

Area Obituaries

Marion Cothron

Marion B. Cothron, 82, of Tuscola, passed away suddenly on Thursday, April 14, 2022, at his residence.

Graveside services with military graveside rites were held Monday, April 18, at the Tuscola Township Cemetery with the Rev. Joe Carter officiating. No visitation was held.

Mr. Cothron was born February 17, 1940, in Louisiana, Mo., the son of Giles Franklin and Ida Mackey Cothron. He married Anna E. Puttoff on December 21,

1962, in Henderson, Ky. They recently celebrated 59 years of marriage. She survives.

Other survivors include his son, Derrick (Jean) Cothron of Tuscola; daughters, Fran M. Heinz, Dedee (Duff) Hoel both of Tuscola, Angie (Matt) Ranson of Bloomington; grandchildren, Dillon Hoel, Dalton Hoel, Luke Heinz, Annie Heinz, Haden Cothron, Ava Cothron, Zeb Ranson and Zeke Ranson; several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and brothers,

Wayne and Richard Cothron.

Mr. Cothron retired from Cabot Corporation in Tuscola where he worked for over 30 years. He served his country in the United States Army. He enjoyed fishing, hunting and playing cards with the guys.

Memorials are suggested to the donor's choice.

Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home, Tuscola, assisted the family with the arrangements. Online condolences may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com.



Cothron

Bill Morris

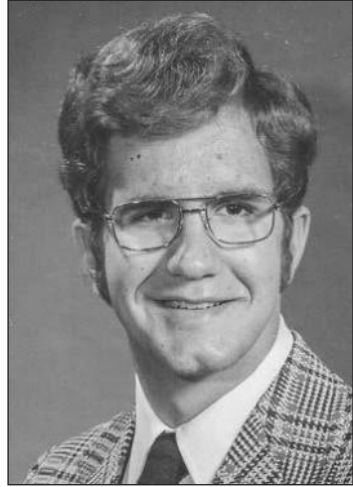
William Helm "Bill" Morris, 64, of Murdock, passed away on Tuesday, April 12, 2022.

Graveside services were held Friday, April 15, at the Tuscola Township Cemetery with Ted Shearer officiating.

Mr. Morris was born on April 25, 1957, in Urbana, the son of Joe E. Morris, Jr. and Sally Lewis Morris.

He graduated from Tuscola Community High School in 1975 and attended Southern Illinois University.

He married Rhonda Daily on June 17, 1982. She preceded



Morris

him in death on April 13, 1986. He later married Sheryl Brooks

Bartley on August 4, 1987.

Mr. Morris is survived by his mother of Camargo; son, Kyle Helm (Caitlin) Morris of Homer; stepson, Nathan Dale Bartley of Champaign; sister, Catheryn (Dave) Smith of Camargo; nephew, Sam (Emily) Smith of Villa Grove; niece, Hannah (David) Wince of Villa Grove; great-nieces, Zoey Smith, Ava Smith and Lily Wince; and great-nephew, Isaac Wince.

He was preceded in death by his father.

Mr. Morris was a lifetime member of the United Church

of Christ, Tuscola, and member of the American Angus Association. He was Murdock Township Road Commissioner for several years and was on the Murdock Township Board. Mr. Morris was a lifelong farmer, operating the JS&K Farms (Joe, Sally & Kids Farms), a Centennial Farm.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home assisted the family with the arrangements. Online condolences may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com.

Gene Sylvester

Howard Wesley "Gene" Sylvester, 91, of Arcola, passed away at 9:18 p.m. on Wednesday, April 13, 2022, at Mattoon Rehab and Health Care.

To honor Mr. Sylvester's wishes, no formal services will be held at this time. The Edwards Funeral Home is assisting with arrangements.

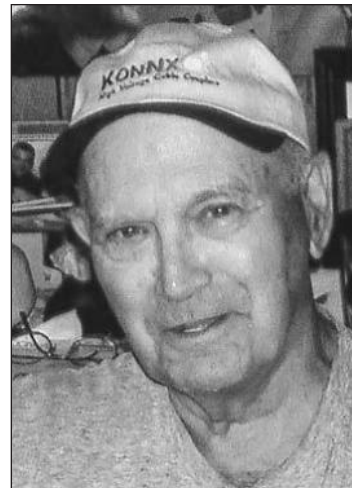
Mr. Sylvester was born on June 25, 1930, in Arcola. He was a son of Robert Howard and Opal (Parker) Sylvester. He married Helen Yarnell Thomas on July 20, 1950, in Arcola.

He is survived by his wife, Helen of Arcola; three sons, Virgil Sylvester and his wife Janice of Mattoon, Mike

Sylvester of Charleston, and Larry Sylvester and his wife Pam of Benton; five grandchildren, Toby Sylvester of Charleston, Troy Sylvester and his wife Christi of Tuscola, April Eaton and her husband Brad of Neoga, John Sylvester and his wife Kate of Bloomington, and Mandy Sylvester of Harrisburg; 14 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; five sisters, Ruth Collins, Betty Thompson, Louise Sylvester, Evelyn Gamble, and Mildred Hurtt; and his twin brother, Earl "Jack" Sylvester.

Mr. Sylvester worked at USI for 32 years, retiring in 1992. He loved to fish along the



Sylvester

Kaskaskia River, taking pictures of owls and red tail hawks in and around Arcola, and he and Helen enjoyed traveling.

Cohen

Cook-Willms

Cohen Ray Cook-Willms, 20, of Atwood, passed away on Saturday morning, April 9, 2022, at his residence.

Services celebrating his life were held Friday, April 15, at the Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home, Atwood. Burial followed in the Lake Fork Cemetery, rural Atwood. Visitation was held Friday prior to the service at the funeral home.

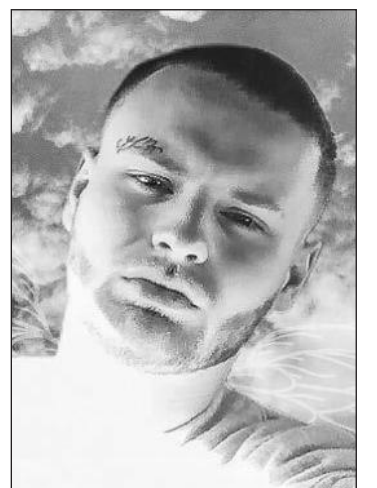
Mr. Cook-Willms was born on May 28, 2001, in Urbana, the son of Adam H. Willms and Tiffany Ray Cook.

Survivors include his father;

mother; siblings, Payton Willms, Carmen Harlin, Kendall Cook, Kristian Picazo, Elijah Willms and Cecilia Duggan; nephews, Mitchell and Nathaniel Moutria; maternal grandparents, Raymond (Karen) Cook and Dorothy Shott; paternal grandparents, Karl Willms and Deborah Kirkpatrick; girlfriend, Charlyze Wilson; many aunts and uncles and other extended family members and friends.

Mr. Cook-Willms was a very gifted athlete. He loved to play football, basketball and play video games.

Memorials are suggested to help pay for funeral expenses.



Cook-Willms

Online condolences may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com.

DAR hears health department update

Members and guests of the Stephen A. Douglas Chapter, NSDAR met at the Smith House, Tuscola for the April meeting. Our guests included the speaker, Amanda Minor, and Colleen Lehman from the Douglas County Public Health Department. Mrs. Minor interestingly compared the current pandemic to being in a war from an individual's point of view.

National Defense Committee Chapter Chairman Jackie

Joines told us March 13th is recognized as National K9 Veterans Day when the dedicated dogs who have served since World War II are recognized. More than a million dogs served on both sides during World War I; the practice was abandoned until the U.S. entered WWII in December 1941.

At that time the American Kennel Association and a group called Dogs for Defense mobilized dog owners to do-


nate healthy and capable animals to the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps.

The most famous dog to emerge from WWI was Rin Tin Tin who was an abandoned puppy of German war dogs found in France in 1918 and taken to the U.S. where he made his film debut in 1922 in a silent film "The Man from Hell's River".


Initially over 30 breeds of dogs were accepted but the list was narrowed to seven: German Shepherds, Belgian Sheepdogs, Doberman Pinschers, Collies, Siberian Huskies, Malamutes and Eskimo Dogs. They served as sentry dogs, scout or patrol dogs, messenger dogs or mine-detection dogs. The most famous and decorated WWII dog was Chips who broke away from his handler and attacked an enemy machine gun nest, forcing the 10-member crew to surrender. At the end of the war, he returned to his family.


Plans for the chapter's 100th Anniversary are underway. The first official meeting of the Douglas County DAR Chapter was held on March 2, 1923 with 21 charter members. Mrs. John Chadwick served as the first chapter regent. Our official name was changed to Stephen A. Douglas Chapter on March 2, 1932.

The DAR and the Sons of the American Revolution Good Citizens and their families will be honored by the Stephen A. Douglas NSDAR Chapter at a luncheon at noon at the Newman United Methodist Church on Saturday, April 16.



Church Directory




<p>Bourbon Baptist Church 626 CR 475 E, Tuscola Church Sunday 10 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Youth Group Sunday evenings 6-7:30 p.m. Email bourbon.baptistchurch@yahoo.com</p> <p>Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints 1100 E. Northline Road Tuscola 253-3896 Sunday Morning Sacrament Meeting 9:30 and 10:40 a.m., Wednesday Youth Night 7 p.m.</p> <p>Church of the Nazarene 1001 Egyptian Trail Tuscola 253-3541 Song & Praise Worship 8:30 a.m. Traditional/Hymnal Service 10:30 a.m., Sunday Evening Worship 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.</p> <p>Eagle Mountain Assembly of God 401 E. Sale Tuscola 253-4444 Sunday Services 10 a.m.</p> <p>Faith Baptist Church 300 Northline Road Tuscola 253-4231 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m. Wednesday Adult Bible Study, Real Teens, King's Kids 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>First Baptist Church 300 E. Daggy Tuscola 253-4231 Sunday School 9 a.m., Worship Service 10 a.m.</p> <p>First Christian Church 100 E. Church Street Tuscola 253-2394 Worship Services 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Sunday Youth Group (Grades 7-12) 6:30 p.m. Wed. After School Program (Grades 5-6)</p>	<p>First Church of God 821 E. Barker Tuscola 253-2180 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship 10:30 a.m. Prayer Time 1:30-2:30 p.m., Wednesday Night 6 p.m. Missionary Women meet 2nd Tuesday of each month 6 p.m.</p> <p>Forty Martyrs Catholic Church 210 E. Van Allen Tuscola 253-4412 Pastor: Rev. Angel Sierra Sacrament of Confession: Saturdays 5 p.m. Or by appointment by calling the church office. Weekday Mass Times: 8 a.m. Monday, Thursday, and Friday Weekend Masses: 5:30 p.m. Saturday, 8 a.m. Sunday</p> <p>Immanuel Lutheran Church 600 E. Northline Tuscola 253-4341 Saturday Evening Service 5:30 p.m. Sunday Worship Service 9 a.m.</p> <p>Tuscola United Methodist Church 901 N. Prairie Tuscola 253-4232 Sunday Morning Worship Services 8:45 a.m. and 11 a.m., Sunday School 10 a.m.</p> <p>United Church of Christ 114 E. Pembroke St, Tuscola 253-2532 Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 A.M. Sunday School: 9:30 A.M. Email: dealralph5@aol.com</p> 
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**DOUGLAS COUNTY:
HOW HAS THE
PANDEMIC
AFFECTED YOU?**

Looking for written, oral, video submissions on how your life, business, workplace, school, family, health has been affected by COVID-19 for historical documentation project.

Douglas County Health Department is taking your submissions now. For more information, contact Colleen Lehmann at colleen.lehmann@douglascountyiil.com or call 217-253-4137 X 1229.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.