



## Billie Bryant

January 6, 1928 - May 31, 2026

Billie E. Bryant, of Centralia, passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 31, 2026, at the age of 98. Born on Friday, January 6, 1928, in Centralia, Illinois, the son of Ernie Bryant and Dora (Truitt) Bryant. On May 8, 1954 he married the love of his life, Jo-Rene Richards, at the First Baptist Church in Centralia and she preceded him in death on May 12, 2015. Billie lived a full and remarkable life, leaving behind a legacy of hard work, dedication, and love.

A man of many talents and a true "handyman," Billie was well-known as an avid craftsman and mechanic. He took great pride in being a self-employed truck driver, a career that reflected his industrious nature and unwavering work ethic. His commitment extended beyond his profession, as he honorably served his country in both the Army and Navy, displaying his deep sense of duty and patriotism.

Billie was preceded in death by his parents, his beloved wife: Jo-Rene Bryant, and nephews: Ronnie Bryant and Bruce Campbell. He is survived by a close-knit family who cherished him deeply: three nieces, Susie Ruhl and husband Rick of Irvington, Janna Deadmond and husband Vernon of Odin, and Lisa Scharnhorst and husband Mike of Salem; two nephews, John Campbell and wife Dona of Springfield, MO, and Steve Prosis and wife Mary Jo of Hoyleton. Billie's legacy extends to his many great nieces and great nephews who will carry forward his family's traditions and values.

A private graveside service will be held at a later date at Deadmond Cemetery in Odin, offering family and close friends a moment of reflection and remembrance. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Deadmond Cemetery, ensuring his memory and contributions to the community will endure for generations to come. Contributions will be accepted at Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home, located at 235 North Sycamore Street, Centralia, Illinois 62801.

Billie's family welcomes online condolences, which may be sent by visiting [www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com](http://www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com) or the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home Facebook page.