



Francis R. Cavanaugh

May 26, 1939 - March 29, 2024

Age 84, of Braidwood, IL passed away on Friday, March 29, 2024 at Lightways Hospice Home in Joliet, IL. Born on May 26, 1939 in Rockville Township, IL to Daniel and Mary (nee McGrath) Cavanaugh. He graduated from the Wilmington High School with the Class of 1957 and then served in the United States Air Force. On May 28, 1960 he married JoAnne Frost and together they made their life and raised their family in Braidwood. He retired from Caterpillar Tractor in Joliet after 40 years of service. A member of the Immaculate Conception Church in Braidwood, he also was a previous board member of the Braidwood Recreation Club and coached Little League Baseball. Francis was an amazing person who could strike up a conversation with anyone. He shared his affinity for gardening, homemade wine, jelly, and tomato juice. Francis' family enjoyed his stories of growing up on a farm and best places to see from his many trips to visit family and friends in Ireland. He was extremely proud of his Irish heritage and his strong Catholic faith. Surviving are his wife of nearly 64 years, JoAnne Cavanaugh; daughter, Sheree (Chris) Earley; sons, Frank (Kelly Yax) Cavanaugh and Scott Cavanaugh; six grandchildren, Brian (Teri) Earley, Frank (Nichole) Cavanaugh, Brandon Cavanaugh, Courtney (Piotr) Szczerba, Kyle Cavanaugh and Amanda (Ryan) Sorg; six great-grandchildren, Grace and Ryder Francis Wesley Cavanaugh, Brennan and Bryson Sorg and Caroline and Gwendolyn Szczerba; special brother-in-law, Jim Frost; brothers, Bill (Kax) Cavanaugh and Ray (Kay) Cavanaugh; sister, Mary Schott; sister-in-

law, Shirley Cavanaugh; as well as numerous nieces and nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews.

Preceding him in death were his parents, Daniel and Mary Cavanaugh; mother-in-law, Jessie Frost Berg; father-in-law, Hubert Frost and Richard Berg; brother, John Cavanaugh; sister, Kathleen Gatlin; nephew, John Cavanaugh; nieces, Marnie Wyatt and Catherine McClure; and great-nephew, Cole Cavanaugh.

The visitation will be held on Wednesday, April 3, 2024 from 4:00 – 8:00 pm at the R.W. Patterson Funeral Home. Mass of Christian Burial will be at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Braidwood on Thursday, April 4, 2024 at 10:00 am. with Father Joshua Miller officiating. Interment will immediately follow at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Wilmington, IL.

Cemetery Details

Mount Olivet

Wilmington, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 3. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home
401 East Main St.
Braidwood, IL 60408
(815) 458-2336
info@rwpattersonfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com>

Service

APR 4. 10:00 AM (CT)

Immaculate Conception Church
110 South School Street
Braidwood, IL 60408

Tribute Wall

TF

“ *The family lit a candle in memory of Francis Cavanaugh*



The Hedrick family - April 08, 2024 at 12:22 PM

DM

“ *Sorry for your loss!*

Don McKinney - April 06, 2024 at 11:48 AM

LB

“ *Our deepest sympathies to the family.
Bob and Liz Broucek*

Liz Broucek - April 04, 2024 at 04:25 PM

CF

“ *Francis was my first cousin and i can remember many happy occasions, sometimes weddings in the family but mostly the family picnics every summer. Some times at our farms or later on in the park. When the Covid broke out the picnics stopped but maybe this year in memory of Francis we can hope for another Cavanaugh family picnic in honor of Francis. He and Jo Ann were the perfect partners.
Many prayer for all
Carole Cavanaugh Pajak and family*

Carole Pajak and family - April 03, 2024 at 03:47 PM

TG

“ *The Galloways lit a candle in memory of Francis Cavanaugh*



The Galloways - April 03, 2024 at 09:10 AM

TF

“ *The Family lit a candle in memory of Francis Cavanaugh*



The Galloway Family - April 03, 2024 at 09:10 AM

SS

“ *Francis always was smiling! I loved his stories of trips to Ireland, seeing him in the garden, and most of all the love he had for his family!*
We send our condolences to everyone!

Sheila Schneider - April 03, 2024 at 08:09 AM

RC

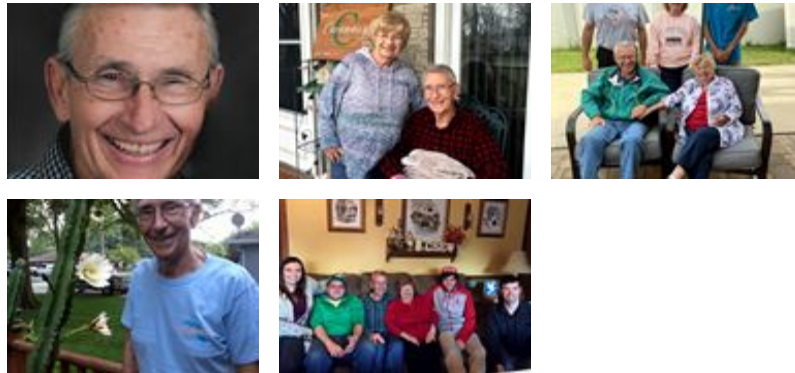
“ *I worked with Francis for many years at Cat , and am so sorry to hear of his passing. My prayers are with the Cavanaugh Family .I will remember his Irish humor and his story telling . We shared many laughs together . Hoping he meets W.C . They will have Many stories to Tell Rest in peace Frank .*



Ron C - April 02, 2024 at 03:49 PM



“ 115 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



R W Patterson Funeral Homes, Ltd. - April 02, 2024 at 02:59 PM

RS

“ So sorry to hear of Mr. Cavanaugh's passing. I didn't know him very well, but I hold many precious memories of so many of his wonderful family members in my heart. You all have my deepest sympathy.



Ron Steinacher - April 01, 2024 at 08:15 PM



“ 2 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



R W Patterson Funeral Homes, Ltd. - April 01, 2024 at 05:21 PM

MB

“ Michael Brennan lit a candle in memory of Francis Cavanaugh



Michael Brennan - March 30, 2024 at 10:32 AM

JC

“ As my mom would say, Francis had "the gift of gab." When the families got together shortly before Covid at the park, I hadn't seen Francis in decades, yet we talked non-stop for at least an hour. --jim cavanaugh

Jim Cavanaugh - March 30, 2024 at 10:24 AM

DS

“ Thoughts & Prayers to Joanne, and Francis' entire family! Always enjoyed our conversations & his wisdom.

Respectfully,

Dean Shepherd

Dean Shepherd - March 30, 2024 at 09:42 AM

DD

“ My heart is aching for Joanne and all the family. Francis was a wonderful husband, father, brother, grandfather, great-grand and friend. He always had a good story to tell! I met Frances before he married my very good friend, Joanne. There was nothing to dislike about him and everything to feel good about being with him. God will be hearing some grand stories from our friend, Francis! Dee King deGroh

Dee King, deGroh - March 29, 2024 at 11:54 PM

DS

“ I had many enjoyable conversations with Frank at Caterpillar and Frank was a Great person to work with. Condolences to Family

Dan Sweeney - March 29, 2024 at 08:24 PM

MR

“ Mr. Cavanaugh was one of the kindest people I knew. I don't think I ever saw him without a smile. My heartfelt condolences to the family.

Michele Ryan - March 29, 2024 at 06:22 PM

NW

“ Condolences to Francis' family.



Nancy Martens Williams - March 29, 2024 at 06:18 PM

MF

“ I always enjoyed seeing how happy Francis was when he would update me about his ever growing family. He loved gathering with them and spending as much time he could with them. Many prayers for the entire Cavanaugh family.

Mark and Donna Fielder - March 29, 2024 at 05:43 PM

AR

“ *Our deepest Condolences for the loss of this wonderful Man. He will be greatly missed every Sunday at Mass. Mr. & Mrs. Don & Amy Raymond*



Amy & Don Raymond - March 29, 2024 at 04:02 PM

GM

So sad . The best outcome HE IS IN HEAVEN. GOD BLESS HIM FOR EVER. LOTS OF LOVE TO YOU. Friend gulia

Gulia Meehan - March 31, 2024 at 01:40 PM

MH

“ *Francis was that special guy my best friend (JoAnne) dated and married. He could sit down and visit with us for hours and we would still have stuff to talk about. JoAnne and Francis were two halves that made a whole.
He was a special, loving man who will be missed by so many.*

Myrna Hoffman - March 29, 2024 at 03:44 PM

JC

“ *Jimmy Peggy Cole lit a candle in memory of Francis Cavanaugh*



Jimmy and Peggy Cole - March 29, 2024 at 03:10 PM

KC

“ *Kimberly Cavanaugh lit a candle in memory of Francis Cavanaugh*



Kimberly Cavanaugh - March 29, 2024 at 02:39 PM