



Theodore "Ted" Roosevelt Armstrong Jr.

August 24, 1936 - March 25, 2026

Theodore Roosevelt Armstrong, Jr.

“Ted”

Age 89, of Reddick, IL, passed away Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee, IL.

Born August 24, 1936 on the family farm, Ted was the son of Theodore R. Armstrong, Sr. and Evelyn (née Swartz) Armstrong. Farming was not just his occupation, but the life he knew and loved. He spent his entire life working the land around Reddick, dedicating himself to the demanding work of agriculture. Known for his strong work ethic and steady presence, Ted was the kind of farmer who understood that a day's work began before sunrise and often ended well after the sun went down.

In addition to tending his fields, Ted also enjoyed custom farming and corn shelling and was always willing to lend a hand when neighbors or friends needed help. He was a talented woodworker and took pride in working with his hands, whether in the shop or out on the farm. Those who knew him remember a man who was dependable, humble, and always ready to help others.

Though he worked hard, Ted also appreciated life's simple pleasures. He loved a good cup of coffee and had a well-known fondness for Nutty Buddies and cheese balls. Time with family was especially important to him. He married Marian Patchett on February, 28, 1976 and together raised her

children as their own, a responsibility he carried with strength, dedication, and quiet determination. He was very proud of his family and cherished the time he spent with them as they grew. He also enjoyed traveling and looked forward to spending winters in Florida.

On January 29, 2010, Ted married Carol DeChant, and together they shared the later years of his life. He was a member of the Methodist faith.

Ted is survived by his loving wife, Carol Armstrong; his devoted children, Gary (Linda) Emling of Dwight, IL, Marla Raymond of Bradley, IL, Cindy (Vic) Graham of Weatherford, TX, Nina (Jim) Gill of Bourbonnais, IL, Belinda (Dave) Whitman of Dwight, IL, Bill (Annette) Patchett of Odell, IL, and Melissa Anne DeChant of Reddick. His legacy continues through his eleven cherished grandchildren and twenty-two beloved great-grandchildren, who brought him immense pride and joy and were a constant reminder of the family he worked so hard to provide for.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his son Steven Emling, his siblings, Wayne Armstrong, Jean Webster, and Carolyn Webster; and his wife of 31 years, Marian Armstrong.

Per Ted's wishes, cremation rites have been accorded. A graveside service will be held Friday, April 3, 2026 at 1:00 PM at Braceville-Gardner Cemetery. Arrangements have been entrusted to R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory in Braidwood, IL.

Ted will be remembered as a hardworking farmer, a devoted father and family man, and someone whose life was rooted in the land and the family he loved.

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory
401 E. Main St., Braidwood, 815-458-2336
www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com

Previous Events

Graveside Service

APR 3. 1:00 PM (CT)

Braceville-Gardner Cemetery
7295 W. Braceville Road
Braceville, IL

Tribute Wall

JA

“ joy armstrong lit a candle in memory of Theodore "Ted" Armstrong



joy armstrong - April 01 at 10:32 PM

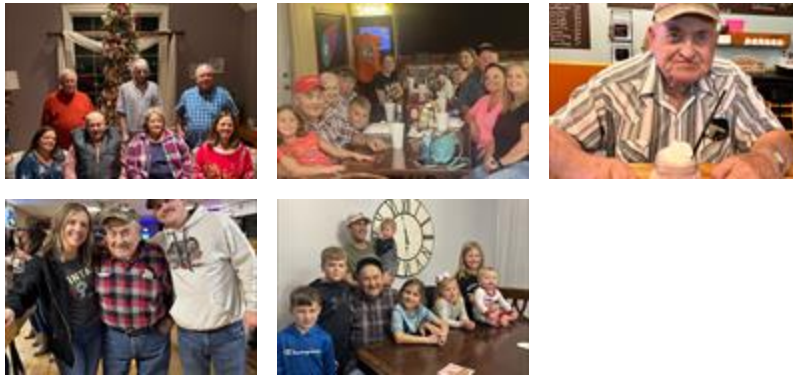
CJ

“ Ted was a great neighbor. We always enjoyed talking with him. We will miss this kind-hearted man and his smiles. Sending hugs, love, and prayers for peace to his family. ☐ 🕊

Carol Jepsen - April 01 at 09:40 PM



“ 19 files added to the tribute wall



Belinda Whitman - April 01 at 08:07 AM

MC

“ *Sincere condolences.*

Pat Foley

Matt and Michele Cannon

Michele Cannon - March 31 at 10:43 AM

SH

“ *Was deeply saddened to hear about Teddy passing. He was definitely one of a kind. Always enjoyed our many conversations. Rest in peace my friend.*

Ron & Sharon Hoffman

Sharon Hoffman - March 29 at 09:26 PM

SH

“ Uncle Jr. was a truly great uncle.

I will always remember how, after long days working in the fields, he would take time to come play with me and my brothers when we were small. Those tractor rides are some of my sweetest memories. He was a man of the land who never let the work of farming dim his warmth for the people he loved.

After we moved away, he would make the trip out to visit us in California. He was a happy man with the best laugh. Once I had children of my own, he took a genuine interest in them too. He even took my oldest son to get his very first haircut.

When I returned to Illinois for visits, he was my best buddy. We went everywhere together. He was a patient man, the kind who would walk the antique stores with me without a single complaint. At the end of the day we'd go for a hamburger, and without fail, he would run into someone he knew. He was that kind of man — woven into the fabric of his community, known and loved by everyone around him. A life well lived.

You were the best Uncle. I will cherish every beautiful memory I have of you.

You will always be in my heart.

Love you.

Your Niece, Sandy



Sandy Hobaya - March 29 at 08:56 PM



Belinda Whitman - April 01 at 08:07 AM

NG

Beautifully said, Sandy

Nina Gill - April 01 at 08:01 PM

NI

“ 19 files added to the album Grandpa



Nina - March 28 at 05:03 PM

CJ



Carol Jepsen - April 01 at 09:36 PM

TL

“ *Annette and Bill
I remember Ted's visits, always happy and ready to help anyone. I'll
never forget his laugh. What a wonderful man.
Tonya (Ferrari) London*

Tonya London - March 28 at 09:41 AM

LM

“ So sorry to hear about Teddy Bear always remember the times at our farm with him and Mom (Marlene Horn) talking and all the stories he shared of all the good old days He will sadly be missed All our thoughts and prayers The Horn families

Lawanda Maierhofer - March 27 at 05:15 PM

GA

“ Teddy will be missed. Always enjoyed eating breakfast with him at the Essex Lion breakfast John enjoyed coffee time with him
Gwen Airgood

Gwen Airgood - March 27 at 03:46 PM