



## Cortland Parker

October 29, 1947 - August 13, 2019

Cortland “Cort” W. Parker, 71, of Irvington, passed Tuesday, August 13, 2019 at his home.

He was born October 29, 1947 in Benton, IL, son of Leamon “Ted” and Hattie (Cook) Parker. Cort married Doris Hungate on February 3, 1968 in East Benton Baptist Church in Benton, IL and she survives him in Irvington.

In the early years of his life, he lived in Benton, IL where he spent a lot of quality time with his grandparents: Earl and Pearl Shaffer. His grandpa taught Cort many life lessons that he passed on to others along the way.

Cort was Vietnam Veteran having served in the 553 Combat Eng. division.

After coming home in March of 1969, he enrolled in Rankin Technical College and earned a degree in diesel technology and was top of his class. He worked at Booth Motor Company and E.W. Warner. He then worked for Ameren for 30 years as a diesel technician. He was known to have the tallest flag pole which he was proud of as he loved his country and proudly displayed the American flag in his front yard. Cortland enjoyed traveling to the 553rd Combat Engineer Reunions that were held throughout the U.S. and visiting with his buddies that he served with in the Vietnam War.

He served on the Irvington fire department and village board. He also belonged to the VFW, American Legion, and former Commander of the DAV. In the summer of 2015, being the commander of the DAV, he, his wife, Lyle and Wanda Arnold, Rich Simer, and group from Calumet Street Church remodeled the entire main floor, built a bathroom which would be shared by

the DAV, and built an apartment for homeless veterans in the DAV on N. Hickory. Rich Simer was very helpful in teaching Doris and Wanda the proper technique in mudding, taping, and sanding drywall. Doris textured the entire upper floor in the apartment they created for homeless veterans. Cort was very proud of the DAV Hall after he and his loyal helpers completed it. Wanda Arnold decorated it per Cort's wishes and it was a classy hall when Cort was the commander. While he was commander of the DAV, approximately five homeless veterans lived in the apartment Cort had created. He believed the DAV purpose was to help homeless veterans and veterans in general. He loved to travel with his wife. He and his wife traveled extensively throughout the U.S. in their RV and was always up for the next trip. He had made several fishing trips to Lake of the Woods in Canada. The last trip there, he took his wife to show how beautiful it was and to experience the beauty of the area. They most recently took a trip of a lifetime to the interior of Alaska in June and July of 2018. They often talk to friends they made on their trip last year.

Cort was adored by his wife's family including nieces and nephews of all ages. Cort was a very patient man with teaching the kids to fix, hunt, or whatever they would need help with.

He had a special brother-in-law, Donnie Hungate, that he enjoyed hunting with during deer season each year which strengthened their bond throughout the years.

Cort leaves behind his beloved wife, Doris, brother-in-law Donnie Hungate, sister-in-law Nina Hungate of Evansville, IN and Leda Bishoff of CA, nephews Justin Gauer and Nathan Hungate, and a host of friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, mother, and brother: Robert Parker. Funeral Services for Cortland Parker will be held Monday, August 19, 2019 at 1:00 PM at Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home in Centralia with Pastor John Willis officiating. Entombment will follow at Hillcrest Lakeside Chapel in Centralia. Visitation will be held Monday, August 19, 2019 from 11:00 AM till time of service at 1:00 PM. Military Honors will be accorded at the graveside

by the American Legion Post 446 and the V.F.W. Post 2055. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Irvington Fire Department and will be accepted at Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home at 235 North Sycamore Street Centralia, Illinois 62801, (618)532-3523, who is honored to be of service to the Parker Family. Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting [www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com](http://www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## **Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home Inc.**

235 North Sycamore  
Centralia, IL 62801

# Previous Events

## **Visitation**

AUG **19**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM.

Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home

## **Funeral Service**

AUG **19**. 1:00 PM.

Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sutherland Funeral Homes, Cemetery and Cremation Services created a Webcast in memory of Cortland Parker*

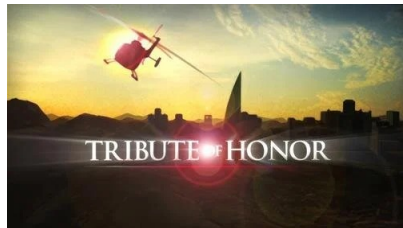


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**Sutherland Funeral Homes, Cemetery and Cremation Services** - August 19, 2019 at 02:00 PM



“ *Sutherland Funeral Homes, Cemetery and Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Cortland Parker*



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**Sutherland Funeral Homes, Cemetery and Cremation Services** - August 16, 2019 at 05:17 PM

JS

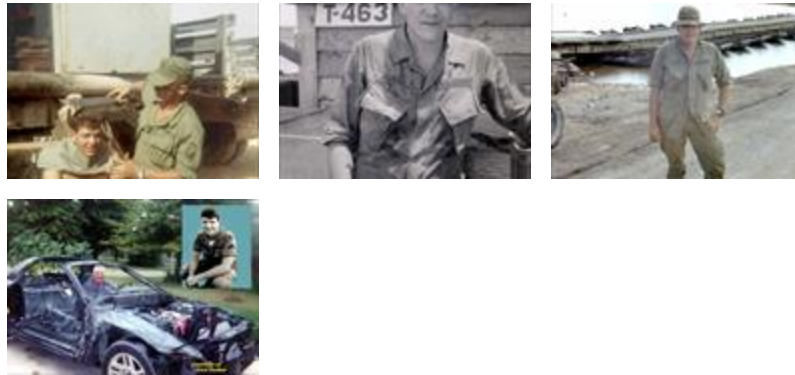
“ *My name is John Stypick and I served in the same unit as Cort. I did not know him there and only met him briefly at the Vegas reunion. After watching the beautiful tribute I realize that all our members have so much in common. We were brothers then and will always be brothers. My deepest sympathies for your loss. See you at sundown brother.*

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**John Stypick** - August 19, 2019 at 01:05 AM

BF

“ 4 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Bill Fitzgerald** - August 18, 2019 at 07:23 PM

VN

“ *Doris, I am so very sorry for your loss! Everyone I knew loved Cort! He was a sweet gentle man, who so dearly loved you, loved fishing and his cars... He will be missed! Hugs and prayers as you enter another phase of your journey.*

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**Vickie (Hungate) Nelson** - August 18, 2019 at 04:14 PM

SF

*Hi Doris, Thinking of you with prayer as you travel this journey without Cort, the love of your life. May your memories bless your heart with peace & love.*

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**Sue Fulks** - August 18, 2019 at 10:00 PM



“ 64 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Sutherland Funeral Homes, Cemetery and Cremation Services** - August 16, 2019  
at 05:13 PM



“ *I grew up knowing you my whole life. you was a great man and could always make any person smile. you will truly be missed. my prayers are with Doris at this tough time and all your loved ones. Our Deepest Sympathy From the Wilson Family & Your Favorite Munchkin. . .*



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**Lesley Wilson** - August 14, 2019 at 11:14 PM