



Floyd "Bud" Bates

November 11, 1937 - May 11, 2016

Floyd "Bud" Bates of Kankakee, age 78, passed away on Wednesday, May 11th at Miller Suites after a courageous 2 ½ year battle against four metastatic melanoma cancers. He was born November 11, 1937 in Grandview, MO to Waneta Pixley and Floyd Bates, Sr. He married Mary Lou Richardson of Springfield, Illinois on April 29, 1967.

He graduated from Finlay Engineering College in Kansas City, MO with a BS Degree in Civil Engineering. He was a licensed Professional Civil Engineer in two states; Illinois and Missouri throughout his entire engineering career. He began his employment after college graduation with IDOT for 12 years in Springfield, Illinois. From there he accepted the position as Vice President of Operations at Azzarelli Construction Company in Kankakee, IL where he worked for 15 years before purchasing Kankakee Concrete, Inc. becoming owner and operator. He later retired from a very large heavy highway construction firm, Harry W. Kuhn in West Chicago, IL.

For many years, Bud was a member of the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers, Kiwanis Club, The Hundred Club, and the Kankakee Elks Lodge 627 where he was Exalted Ruler for two years before falling ill, a member of the Elks Board of Directors receiving "The Elk of the Year Award" and "The Officer of the Year Award." Bud had a vision for the Elks' Country Club sharing lots of ideas. His pride and joy was the restoration and renovation of the only remaining Elks' cottage that was abandoned and hidden for decades in the weeds and trees. Before beginning this project, he was successful in soliciting

donations from friends, businesses and community members to completely pay for its entire renovation/restoration. Bud and his buddy, Dennis Deany, took three years to complete their Elks' project together.

He dearly loved all sports. He was an avid Blackhawks fan and proudly wore his #88 Patrick Kane sweater everywhere, a huge Chicago Bears and Cubs fan. On June 22, 2014 he threw out the first pitch at the Cubs game. He enjoyed snow skiing, fishing in Canada, playing golf at the Elks' Country Club every day, enjoyed playing Gin with his buddies, cooking/grilling, dancing and traveling. Every 4th of July he would make his "famous ribs" and was nicknamed the "Kankakee Rib King" 40 years ago. He set family traditions for many years with family holiday get-togethers.

He had a wood working shop "second to none" that he truly enjoyed. He made furniture, jewelry boxes, tables, desks, cedar chests, and speaker's podiums for the Kankakee Elks' Country Club and the Kankakee Country Club, 5 grandfather clocks for each family member and his wife. Such a perfectionist! His famous sayings were "Get 'er done" and "Let's go, let's go, let's go"! His passion was his family and his English bulldog, "Buddy". Even though he worked very long hours, family always came first – his wife, children and grandchildren.

He loved life and lived everyday to the max. Upon retirement he and his wife traveled extensively cross country through the USA and Europe. Their most recent trip was to Hawaii where he enjoyed zip lining, parasailing and best of all "seeing Pearl Harbor", a long-life time dream.

He is survived by his wife Mary Lou of 49 years, 3 sons; Woody (Floyd Bates III) of Louisburg, KS, Perry Bates (Nancy) of Edmond, OK, Terry Bates (Lisa) of Chicago, daughter; Keli Fayard (Tony Marks) of Charlotte, NC , 9 grandchildren; Jessica (Brad) Anderson and "soon to be great granddaughter", Lauren Bates, Valeri Bates, Maya and Grace Fayard, Chad and Natalie Bates, and Abby and Tyler Bates, nephew; Jeff Bollman, Las Vegas, NV, sister -in- law and brother-in-law, Diane & Stephen Cooper, a niece and nephew of Springfield, IL.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and sister, Lana Tauoa. Cremation rites will be accorded.

Visitation will be on Wednesday, May 18 from 4:00-7:00 pm at Schreffler Funeral Homes, West Kankakee. Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, May 19th by Fr. Sunny Castillo at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 19th at St. Martin of Tours Church, Kankakee. Interment will be at All Saints Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Kankakee Elks' Lodge 627 or to Hospice of Kankakee Valley. Please sign his online guestbook at www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com .

Cemetery Details

All Saints Cemetery

1839 W. State Rte. 102
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 18. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel
1900 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-2421
<https://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com/>

Funeral Mass

MAY 19. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church
907 S. Seventh Ave.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 933-7177

Tribute Wall



“ *Floyd "Bud" Bates*

February 03, 2023 at 04:30 AM



“ *Sorry to hear of the loss of your loved one Mary Lou & family. Thoughts & prayers for you. I worked at St. Mary's Hospital in Dietary at the time and would cater to Administration and remember good memories of Mary Lou talking about her family.*



Vickie (Cox) Bertrand - May 21, 2016 at 04:59 PM



“ *Grew up with Bud in Grandview. Love you old friend.*

Frank Long - May 18, 2016 at 01:29 PM



“ *With deepest sympathy to all of the family. One of my fondest memories is of the trip to Springfield when Terry was honored by the governor for his student film. What wonderful love and pride he had for his family! I know you will feel that strength forever. Rebecca Gonski*

Rebecca Gonski - May 18, 2016 at 01:29 PM



“ *Mary Lou and family! Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this very difficult time. Love and prayers and hugs! Jay and Lori Haden*

Lori Haden - May 16, 2016 at 08:27 PM

AB

“ *Arthur Buettner purchased the California Healthy for the family of Floyd "Bud" Bates.*



Arthur Buettner - May 14, 2016 at 05:56 PM

LG

“ *My thoughts and prayers to Mary Lou and her entire family. I worked with Mary Lou at Provena Hospitals back in the day and I always remember her being the consummate professional. I remember when Keli's twins were born and how excited that made Mary Lou. Please accept my heartfelt condolences!*

Lynne Gleeson - May 14, 2016 at 04:32 PM

DH

“ I could go on for days with story's , but I'd take up too much room.
One more thou !
Bud an LuLu , as he called her and Tina an I were driving on the
Pacific Coast highway going
to Hearsts Castle and and in the distance we could see it , I said "
I'll bet that's it " Bud says " if it's not , he's got one hell of a neighbor
"

One more !

A couple of weeks after they moved in next door , Bud and I were
standing on his driveway one beautiful Sunday morning and Bud
says " I think I'll tear out this driveway and put a new one "
About an hour later we hear what sounds like thunder , here's Bud
out there with a Big piece of machinery tearing up the drive .
That was Bud , Mr. Getter Done "
He will always be in out hearts !
Denny and Tina Howell

dennis howell - May 13, 2016 at 08:35 AM

DH

“ Back about 48 years ago Bud and Marylou moved in next door to
Tina and I and about a week later we were standing in his bare back
yard on a cool night and Bud says " let's build a fire Denny " where
Bud ? He said " well right here " with that , he picked up some logs ,
grabbed his Propane torch and fired if up !
If you've ever been in his back yard, the rest is history ! My
compliments Bud !
There was only One Bud Bates , I loved him , may he rest in peace !
Denny Howell

dennis howell - May 13, 2016 at 08:18 AM

JP

“ Dearest Mary Lou and family: It is such a fond memory, the trip to Boyne with the kids,.. May God be with all of you and know that Bud is resting in peace, for sure.

Sincere sympathies, George and Jane Potter

Jane & George Potter - May 12, 2016 at 11:16 AM