



Michael L Ellis

November 19, 1951 - July 25, 2025

Michael L. Ellis, a beloved husband, father, papa, brother, and friend, passed away peacefully on Friday, July 25, 2025, at the age of 73. Born on November 19, 1951, son of Jack Ellis and Catherine "Katie" (Uhls) Ellis. Michael, affectionately known as "Hawk," was a lifelong resident of Centralia, Illinois, where he dedicated his life to his family, community, and passions. On May 30, 1971, Hawk married the love of his life, Sharon Nofrey, and they were able to share life together for 54 years.

Hawk was a man of many talents and interests. A proud member of the 1969 Centralia Football Wild Bunch, his athletic spirit continued throughout his life as he coached Centralia youth sports for 30 years. His love for sports extended to playing in the Professional Bowling Association and participating in a local bowling league. A fan of the Chicago Cubs, Centralia Orphans, Illini, and Chicago Bears, he shared his enthusiasm for sports with those around him, creating a legacy of camaraderie and team spirit.

Hawk was also a successful entrepreneur, owning and operating SIPS Magazine. His commitment to the community was evident through his involvement with the Centralia and Wamac Jaycees and his past role as a member of the CHS Booster Club. Known for his sense of humor and love for family, Hawk cherished every moment spent with his loved ones. Hawk will forever be remembered for his generosity, sense of humor, and the indelible

mark he left on his community and family. He will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Sharon Ellis of Centralia, and their five children: Tischa Daugherty and Larry Penland of Centralia, Tony Ellis of Texas, Tim Ellis and wife Mary-Katherine of Georgia, Todd Ellis of Mt. Vernon, and Tom Ellis of Centralia. Michael leaves behind ten grandchildren and five great-grandchildren, who were the light of his life. He also leaves his brothers, Dale Ellis and wife Cathy of Wamac, Brad Ellis of Cobden, and a sister, Patty Ellis of Virden. Michael is fondly remembered by his sisters-in-law: Brenda Berger, Kathy Nofrey, Debbie Opolony and husband Jim, and Lisa Passman and husband Don, along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Hawk was preceded in death by his parents, Jack and Katie Ellis, his brother Wally Ellis, sister-in-law Norma Ellis, father and mother-in-law Bill and Norma Nofrey, and son-in-law Joey Daugherty.

To honor Hawk's life, visitation will be held on Wednesday, July 30, 2025, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home in Centralia. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Memorial Park in Centralia. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Wild Bunch, reflecting Michael's lifelong commitment to sports and community. The Ellis family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home, located at 235 North Sycamore Street, Centralia, Illinois, (618)532-3523, for their compassionate services. Online condolences can be shared by visiting www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com or the Funeral Home Facebook page.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 30. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home
235 N. Sycamore Street
Centralia, IL 62801

Graveside Service

JUL 30. 1:00 PM - 1:15 PM (CT)

Hillcrest Memorial Park
2500 Old Highway 51 North
Sandoval, IL 62882

Tribute Wall



“ *Sutherland Funeral Homes, Cemetery and Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Michael L Ellis*



Sutherland Funeral Homes, Cemetery and Cremation Services - July 30, 2025 at 08:57 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Michael L Ellis.*



July 29, 2025 at 04:57 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michael L Ellis.*

July 29, 2025 at 04:54 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael L Ellis.*



July 29, 2025 at 04:54 PM

GH

“ I will miss him. I spent time with Hawk at basketball games and outings. He always could make you laugh and feel so loved . Rest in peace, my friend.



Gayle Harris - July 29, 2025 at 09:41 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michael L Ellis.

July 28, 2025 at 08:57 PM



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Michael L Ellis.



July 28, 2025 at 08:57 PM

ML

“ Mary Ann Long lit a candle in memory of Michael L Ellis



Mary Ann Long - July 28, 2025 at 02:25 PM