

## Merle John Wren

June 28, 1922 - December 24, 2013

### Merle John Wren

Age 91, of Braidwood, IL, passed away Tuesday, December 24, 2013 at Presence St. Joseph Medical Center in Joliet, IL. Born June 28, 1922 in Peever, SD to the late John and Laura (nee Shannon) Wren. Merle retired in 1987 from Caterpillar, Inc. in Joliet, IL, following 35 years of employment. He greatly enjoyed attending his children's softball and baseball games. He also enjoyed visiting family and friends in South Dakota.

Surviving are four children, Diane (Elbert) Harris of Goreville, IL, Judy (Donald) Bumpous of Custer Park, IL, Merle (Christi) Wren of Braidwood, and Debbie Lavicka of Braidwood; ten grandchildren; nineteen great grandchildren; one great-great grandchild expected; one brother, Elmer (Janice) Wren of South Wilmington, IL; three sisters, Marion Barry of Minneapolis, MN, Ellen (Theron) Pond of Lakeville, MN, and Avis (Tim) Crooks of Minneapolis; long time family friend, Janet Caise; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death were his wife, Betty Mae (German) Wren, whom he married December 2, 1946 in Webster, SD; great grandson, Parker Jordan Clark; two brothers, Lloyd Wren and Dale Wren; and one sister, Irene Olson.

Funeral services will be at the R.W. Patterson Funeral Homes, Ltd. &

Crematory, Braidwood Chapel, Monday, December 30, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.  
Interment will be in Oakwood Cemetery in Braidwood. The visitation will be  
Sunday, December 29, from 4-8 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be  
directed to the Joliet Area Community Hospice. For more information and to  
sign his online guestbook, please log onto [www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com)  
m.

R.W. Patterson Funeral Homes, Ltd.

401 E. Main St., Braidwood, 815-458-2336

[www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Oakwood Cemetery-Braidwood

Essex Road  
Braidwood, IL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC **29**. 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>

## Visitation

DEC **30**. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

AD

“ *Merle worked with me on the ripper line 3b23 at caterpillar Joliet. He was a great guy, hard worker and could always be depended on. I think about him often. I was a young line foreman and Merle was a top notch welder. I considered him a friend. Always.*

-----  
**Art Doshier** - September 07, 2024 at 08:49 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Merle John Wren Video Tribute*



-----  
**Sara Foote** - January 21, 2014 at 09:04 AM

VN

“ *So sorry for your loss. His family and mine we friends for so many years in Peever. I grew up thinking John & Laura were a part of our family. I see his parents' faces in his face. Memories. . .*  
*Verla Horstman Noakes, Pueblo, CO*

-----  
**Verla Horstman Noakes** - January 03, 2014 at 11:50 PM

PB

“ *We are so sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. You are all in our thoughts and prayers*  
*Darren and Pam Brooks, Gardner*

-----  
**Pam Brooks** - January 02, 2014 at 09:29 AM

DF

“ So sorry for your loss.

*Dick and Diane (Bannon) Friddle*

**Diane Friddle** - January 01, 2014 at 10:46 AM

RB

“ *Lit a candle in memory of Merle John Wren. I know God has a special place just for him.*




**Rodney Brown** - December 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM

DB

“ *Sorry for your loss. He was a great man*

**Deb Basham** - December 28, 2013 at 09:47 PM

 Diane Harris

“ *Will miss you Grandpa, Love Patrick Joseph Clark*



**Diane Harris** - December 28, 2013 at 07:26 PM

DA

“ *DORLENE AND KEITH APPLETON lit a candle in memory of Merle John Wren*



---

**DORLENE AND KEITH APPLETON** - December 28, 2013 at 05:06 PM

DS

“ *Denise & Bruce Sinkular lit a candle in memory of Merle John Wren*



---

**Denise & Bruce Sinkular** - December 28, 2013 at 01:45 PM

SW

“ *Susan Wagner lit a candle in memory of Merle John Wren*



---

**Susan Wagner** - December 28, 2013 at 11:34 AM



“ *Let It Snow was purchased for the family of Merle John Wren.*



---

December 28, 2013 at 09:41 AM

ST

“ *Sandie Moyer Thompson lit a candle in memory of Merle John Wren*



---

**Sandie Moyer Thompson** - December 28, 2013 at 08:32 AM

PD

“ *Penny Lee Downey lit a candle in memory of Merle John Wren*



---

**Penny Lee Downey** - December 28, 2013 at 07:20 AM

PD

*Sending you all my love and prayers. I lost my wonderful mother 3 years ago and know your pain. If you need anything just let me know. Love you Deb*

---

**Penny Lee Downey** - December 28, 2013 at 07:21 AM

JF

“ *John Wren Family lit a candle in memory of Merle John Wren*



---

**john wren family** - December 28, 2013 at 07:10 AM

JC

“ *Julie Carroll lit a candle in memory of Merle John Wren*



---

**Julie Carroll** - December 28, 2013 at 01:08 AM

JC

*From me and my family, (the O'Reilly's) thinking of you through these times of the loss of you Father. We are praying for you to go day by day with the strength you need.*

---

**Julie Carroll** - December 28, 2013 at 01:12 AM

AG

“ *Angie Grieff lit a candle in memory of Merle John Wren*



---

**Angie Grieff** - December 27, 2013 at 11:14 PM

LM

“ *Mr. Wren was very good guy. Got to know him later in life. We would meet over in Essex .His wife was. Still around at the time got to know him very we'll. they where a joy to be around .*

---

**Larry Maly** - December 27, 2013 at 10:42 PM

SM

“ *Sylvia McPherson lit a candle in memory of Merle John Wren*



Sylvia McPherson - December 27, 2013 at 10:36 PM

LF

“ *Laura Fick lit a candle in memory of Merle John Wren*



Laura Fick - December 27, 2013 at 10:36 PM

LF

*My thoughts and prayers are with you Debbie as well as your family. ( HUGS )*

Laura Fick - December 27, 2013 at 10:36 PM

JD

“ *Jeff And Rhonda Derr lit a candle in memory of Merle John Wren*



Jeff and Rhonda Derr - December 27, 2013 at 08:19 PM



“ *Danielle Kolesar Ratazak lit a candle in memory of Merle John Wren*



---

**Danielle Kolesar Ratazak** - December 27, 2013 at 01:26 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss. Sorry we couldn't be there. We love you.*

---

**Danielle Kolesar Ratazak** - December 27, 2013 at 01:23 PM



“ *Lit a candle for Merle Wren. So sorry for your loss.*

*Rose & Jerry Aschenbrener*



---

**Jerome & Rose** - December 27, 2013 at 01:11 PM



“ *Brett Emanuelson lit a candle in memory of Merle John Wren*



---

**Brett Emanuelson** - December 27, 2013 at 11:56 AM

BK

“ Bobby & Amanda Wren + Kids lit a candle in memory of Merle John Wren



Bobby & Amanda Wren + kids - December 27, 2013 at 11:53 AM

Jenny Parsons

“ Jenny Parsons lit a candle in memory of Merle John Wren



Jenny Parsons - December 27, 2013 at 11:33 AM



“ Jenne Lavicka lit a candle in memory of Merle John Wren



Jenne Lavicka - December 27, 2013 at 11:27 AM

SW

The video was great! watched it 2 times. thank you for posting that. Missing you Grandpa. Until we meet again. Love you.

Steve Wren - December 19, 2017 at 01:32 PM