



Bill Cavanaugh

November 22, 1946 - May 8, 2024

Bill Cavanaugh, 77, of Kankakee, passed away Wednesday morning, May 8, 2024, at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

He was born November 22, 1946, in Kankakee, the son of Daniel and Mary (McGrath) Cavanaugh. On October 8, 1966, he married Kathleen (Kax) Arseneau at St. Rose of Lima, Kankakee. Bill sold international trucks and was the Otto Township Supervisor since his election in 2012.

Bill was a fun-loving family man, and always put his family first. He was known to always have a smile for everyone and had a positive attitude. His jokes and quick-witted comments showed the tremendous sense of humor he had on a daily basis. He was an avid Chicago White Sox and Illini fan. He loved spending time at the Kankakee Speedway as crew chief for his son, Mike, # 6 car. Bill also enjoyed listening to country music, working outside on his property, and going to the rodeo.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 57 years, Kax Cavanaugh of Kankakee; son and daughter-in-law, Mike and Dina Cavanaugh of St. Cloud, FL; a grandson, Mitch Cavanaugh of Denver, CO; two step-grandsons, Tyler Surprenant of Bradley and Travis Surprenant of St. Cloud, FL; a step-great grandson, Syllas; siblings, Ray (Kay) Cavanaugh of Oro Valley, AZ and Mary Schott of Limestone; sisters-in-law, Joann Cavanaugh of Braidwood and

Shirley Cavanaugh of Custer Park; and special nephew, Chris (Tonya) Cavanaugh of Braidwood; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Bill is preceded in death by his loving children; daughter, Marnie Cavanaugh-Wyatt, who passed in 1998 and infant son, John Cavanaugh; grandson, Cole Cavanaugh, who passed in 2023; brothers, John Cavanaugh who passed in 2022 and Frances Cavanaugh who passed in 2024; his sister, Kathleen Gatlin who passed in 2000; as well as a niece, Catherine Russell who passed in 2023.

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, May 25, 2024, from 11 a.m. until the memorial service at 2 p.m. with Deacon Pat Skelly officiating. Cremation Rites were accorded.

Memorials may be made to the wishes of the family.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 25. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Jensen Funeral Home
3639 EAST State Route 17
Kankakee, IL 60901
jensenfuneralhomes@yahoo.com

Memorial Service

MAY 25. 2:00 PM (CT)

Jensen Funeral Home
3639 EAST State Route 17
Kankakee, IL 60901
jensenfuneralhomes@yahoo.com

Tribute Wall



“ *"In Loving Memory" 30" Chime was purchased for the family of Bill Cavanaugh.*



May 23, 2024 at 03:59 PM



“ *Great guy. Thoughts, prayers and sympathies are with Kathleen and the rest of the family*

John Bourrell - May 22, 2024 at 08:53 PM



“ *Maureen & Jeff and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bill Cavanaugh.*

Maureen & Jeff and family - May 22, 2024 at 10:59 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bill Cavanaugh.*



May 22, 2024 at 10:59 AM

MB

“ *Michael & Sandy Bach purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Bill Cavanaugh.*



Michael & Sandy Bach - May 17, 2024 at 10:24 AM

ER

“ *Kax,
Sorry for your loss.
Prayers to you and your family.*



Ed and Nancy Rodgers - May 16, 2024 at 04:55 PM

CP

“ *I was saddened to hear of the death of my cousin Bill and so soon after two of his brothers, John and Francis. One of my favorite memories was when we were children and in the summer the families would gather for a picnic and then later as adults in more recent times we would once again gather in a park for a family picnic which included our children and grandchildren. I also remember playing baseball with the cousins including Bill and his brothers as well as my 4 brothers. It was truly a wonderful time in our growing up years. Some day we will once again all be reunited. My prayers are with Kax and all the family.
God Bless
Love
Carole Cavanaugh Pajak*

Carole Cavanaugh Pajak - May 15, 2024 at 04:55 PM