



John Robert "Jack" Carney

October 18, 1944 - April 6, 2026

John Robert "Jack" Carney, 81, of Kankakee, Illinois, passed away peacefully at home on April 6, 2026.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, to Robert "Bob" Carney and Ruth (née MacIver), Jack was raised in Arlington Heights, where he built a foundation of family values and lasting memories. He cherished childhood trips back to Litchfield, New Hampshire, to visit relatives and stayed connected to his extended family throughout his life.

Jack had a lifelong passion for cars, which shaped both his career and his hobbies. He found great joy behind the wheel and took pride in maintaining his sports cars over the years. Jack worked in various aspects of the automobile equipment industry and owned his own automotive service station in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. In 1987, he moved his family to Kankakee to be closer to aging parents, a decision that reflected how much family meant to him.

One of Jack's favorite places was Road America in Elkhart Lake, WI, where he attended races with his father as a young man and later shared that same experience with his family. Jack appreciated a wide range of musical styles, and especially enjoyed summer

evenings with family at Ravinia Festival, listening to bands like James Taylor, Earth, Wind & Fire and Chicago. He was known for his quick wit and was always ready with a comment that could make people laugh.

Above all, Jack was a man of deep and genuine faith. As a devoted follower of Christ, an active member of Calvary Bible Church in Bourbonnais, and a spiritual mentor to many, his faith shaped the way he lived and cared for others.

Jack is survived by his beloved wife of 58 years, Marilyn (née Schleef) Carney; his daughters, Gretchen (Bob) Van Helden and Heather (Keith) Ohm; and his grandchildren, Sean (Makenzie) Van Helden, Erica (Jacob Johnson) Van Helden, and Alaina Ohm.

Visitation will be held at 4:00pm, followed by a funeral service at 5:00pm on Friday, April 10, at Calvary Bible Church, 2587 E Armour Road, Bourbonnais, Illinois.

Jack will be remembered for his love of family, his strong faith, his sense of humor, and the many memories he created with those he loved.

Tribute Wall

KS

“ Marilyn, Gretchen and Heather: I am so sorry to hear of Jack's death. We had a lot of good times with your family in Fond du Lac. Jack was a good guy and I know you will all miss him so much. Sincerely, Kay Sell, Plant City, FL.

Kay Sell - April 12 at 05:22 PM

KL

“ Jack,
So many good times that we have shared over these many years. My good friend, it's not "good by" but "I'll see you later". "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints" Psalm 116:15.

Ken Lyons - April 10 at 11:49 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of John Robert "Jack" Carney.



April 10 at 10:49 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Robert "Jack" Carney.

April 10 at 10:49 AM

MT

“ Jack was a dear friend and his passing will definitely leave a giant void in my life ! Jack was my mentor and spiritual advisor and we shared many of the same passions for sport cars. Music and racing ! I enjoyed our lunchtimes we shared on many occasions and I always felt like I had just had lunch with father because Jack understood me and always gave me loving advice just like my father used to when he was alive . I will miss them both terribly ! My prayers for jacks wife whom he always said was a saint and all of jacks family ! Rest in peace my brother ! Love Michael T

Michael Tupper - April 09 at 08:42 PM

LS

“ Larry & Shari purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of John Robert "Jack" Carney.



Larry & Shari - April 09 at 02:49 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of John Robert "Jack" Carney.



April 09 at 02:22 PM

DM

“ Sorry to hear of cousin Jack's passing. May memories of a lifetime carry you in this time of grief. Doug MacIver

Doug Maciver - April 09 at 12:58 PM



“ *Glorious Grace Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Robert "Jack" Carney.*



April 09 at 12:21 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Robert "Jack" Carney.

April 09 at 12:21 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Robert "Jack" Carney.*



April 09 at 11:50 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Robert "Jack" Carney.

April 09 at 11:50 AM