

# Donald Charles Ward

June 24, 1936 ~ April 27, 2017 (age 80)

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Donald Charles Ward died at home in Hoopeston, Illinois on April 27, 2017 surrounded by family at the age of 80.

Don is survived by his wife, Beverly Mae (Miller) Ward; children, Mark (Denise) Ward, Kim (Jim) Judy, Dawn Ward, MaryBeth (Marc) Young, Charles Ward, and Priscilla (Mike) Gregg; twelve grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and four siblings, JoAnn (Theodore) Pazdar, Janey (Richard) Rossitto, Rosalee Konikowski and Vurlin Ward, Jr. He is preceded in death by his son, Paul Ward and brother, Stephen Ward.

Don was born on June 24, 1936, in St. Louis, Missouri, to Vurlin and Loretta (Gidley) Ward. He served in the United States Marine Corps as a Lance Corporal during the Korea War from 1956-1959. Don married Bev, an accomplished artist and long-time love on June 11, 1960. After moving to Hoopeston, Illinois in 1969, he and his brother, Steve, started the construction company, Wardco. Don's children and grandchildren remember him as a happy man full of humor that encouraged and supported them to pursue their goals and love life to the full.

Don was dedicated to his wife Bev. Most recently, he renovated a smaller home in Hoopeston for them to live. He was an accomplished engineer who would rise to the challenge to construct or repair just about anything. Don loved playing cards and often would stay up late at night playing cards with friends, children and grandchildren. He was a generous man who was quick to assist and support any who needed his knowledge and expertise. Don was a dedicated member of the American Legion and supported the Hoopeston Multi-Agency where he played weekly with the Euchre group.

Visitation will be held at Blurton Funeral Home, Hoopeston IL, on Sunday, April 30th from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. A Mass of Christian Burial is scheduled for Monday May 1st, at St. Anthony Catholic Church, Hoopeston, IL at 10:00 am with a lunch to follow at St. Anthony Parish Hall. Fr. Patrick O'Neal will officiate. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Don's life. Burial will follow the service in Floral Hill Cemetery with full military honors conducted by the American Legion Post #384. The family would like to thank the wonderful caregivers and staff at the VA and Harbor Lite hospice for their dedication to Don's comfort. The family have entrusted the Blurton Funeral Home to assist them in honoring Mr. Ward's Life. Memories or photos may be sent to the family on his everlasting memorial page at: [www.blurtonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.blurtonfuneralhomes.com).

## Cemetery Details

Floral Hill Cemetery