



Larry Gene Craft

August 3, 1954 - June 16, 2024

Larry Gene Craft owner of Craft Karaoke passed away suddenly at the Phelps Health Hospital after a day of celebrating Father's Day with his family by his side. Larry was born in Westco, Missouri to the late Tony and Wilma (Wilson) Craft.

Larry proudly served his country in the United States Army. Following his service he married the love of his life Ruth Lewis on June 7, 1984, this union was blessed with two children and they were happily until her passing in 2007.

Larry went to work for the City of St. James in the Sanitation Department where he worked for over 20 years before he retired. Larry also worked at St. James McDonalds to support his family and he is remembered for the good times with his coworkers. He enjoyed lottery scratch off tickets, classic country music, games with family & friends, and attended Flag Springs Church. Larry was a "regular" at Country Bob's Cafe, and you could always find him sitting in the "republican" table. He was also known as the King of Karaoke around town. You could find him with his karaoke equipment at Mutley's Pub or Johnnie's Bar any given weekend, or before Covid, he offered free community street dances set up around town. He sang a variety of requested songs, but really enjoyed the older country music. When on vacation he always managed to find a little dive where they offered karaoke so he could sing a song or two.

Larry was extremely proud of his children and enjoyed every minute he could spend with them. He also came from a close-knit family with nine brothers and two sisters, all of which lived in the St. James area. The Craft family loved and supported each other in all endeavors through-out their lives, they are all big Cardinal baseball fans and enjoyed attending or watching the games, and later could discuss every play. Larry was a loving and devoted father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend who will be greatly missed by all that knew and loved him.

Survivors include his children, Anthony Keith Craft, of St. James, MO, and Amanda Thomas and husband Jeffrey, of Arnold, MO; brothers, Bob Craft and wife Dottie, of St. James, MO, Melvin Craft, of St. James, MO, Jimmy Craft and wife Linda, of St. James, MO, Danny Craft and wife Terri, of St. James, MO, Timmy Craft and wife Paulette, of St. James, MO, and Randy Craft and wife Susan, of St. James, MO; sister, Judy Craft, of St. James, MO; sister-in-law, Donna Craft, of St. James, MO; grandchildren, Garrison, Jeffrey and Devin Thomas; great-great-grandson, Rowan Thomas. A host of nieces, nephews, extended family, and many friends.

In addition to his parents, Tony and Wilma Craft, and wife Ruth Craft, Larry was preceded in death by his brothers, Willis and Leon Craft, and sister Alma Hanks.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, June 20, 2024 at 11:00 AM at the St. James Chapel of the James & Gahr Mortuary with Pastor Gary Bartle officiating. Interment will follow at the St. James Cemetery where he will be laid to rest with full military honors, next to his late bride Ruth Craft. Visitation for family and friends will be held at the chapel on Wednesday, June 19, 2024 from 4-7PM. Memorials are appreciated and suggested to the St. James High School Quarterback Club/ or to The Meramec Shrine Club, cards are available at all James & Gahr locations.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **19**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - St. James
117 Seymour St.
St. James, MO 65559
(573) 265-3232
dcjames@fidnet.com
<https://www.jamesgahrmortuary.com/>

Service

JUN **20**. 11:00 AM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - St. James
117 Seymour St.
St. James, MO 65559
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Full Military Honors

JUN **20**. 11:50 AM (CT)

St. James Cemetery

Tribute Wall

JC

“ Another brother gone from all his pain an sickness. We sure are gonna miss you . I remember a time at Leo's Good Time Lounge when him an I was doing the twist the dance first we were doing good an all of a sudden I went down to far an fell on my butt.an then we both started laughing an couldn't finish the dance. All of us kids have had a very good child an adult life time. I wouldn't change a thing. I love you Larry an gonna miss you! Hugs to all in Heven! 🦋

Judy craft - June 20, 2024 at 01:38 AM

PC

“ Phelps County Central Communications purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Larry Gene Craft.



Phelps County Central Communications - June 19, 2024 at 10:35 PM

JB

“ Jodi Bowen purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Larry Gene Craft.



Jodi Bowen - June 19, 2024 at 01:21 PM

MC

“ Marissa C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Larry Gene Craft.

Marissa C. - June 19, 2024 at 12:30 PM

LF

“ Lucas Deckard and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Larry Gene Craft.

Lucas Deckard and Family - June 18, 2024 at 09:47 PM

LF

“ Lucas Deckard and Family purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Larry Gene Craft.



Lucas Deckard and Family - June 18, 2024 at 09:47 PM

AH

“ Adriana H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Larry Gene Craft.

Adriana H. - June 18, 2024 at 04:49 PM

NG

“ My heart breaks for the many family and friends who loved Larry so deeply. He will be missed.

Nicole Gibson - June 18, 2024 at 04:31 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Larry Gene Craft.



June 18, 2024 at 03:46 PM

TU

“ We will all miss his smile and laugh at St James athletic events
Todd Becky Alexis Ty Uffmann

Todd Uffmann - June 18, 2024 at 03:36 PM

WF

“ With Love, your Evernorth HRBP Family!
purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the
family of Larry Gene Craft.



With Love, your Evernorth HRBP Family! - June 18, 2024 at
03:09 PM

WF

“ With Love, your Evernorth HRBP Family! planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in
honor of Larry Gene Craft.

With Love, your Evernorth HRBP Family! - June 18, 2024 at 03:09 PM