



Joel P. Gereaux

March 13, 1936 - May 2, 2026

Joel P. Gereaux, 90, of Bradley, Illinois, peacefully passed away on Saturday, May 2, 2026, surrounded by his loving family.

Joel was born on March 13, 1936, in Watseka, Illinois, the son of Leonard and Alice (Sandquist) Gereaux. Joel was the last of six children. He graduated from Bradley-Bourbonnais Community High School in 1954. On August 31, 1957, Joel married Carol Swinford and they were the proud parents of four children.

Joel was a homebuilder and remodeled homes around the community. He was a former trustee for the Village of Bradley, the president of the Bradley Public Library Board, and a former longtime member of The Hundred Club. Joel was also a member of Bradley Evangelical United Methodist Church, where he served on the administrative council. He was a longtime Chicago White Sox and Bears fan and enjoyed Nascar and southern gospel music.

Preceding Joel in death were his parents; his sisters, Ruth, Evelyn, and Faith; his brothers, Mark and Marvin; and his beloved son, Jeff and his beloved dog, Dusty Miller.

He is survived by his wife, Carol (Swinford) Gereaux of 68 years; his children,

Tim Gereaux (Jill) of Kankakee, Julie (Gereaux) Smith (Bob) of Columbia, Missouri, Todd Gereaux (Mary Kay) of Essex; seven grandchildren, Jared, Allison, Joel, Jessica, Mason, Michael, and Matthew; two great-grandchildren, Ada and Wesley; and many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Services will be held at Schreffler Funeral Homes in Kankakee on Friday, May 8, 2026.

A family visitation will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Public visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., with the funeral service beginning at 12:00 p.m. Burial will follow at Kankakee Memorial Gardens.

Memorials may be made to Uplifted Care in Bourbonnais and Kankakee County Humane Foundation.

His legacy will live on through his humor and kindness. Like he always said, "Don't fight, guys. There's not many of us left."

Cemetery Details

Kankakee Memorial Gardens

15 South 3000 E. Rd.
Kankakee, IL 60901

Upcoming Events

Visitation

MAY 8. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

MAY 8. 12:00 PM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel
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Kankakee, IL 60901
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