



George "Maxie" Buis

March 7, 1948 - September 29, 2024

George "Maxie" Buis, 76, of Aroma Park passed away on September 29th, 2024 at his home. He was born on March 7th, 1948 in Austin, Indiana to Freeman and Fayette (Satterwhite) Buis. Maxie married Haroldean Shea on September 19th, 1968 in Momence.

Maxie was a signal foreman for 31 years for Illinois Central/ Canadian National railroad. He loved metal detecting and collecting arrowheads and Indian relics. Maxie also enjoyed hunting and fishing. In his downtime, Maxie liked completing word puzzles and crosswords, listening to country music, and watching old westerns.

Maxie is survived by his beloved wife of 56 years, Haroldean; two daughters Carlene (Keith) Runner of Aroma Park, and Marla (Harvey) Penley of Indiana; two sisters, Helen (Mitch) Mitchell of Missouri, and Lin Kaulins of Kansas; five grandchildren, Samantha (Samyul) Fouse of Gilman, Tyler (Lauren) Penley of Bourbonnais, Nick (Moriah) Penley of Tennessee, Breanne (Christopher) Keller of Bradley and Louis (Nicole) Runner of Metropolis; a close cousin, Elaine Culp-McDaniel of Indiana, and several great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Maxie is preceded in death by his parents, two sisters Jackie Johnson and Sandra Cunningham; and one brother Richard Buis.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A memorial visitation will be held on Thursday, October 3rd at 11am until the time of the 1pm memorial service at Schreffler funeral home in Kankakee. Memorials may be made to family

wishes.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

OCT 3. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

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

Memorial Service

OCT 3. 1:00 PM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel
1900 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
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Tribute Wall

GR

“ I’ll miss you Max. Great having you in my life so great getting to know you and your family over the last 30 years. I’m so thankful for getting hired on the railroad and working for you. I came in at a time that we learned a little about old practices when signaling was more than just a plug and play back in 1994. Back in his day it was designed varnished but in our time painted which changed from grey to white to make it brighter. Plywood was set on sawhorses straight edges and levels were used to make all the equipment to fit neatly in its space. Holes drilled, equipment was mounted and set up a certain way. Tags were stamped for each end of the wire and were nailed to the board straight. I was the gang tag maker. Cases and bungalows had to be wired in both the front and backsides as neatly as possible and that was Greg and Dale it was a work of art and by looking at it you knew who did it. This was Max goal and proud of it. You didn’t want Max stating one of these things don’t look like the other. Max wanted it done a certain way and that was our job and what we did. Manual labor was a big part as well. He would say well there’s wires nearby so leave the digger on the truck and we pick barred and shoveled most cable runs and knee high to the tallest man and yes Max used the measuring tape too. Another thing it better level, his other favorite tool, every foundation had to be tamped put in place then backfilled smooth. Lastly white rock covered everything to make it clean and keep the weeds out from around the equipment. Hmm funny how the details fill yer mind looking back 30 yrs. This was his pride and expectation he had and what we did. I’m so glad to of worked with this generation of people and could probably talk similar stories of them too. I’m really glad to of experienced this and be taught by Max and what signalmen were. Thank you Max for having faith in me giving me a chance, and keeping me through the probation period. You definitely gave me a run for my money. Thanks and till we meet again bye for now. Watch over us and your family and earn your keep with them wings. Lord knows we need all the help we can in this crazy time right now. Take care.
Love



Gina

Gina Rasmussen - October 01, 2024 at 12:00 PM

DA

Nicely said Gina! Mark agrees with you! Max taught well! He was one of a kind! Rest easy Max! You earned your wings! Praying for his family!

Mark and Denise Asbrand

Denise Asbrand - October 03, 2024 at 09:12 PM

LS

It was great working with Max, he was one of the best. After he left a location you knew his work. I cherish the time we ate Chicken at Pinkey's in Gilman. Rest well Bud!

Lloyd Stovall - October 04, 2024 at 01:24 PM

HJ

Maxie was my friend.

Harvey Chase, Jr - June 22, 2025 at 11:11 AM