



## Robert "Tom" Poole

July 16, 1944 - April 14, 2017

Robert "Tom" Poole Sr.

Age 72, longtime resident of Gardner, IL, passed away peacefully, Friday, April 14, 2017 at Morris Hospital with his loving family by his side. He was born on July 16, 1944, in Paducah, Kentucky to the late Robert and Nelle Poole. He married Jerry Elder on September 4, 1965 in Paducah, Kentucky.

Tom was an avid sports fan, especially the Kentucky Wildcats. He enjoyed watching NASCAR in the garage on Sunday afternoon with friends and family. He also enjoyed attending his grandsons sporting events who were his pride and joy. Tom was a member of The St. Lawrence Catholic Church a former member of The Gardner Volunteer Fire Department, Captain of the Emergency Squad and an EMT. He held many community positions such as former President of The Gardner Grade School Board, Village Commissioner, Garfield Township Trustee, Grundy County Board member, and a Dwight VFW Auxiliary member. Tom was also a member of the Lion's Club, sat on The Grundy County Board of Health, and most known for working at RR Donnelly's of Dwight for 35 years before retiring in 2004. After retirement, Tom was an employee at The South Wilmington Firemen's Club. He was also an Eagle Scout in his early years.

Tom is survived by his wife, Jerry Poole of Gardner; one son Robby (Monica Katcher) Poole of Blackstone; one daughter Tracy (Kurt) Kociss of Gardner; two grandsons, Kal and Kade Kociss; one sister Teresa Poole of (Roanoke, VA); two granddogs, Koachie and Maizey.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and sister Katy Poole.

Visitation will be held from 4:00 pm until 8:00 pm on Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at R.W. Patterson Funeral Home in Braidwood. A funeral mass will take place at 10:00 am on Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in South Wilmington. Father Stanley Drewniak will be officiating the mass. Burial will follow at Braceville Gardner Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Gardner Fire Department and St. Lawrence Catholic Church.

Please sign his guestbook at [www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Braceville-Gardner Cemetery

7295 W. Braceville Road  
Braceville, IL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 18. 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](mailto:info@rwpattersonfuneralhome.com)  
<https://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com>

## Service

APR 19. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (CT)

St. Lawrence Catholic Church  
165 Rice St.  
South Wilmington, IL 60474  
(815) 237-2230

# Tribute Wall

 Ida  
Smith

“ SO SORRY TO HEAR THIS. WILL KEEP ALL THE FAMILY IN MY PRAYERS

Ida Smith - April 20, 2017 at 11:39 AM

AM

“ Jerry and family,  
I was in Katy Poole's class at St. Mary's Academy and a year behind Tommy. So sorry for your loss.  
Alice (Watson) Mattison

Alice Mattison - April 20, 2017 at 07:46 AM

SF

“ Shirley Farland lit a candle in memory of Robert "Tom" Poole



Shirley Farland - April 19, 2017 at 10:59 PM

TF

“ The Klingberg Family lit a candle in memory of Robert "Tom" Poole



The Klingberg Family - April 19, 2017 at 04:23 PM

MS

“ Michele Skroblus lit a candle in memory of Robert "Tom" Poole



michele skroblus - April 19, 2017 at 10:25 AM

DH

“ Tom was the best friend anyone could have. So sorry to the whole family for your loss. He will truly be missed. He was special.  
Frank & Deb

debra halpin - April 18, 2017 at 02:48 PM

TA

“ The McNabbs- Aaron, Addie, Brody & Audry purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Robert "Tom" Poole.



The McNabbs- Aaron, Addie, Brody & Audry - April 18, 2017 at 09:25 AM

KB

“ Jerry, Tracy and Kurt and family: Our sympathy on Tom's passing. He put up a good fight. We always enjoyed seeing him watching and enjoying his grandsons' games. "Aunt" Kay and Dan

Kay Bell - April 17, 2017 at 07:07 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Robert "Tom" Poole.



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April 17, 2017 at 06:59 PM



“ I knew Tom from The South Wilmington firemans club. He was an awesome gate guard And an awesome person and will be missed R.I.P. Tom

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**Ruth Seplak** - April 17, 2017 at 01:17 PM



“ Jerry and children,  
It is Jane Ann Mckeown Parker and I am so sorry about Tommy dying and have only fond memories of him. I always called him my teddy bear in high school. He was like that or a "brother" who would take care of you, drive you where you were going, and share your concerns and feelings. He died so close to Judy Rodgers, on March 8th, another class mate, that loved him as I did when we young at the Academy. I have really struggled over her death as we friends since grade school and never broke our bond so it is a comfort for me to know she can greet Tommy in heaven and they can once again can be friends. You will miss him greatly because I know his character, warmth, and love. Jerry, you were perfect for him and I know you had an outstanding family and marriage for 52 years.

God Bless you All,

Jane Ann and husband Bill

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**Jane Parker** - April 17, 2017 at 09:02 AM

BH

“ I graduated from St. Mary Academy class of 1962 with Tommy. My sincere condolences to Jerry and their family.

*William Joseph (Billy Joe) Hite*

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**Billy Joe Hite** - April 17, 2017 at 04:36 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert "Tom" Poole.



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April 16, 2017 at 09:13 PM

JC

“ Sorry for your loss, we will miss him. Good memories from our time in Florida. Prayers to you and your family.

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**Jerry/Gerri Cherry** - April 16, 2017 at 08:35 PM

DS

“ David and Barbara Shores are so sorry. In our prayers. We love you two.

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**David and Barbara Shores** - April 16, 2017 at 06:22 PM

AG

“ Thinking of you often Jerry.....

*Anne & Larry Green*

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**Anne & Larry Green** - April 16, 2017 at 05:52 PM

DF

“ *Diane Collins and Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Robert "Tom" Poole.*



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**Diane Collins and Family** - April 16, 2017 at 05:40 PM

MI

“ *Miss you Buddy! Hugs Jerry, Tracey, Robbie and family's- He will be missed! Prayers and Hugs*

*Michelle & Jeff Serena*



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**michelle** - April 16, 2017 at 04:27 PM

DF

“ *Don Berglund Family lit a candle in memory of Robert "Tom" Poole*



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**Don Berglund family** - April 16, 2017 at 04:04 PM