



## Craig E. Penley

January 15, 1946 - December 26, 2025

Craig E. Penley, 79, of Benton, Kentucky, formerly of Bonfield, passed away Friday, December 26, 2025.

He was born January 15, 1946, in Kankakee, IL, the son of Teddy L. and Betty Jean (Cote) Penley. He worked for Crown, Cork, and Seal for many years. On September 19, 1981, he married Judi Prairie-Williams in Bourbonnais, IL. Craig was a member of Cowboy Church in Draffenville, KY and People's Church in Bourbonnais, IL.

Craig had many interests and hobbies. He loved horseback riding and cutting. He also enjoyed hunting, fishing, golfing, painting, weightlifting, gardening, racquetball, and pickleball. Craig was also an eternal tinkerer. He loved music and played string instruments, specifically the Mandolin and Guitar. Most of all Craig loved spending time with his wife, whether it was camping with the horses or on the dance floor.

He is survived by his wife, Judi Penley of Benton, KY; sons, Chad Penley of Louisiana and Curt (Cathy) Penley of St. Anne; step children, John (Renee) Williams of Limestone and Kim (Mark) LaFlamme-Thorson of Bradley; sister, Sandra Konopacke; sister-in-law, Judith Penley of Georgia; grandchildren, Chase, Chance, Chelsea, Cody, Megan, Stephanie, Chris, Bryan, Rachel, and Kyle; several great grandchildren; best friends, Tony Moore of Bradley, Sue &

Ben Allen of Kansas.

Preceding him in death are his parents; brother, Gary Penley; brother-in-law, Tom Konopacke; and best friend, Joe Barrie.

Visitation will be held Wednesday, December 31, 2025, from 9:30am until the funeral service at 11:30am. Burial will immediately follow at Momence Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the wishes of the family.

# Cemetery Details

## Momence Cemetery

Momence, IL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 31. 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

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

## Funeral Service

DEC 31. 11:30 AM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

CK

“ Charles Knighten lit a candle in memory of Craig E. Penley



charles knighten - January 05 at 07:53 PM

LC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Lana Carpenter - January 01 at 11:36 AM

MZ

“ Kim, John and Chad and family,  
Sorry for your loss, keeping you and your families in our thoughts and prayers. I had the pleasure of meeting your Dad at People's Church playing his mandolin and guitar with my Dad, John Mazzuchi and my hubby Brian Zasada Sr. Craig, rest now your work here on earth is done

Madonna ( Mazzuchi) and Brian Zasada, Sr - December 31, 2025 at 04:05 PM

SP

“ Stephen & Alice Penley lit a candle in memory of Craig E. Penley



Stephen & Alice Penley - December 30, 2025 at 11:37 PM

SP

Craig will be dearly missed, such a kind & thoughtful gentleman that loved the Lord & showed it through his music & his kindness towards so many others. ❤️ Prayers for his incredible wife Judi & his entire family! 🙏

Stephen & Alice Penley - December 30, 2025 at 11:50 PM

RJ

“ I was fortunate enough to meet craig at kankakee ymca and have quite few laughs. I missed his being there when he moved and was glad when he would stop by once in awhile. A gentleman's gentleman for sure. Prayers of peace for you and the family. 🙏

Robert J Perez Jr - December 30, 2025 at 09:15 PM

BB

“ I am so sorry to hear of Craig's passing. I have wonderful memories horseback riding with Craig, Judi and their friends. I especially loved cooking out after the rides and relaxing with a glass of wine and listening to him and his friends play music. Judi my heart goes out to you and your family.

Becke Boudreau - December 30, 2025 at 08:30 PM

BP

“ we remember the good times we had at the Penley Family Reunion every year. Craig furnished always played music for us all to sing hymns together. He will be greatly missed. Sending prayers for Judy and the family, Butch & Sharon Penley

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**Butch Penley** - December 30, 2025 at 05:33 PM

SP

We loved this dear gentleman ❤️ & his incredible wife Judi, he will be dearly missed at our family reunion. He brought so much joy & kindness to so many people & now Heaven is a little brighter because of his presence.

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**Stephen & Alice Penley** - December 30, 2025 at 10:39 PM

BA

“ Butch, Gloria and Andi...cousins purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Craig E. Penley.



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**Butch, Gloria and Andi...cousins** - December 30, 2025 at 05:19 PM

MT

“ Mark and Jill Thompson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Craig E. Penley.

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**Mark and Jill Thompson** - December 30, 2025 at 02:06 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Craig E. Penley.



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December 30, 2025 at 02:06 PM



“ Sending our heartfelt condolences. So sorry to hear of Craig's passing. Craig was an awesome man and a true cowboy. He was a gentle and kind soul, with a heart of gold. His spiritual love for others reflected his belief in God. He was a light that shined brightly. An angel among us. Craig will be greatly missed! Sorry we will not be able to make it to the funeral. Our hearts will be with you! Big Hugs and Prayers sent! Till we meet again. 💔🙏 Love, Glenn and Dawn



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Dawn Potchebski - December 29, 2025 at 09:22 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Craig E. Penley.



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December 29, 2025 at 09:13 PM

SS

“ Steve, Mary & the First Auto Color staff purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Craig E. Penley.



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**Steve, Mary & the First Auto Color staff** - December 29, 2025 at 08:15 PM

JS

“ Judy Steele lit a candle in memory of Craig E. Penley



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**Judy Steele** - December 29, 2025 at 07:09 PM

KC

“ Kelly Cooper lit a candle in memory of Craig E. Penley



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**Kelly Cooper** - December 29, 2025 at 06:08 PM

CK

*Sorry for your loss judy Craig was a good man and a true husband to you and a good friend to me and my mom Virginia he is going to be missed he played the guitar really good and matalin God be with you in your time of need*

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**charles knighten** - January 05 at 07:51 PM



“ *Kelsey Offermann purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Craig E. Penley.*



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**Kelsey Offermann** - December 29, 2025 at 05:11 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Craig E. Penley.*



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December 29, 2025 at 04:29 PM