



## Jerrold "Jerry" William Fisher

April 7, 1942 - March 10, 2024

Jerrold "Jerry" William Fisher, 81, of Martinton, passed away on March 10th at his daughter's home in Kankakee, surrounded by loved ones. Born on April 7, 1942 in Kankakee, Jerry was the son of John "Jack" William Fisher and Alma (Martin) Fisher.

Jerry grew up in the country outside of St. Anne, Illinois. It was here that he first developed his love of rabbits, showing them for 4H. Later in life, he began raising rabbits again and traveled to shows all over the country during his retirement. He was a lifetime member of Champagne D-Argent Federation and won many awards with his rabbits including Best of Breed at two national conventions of the American Rabbit Breeders Association.

Not only did he love rabbits, but all other animals as well, including horses, goats, dogs and cats. He spent many years at his home in Martinton caring for three ponies, two pygmy goats, 50 or 60 rabbits, a pitbull rescue dog and several cats. One of his rabbits, Rosco, lived in his home for several years and became quite popular through his own Facebook page.

Until an illness prevented him from doing so, Jerry was extremely active. At St. Anne High School, he played football and baseball. Later, he played on a men's softball team, a bowling league and spent many hours at the golf course. He worked out and ran regularly for many years. Later in life, he tended to animals, worked around the house, mowing or mending a fence, or taking care of his garden. He was an avid gardener and would order his own seeds to start in the house before planting them in the spring. He grew many

vegetables, fruits, flowers and trees over his lifetime and his tomatoes were legendary.

He followed in the footsteps of his father and joined Ironworkers Local 465 at the age of 17, working as an ironworker for over 30 years. He'd often point out buildings in the community that he had helped to build, including both hospitals in Kankakee. He served for several years as a union representative. After retiring as an ironworker, he went back to school at Kankakee Community College and later used both his education and personal experience to serve as a drug and alcohol counselor at Duane Dean Behavioral Health Center in Kankakee for several years. He was a recovering alcoholic himself and had been sober 42 years at his death. Before his final retirement, he spent 7 ½ years as the director of code enforcement for the city of Kankakee.

Jerry will be missed by all of those who knew and loved him. He leaves behind a sweetheart and life partner, Caren Myers, and two daughters, Lynn (Jim) Dill and Lisa (Keith) Covington, seven grandchildren, Amber Mandrell of Urbana, Stephanie (Nick) Tanin of Lake Stevens, Washington, Dustin Jacobs of Urbana, Illinois, Lindsay (Jake) LeCount of Japan, Cody Shea of Fort Wayne, Indiana, Jim Dill of Kankakee, Illinois, Andrea Dill of Paxton, Illinois, and Kayla Dill of Kankakee, Illinois, eight great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild and a brother, John "Jack" (Cathy) Fisher. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister, Phyllis "Gayle" Smothers, and a brother-in-law, Roger Smothers.

Visitation will be held from 9 a.m. until the time of the 11 a.m. Celebration of Life Service on Saturday, March 23, 2024 at Schreffler Funeral Home in Kankakee.

Memorials may be made to Uplifted Care in Bourbonnais, Illinois.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

MAR 23. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

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

## Celebration of Life Service

MAR 23. 11:00 AM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ I met Jerry through a support group when I moved back to Illinois in 1983. He was a friend & a nice guy. He became my support group sponsor in 1993, which was helpful in getting me to where I am right. My prayers & condolences go out to his family.

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**Roger Robinson** - August 19, 2024 at 10:18 PM

LI

“ Lisa lit a candle in memory of Jerrold "Jerry" William Fisher



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**Lisa** - March 18, 2024 at 09:55 PM

MS

“ My deepest condolences. I only met Jerry once in person...of course...at a rabbit show. We were friends on Facebook and chatted about his postings from A Course in Miracles (ACIM). He will be missed.

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**Marian Smith** - March 13, 2024 at 10:24 PM