shambarger, Randy Brannin and Chrissi Ellis; one great-granddaughter, Addison Lee Brannin; one brother Richard Helmuth of Taylorville; and one sister, Linda Hendrickson of Tuscola.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Eugene "Shammy" Shambarger; one daughter, Connie Shambarger; one grandson, Mikey R.



Shambarger

Grawet; and four brothers, Leroy, James, Kenneth, and Robert Helmuth.

Mrs. Shambarger had worked at Zenith in Paris, and the Embassy Lanes in Arcola, and retired with over 20 years of service from The Libman Company in Arcola.

She was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, and the Arcola United Methodist Church.

Mrs. Shambarger always enjoyed going to coffee at the Hen House and running around with her husband. She liked decorating her home and spending time with family and friends.

Memorials may be made to the Arcola United Methodist Church.

Richard Johnson

Richard O. Johnson, 78, of Atwood, passed away on Sunday, January 16, 2022, at the Decatur Memorial Hospital, Decatur.

Visitation was held Saturday, January 22, at the Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home, Atwood, with cremation following.

Mr. Johnson was born July 26, 1943, the son of Kenneth and Dorothy Johnson. He married Alice A. Hamilton on January 3, 1979. She preceded him in death on November 16, 2012.

He is survived by his children, Bruce (Sandra) Johnson of Mansfield, Steve (Lisa) Johnson of Edna, Texas, Janis Wise of Tipton, Mo., Tracy (John) Boles of Chenoa, and Donnie Wise of California, Mo. Mr. Johnson was the proud grandfather of eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Phyllis.

Mr. Johnson retired from ADM where he worked as a welder. He spent his retirement doing things he loved, like working on lawnmowers and small engines with his good friend David "Woody" Goodwin. He always had an empty chair for anyone who



Johnson

wanted to come and join him as he worked in his garage. He enjoyed wrestling, NASCAR and going to local races.

Memorial contributions are suggested to Hands-4-Paws: P.O. Box 204, Tuscola, IL 61953.

Online condolences may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com.

Tuscola Review

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Dorothy Deckard

Dorothy Mae Deckard, 90, of Tuscola, passed away at 10:20 p.m., Thursday, January 20, 2022, at the Arcola Health Care Center, Arcola.

Ms. Deckard was born on May 21, 1931, in Tuscola, the daughter of Elmer and Rose Bennett Donnals.

Survivors include her children, Bonnie Tarter and Bill Brazzell, both of Tuscola; numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; sister, Irma Jean Lynch of Jacksonville, N.C.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Eugene Donnals, Kenneth Donnals, Harold Donnals, and Homer Donnals; sisters, Elma Denham, Faye Lewis, Rosemary Hardin, and Irene Horseman.



Deckard

No services will be held. Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home is assisting the family.

Online condolences may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com.

Judy Gibson

Judith Ann "Judy" Gibson, 78, of Tuscola, passed away at 5:38 p.m., Wednesday, January 19, 2022, at the Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana.

Mrs. Gibson was born on October 7, 1943, in Tuscola, the daughter of Clyde R. and Gladys Gabbard Connour. She married Anthony J. Gibson on October 7, 1987. He preceded her in death on February 24, 2012.

Survivors include her sons, Willie R. Frye of Florida, Eddie Phillips of Tuscola, Jody Phillips of Alabama, Shayne Gibson, and Chad Gibson; daughters, Susan M. Frye and Debbie A. Frye, both of Florida, Paula G. Phillips of Alabama; grandchildren, Billy,

Chris, Adam, Alex, Kalan, Nicole, Dan and Kinsley; great-grandchildren, Liam, Leelan, Tripp, Lacey, and Alexis; sister, Ruth E. Groves of Tuscola; brother, Clyde R. Connour of Grifton, N.C.; nieces and nephews, Chad Connour, Shawn Connour, Scottie Connour, Crystal Connour, and Rusty Groves.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Donald L. Connour; sister-in-law, Patricia Connour; and cousin, Howard Connour.

Mrs. Gibson worked as a long-haul truck driver for many years.

Private family services will be held at a later date.

Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home is assisting with the



Gibson

arrangements. Online condolences may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com.

Vernon Chaney

Vernon Lee Chaney, 82, of Tuscola, passed away at 5:45 a.m., Tuesday, January 18, 2022, at the Tuscola Health Care Center, Tuscola.

Private family services will be held due to the COVID pandemic. Burial will be in the Tuscola Township Cemetery.

Mr. Chaney was born on June 3, 1939, in Joliet, the son of James V. and Ida B. Wilcoxon Chaney. He married Patricia M. Walters on July 8, 1961, at Bradley. She survives.

Also surviving are his daughter, Susan (Geoffrey) Danielson of Tuscola; son, Michael (Carolyn) Chaney of Spaulding; grandchildren, Christine (John)



Chaney

Roughton, Zachary Danielson, Jessica Chaney, Matthew (Kristina) Chaney, and Rebecca

Chaney; great-grandchildren, Cameron, Easton, Thomas, and one on the way; brother, James (Janice) Chaney of Lafayette, Ind., many nieces and nephews.

Mr. Chaney worked for Commonwealth Edison for 37 years until his retirement in 1994. He enjoyed watching NASCAR, golfing, fishing, hiking and biking.

Memorials are suggested to the Muscular Dystrophy Association or Forty Martyrs Catholic Church.

Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home is handling the arrangements. Online condolences may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com.

Bonnie Heinzelmann

Bonnie K. Heinzelmann, 79, of Atwood, passed away at 1:46 p.m. Thursday, January 20, 2022, at the Arbor Rose of Charleston.

Private family services will be held. Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home, Atwood, is assisting the family with arrangements.

Mrs. Heinzelmann was born August 21, 1942, in Friona, Texas, the daughter of Elza Roy and Katie Inez Bell Jones. She married Paul Arthur Heinzelmann on August 22, 1965. He preceded her in death on January 12, 1994.

Survivors include her son, Wayne (Suzanne) Heinzelmann of Lovington; daughter, Wendy (Jerry) Norman of Pierson; five



Heinzelmann

granddaughters, Britny Heinzelmann, Victoria (Brody) Cole, Katie (Chad) Karnes, Kimberly Swinford and Karissa (Quade)


Coslow; five great-grandchildren, Carson, Keelynn, Olivia, Lane and Hatcher; a brother, Bob (Kay) Jones of Rineyville, Ky.; and a sister, Beverly (Dave) Jennings of Brownstown.

Mrs. Heinzelmann was preceded in death by her parents and husband.

Mrs. Heinzelmann liked to travel, go to concerts and read.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions are suggested to: James Reeder American Legion Post No. 770 Atwood, IL, P.O. Box 343 Atwood, IL 61913, or Arbor Rose of Charleston, 1911 18th Street Charleston, IL 61920.

Online condolences to the family maybe shared via hilligossshraderfh.com.



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City Council

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Club and Tuscola Odd Fellows, a daddy/daughter dance at Wimple Park April 8 for the Tuscola Rotary Club, and a memorial wall project at Ervin Park for Tuscom Little League.

The Little League project includes a brick veneer on the outside of a poured concrete

wall that is the backstop of the middle ball diamond. It will then have bronze plaques honoring those who have made significant contributions to Little League in Tuscola.

There will be a public hearing at 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 17 to receive public comment on the 10-year status report of the Barker/Prairie Street TiF.

Hoel also told the Council in

his written report that he plans to start now looking for summer help at Ervin Park, in particular, pool employees. The city had difficulty finding help last year, he said, so he wants to get an early start. He noted that a recent Supreme Court ruling has stopped the mandatory vaccination/testing requirement that would have added cost to the city's budget.