



Jerome "Jerry" Joyce

June 14, 1939 - June 19, 2019

Jerome "Jerry" Joyce

Age 80, of Reddick, IL, passed away on Tuesday, June 19, 2019. He was born on June 14, 1939 to the late Will and Rosella (nee Engles) Joyce. He was the youngest of four children. Jerry was raised on his family farm, attending Reddick High School and married his high school sweetheart, Janet (Meece) Joyce. They raised their four children on that same family farm. He was first and always a farmer. And raised and showed sheep. When faced with the unjust big business in his local community, he decided to take things into his own hands. Armed with a high school diploma and a take charge attitude, he was elected to township supervisor, then Kankakee County Board and finally the Illinois State Senate. He championed agricultural, environmental and local issues for his community in his 17 years as a senator. He loved hunting, fishing, traveling, collecting knives and decoys. He loved good food, cooking, flowers and bird watching. He loved his Key West crew and he loved his family, friends and his community.

Surviving are one son, Patrick (Rita) Joyce of Essex; three daughters, Judy (Dennis) Forneris of Reddick, Lori (Tom) Cullen of Springfield, and Karen (Darren) Barker of Kankakee; seven grandchildren; six great grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death were his wife, Janet; granddaughter, Katelyn Marie

Joyce; grandson, Allen Forneris in infancy; brothers, William Joyce and Joseph Joyce; and sister, Patricia Stotland.

Cremation rites have been accorded.

Memorial visitation will be at the R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory, Tuesday, July 2, 2019 from 2pm-5pm with memorial service at 5pm.

Inurnment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts in his name may be directed to Leukemia Lymphoma Society.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

JUL 2. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

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

Memorial Service

JUL 2. 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM (CT)

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home
401 East Main St.
Braidwood, IL 60408
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Tribute Wall

MC

“ *With sincere condolences.
Pat and Sue Foley*

Michele Cannon - July 04, 2019 at 05:42 PM

MZ

“ *Rita ,Patrick and family,
Sorry for your loss,you and your family are in my thoughts and
prayers.*

Madonna Zasada - July 04, 2019 at 03:26 AM

MZ

“ *Madonna Zasada lit a candle in memory of
Jerome "Jerry" Joyce*



Madonna Zasada - July 04, 2019 at 03:24 AM

SR

“ *My deepest condolences to the entire Joyce Family. Jerry was a
great man and a fine public servant. He will be missed.
Steve Randazzo*

Steve Randazzo - July 01, 2019 at 08:13 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Jerome "Jerry" Joyce.*



July 01, 2019 at 03:59 PM



“ *Jerry was an excellent student, especially in government and economics classes. It was a pleasure having Jerry in class and on our athletic teams at Reddick.*

He was a wonderful human being.

My deepest sympathy,

Ron Thiede

Reddick Teacher and Coach

Ron Thiede - July 01, 2019 at 12:57 PM



“ *Dave, Mona and Ben; Kraig, Debbie, Ashley and Jack purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Jerome "Jerry" Joyce.*



Dave, Mona and Ben; Kraig, Debbie, Ashley and Jack - July 01, 2019 at 12:37 PM



“ 178 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



R W Patterson Funeral Homes, Ltd. - June 27, 2019 at 09:53 AM

TM

“ *Jerry was a good guy, same good guy before and after becoming a Senator. He was a very good Senator, took care of his constituents. He loved his tractor!*
Tom and Mary Maass

Tom and Mary Maass - June 26, 2019 at 07:09 PM

MC

“ *Sorry for your loss. My memories of Jerry go back to when we were both in 7th grade, continuing thru Reddick High School, graduating in the class of '57. I lived out of state for many years but was happy to visit with him once again at the most recent reunion of our class. My thoughts and prayers are with you all*

Miria Lee Lehnus Chicke - June 26, 2019 at 11:13 AM



“ *WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY.....SUE MEREDITH AND FAMILY.....*

Bonnie Raef - June 25, 2019 at 01:16 PM

SS

“ I am saddened to read the news about Jerry's passing. As the new news director of WDND radio in 1983, Jerry could not have been nicer or more accessible than he was. My job was made easier because of Jerry and we need more people like Jerry today.

Scott Simon - June 21, 2019 at 11:30 AM

DS

“ Sandhillserv@hughes.net
A good man has left us, to a better place. You will be missed Neighbor.
Dean and Pat.

Dean & Pat Sharper - June 20, 2019 at 08:13 PM

DT

“ Sorry for your loss, I will always remember helping cook chickens on his beat McBroom campaign. I will never forgot his help when we hade trouble with the Illinois Public Health after a Jeff was born

Dave Trent - June 20, 2019 at 06:29 PM

JF

“ I met and became friends with Jerry during his first campaign for the State Senate. I was always proud that he was my Senator and that he saw fit to expend his time and talent in public service. There was an essential balance and good sense that he brought to politics that is never out of fashion and always in short supply. Godspeed, my friend.

Jim Frogge - June 20, 2019 at 05:14 PM

LS

“ *Linda D Simpson lit a candle in memory of Jerome "Jerry" Joyce*



Linda D Simpson - June 20, 2019 at 02:59 PM

CW

“ *Sincere condolences to Joyce family ... Jim and Caryl Foy*

Caryl E Wadley-Foy - June 20, 2019 at 04:58 AM

RT

As a newspaper reporter and editor for 46 years, including 37 at the Daily Journal of Kankakee, I have covered more local, state and national political figures than I can name. Jerry Joyce was the finest of them all, a peerless advocate for his district and Illinois at large and a great mentor for many who followed in his footsteps. --- Robert Themer.

Robert Themer - June 24, 2019 at 04:15 PM

CW

“ *We were so sad to hear of Jerry's death. We will always remember the big picnics at his farm and Patrick's wedding there. Please accept our deepest sympathy for your loss.*

Cathy (Joyce) and Harry Walton

Cathy Walton - June 19, 2019 at 07:40 PM

JF

“ *John Farrero lit a candle in memory of Jerome "Jerry" Joyce*



John Farrero - June 19, 2019 at 04:00 PM

JA

“ *John & Anita Arthur lit a candle in memory of Jerome "Jerry" Joyce*



John & Anita Arthur - June 19, 2019 at 03:43 PM

JA

“ *John and I had the pleasure of spending some good times with Jerry when he would come to our restaurant (Clarke City Grille) at Lake Shannon. He and Jan were always fun and so warm & friendly. We send our sincerest condolences to his family and close friends, as he will truly be missed. The picture you have on the website will always be the way we will remember Jerry. Love and prayers for you all.*

John & Anita Arthur - June 19, 2019 at 03:42 PM