



## Paul Kessler

May 28, 1939 - September 11, 2020

Paul Kessler, 81, of Centralia, passed away Friday, September 11, 2020 at his home.

Paul was born May 28, 1939 in Hardinville, IL, the son of Oscar and Pauline (Osborne) Kessler. He married Marsha Buzzard on February 12, 1982 in Centralia and she survives him.

In addition to his wife Marsha of 38 years, Paul is survived by his son: Matt Kessler and wife Carissa of Columbia, MO; two stepsons: Jeff Berkbigler and wife Sara of Edwardsville, IL and John Berkbigler and wife Rachel of Belleville, IL; nine grandchildren: Payton, Nick, Jersey, Frankie, Jackson, Grant, Ty, Carter, and Lucy; sister-in-law: Mary Jo Kessler of Centralia; brother-in-law Mike Buzzard and wife Diane; mother-in-law: Wanda Morgan of Centralia; many nieces and nephews; and great nieces and nephews.

Paul was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers: Duane "Dewey" Kessler and Danny Kessler.

Paul was a member of the Centralia Elks Lodge #493 and was a charter member of the Centralia Sunrise Rotary Club. He was honored to be a Paul Harris Fellow. He was also a strong believer in recycling and supported Clean

and Green.

Paul was a Class of 1957 graduate of Centralia Township High School where he excelled in sports. He was proudly inducted into the Centralia Sports Hall of Fame. Paul loved playing golf and watching Orphan sports. He especially enjoyed following his grandkids, great nieces, and great nephews as they played sports. PK will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

Per his wishes, cremation rites will be accorded and no public services will be held. Due to COVID restrictions, a private gathering to celebrate Paul's life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made to the Centralia Township High School Class of 1957 scholarship fund or Centralia Orphans Sports Booster Club and will be accepted at the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home and Cremation Services at 235 North Sycamore Street Centralia, Illinois 62801, (618)532-3523, who is honored to be of service to the Kessler Family. Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting [www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com](http://www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com) or the Funeral Home's Facebook Page.

# Tribute Wall

DP

“ Paul was a dear friend from high school. Even though we lost touch after, we caught up at the CHS class of '57 reunions. When I think of those days, Paul was always in my memory bank. So sorry for the Kessler family.

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**Dan Parker** - September 16, 2020 at 10:28 AM

PR

“ My late husband Jack Osborne And I enjoyed our times with the Cousin Kessler “boys”. So sorry for your loss.  
Patti Osborne Reynolds

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**Patti Reynolds** - September 15, 2020 at 10:30 PM

GB

“ Paul and Marsha had been our neighbor for more than thirty years. He was also our first banker when we moved here. Always gracious and friendly. He will be sorely missed. Our deepest sympathies to Marsha and all of Paul's family.

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**Gerard Bohlmann** - September 15, 2020 at 10:20 AM

NA

“ Worked with PK at First State Bank. Good man. Good boss.  
Condolences to the Kessler family. Noland Atchison Orange Park FI

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**Noland Atchison** - September 14, 2020 at 08:26 AM

WH

“ Our prayers and sympathies with family and friends. I met Paul through First State Bank! I always enjoyed seeing Paul and it was a pleasure to work with him in banking matters.

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**Wayne & Vickie Houser** - September 13, 2020 at 10:17 PM

TO

“ *Not only a great cousin but a better friend. Always looked forward to playing a round of golf when home for a visit. A truly great man who will be missed by many. Tim Osborne Arizona*

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**Tim Osborne** - September 13, 2020 at 09:15 PM

GH

“ *Marsha/ Paul's family*

*We are sorry to read that Paul passed. We know that he will be missed by many. The Centralia Sunrise Rotary now has one fewer charter member and and the club will recognize him in some way.*

*George and Patty Hinton*

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**George Hinton** - September 13, 2020 at 08:05 AM

JB

*Joe and I are so sorry to hear of your loss of Paul. He was a special person and we always enjoyed our times with the two of you! Thoughts and prayers to all of the family!*

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**Joe and Vonda Berti** - September 13, 2020 at 01:03 PM

LA

“ *Marsha, We are so sorry for your loss. It was so much fun when all of us went out to dinner and I had such a great time playing golf with Paul at Bogey's On The Lake. Again, our deepest sympathy to you and the family.*

*Lorren & Rose Ann Abernathy*

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**Lorren E Abernathy** - September 12, 2020 at 05:13 PM

JS

*Marsha, so very sorry to hear of your loss Paul was my Go To Guy at the bank. He guided me through all the paperwork to buy a house after my divorce. He was such a gentleman and everyone had good things to say about him. My husband died in 2016. Its so different when they are gone. May your memories and friendsjip comfort you.*

*Judy Looman Swinson*

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**Judy Swinson** - September 13, 2020 at 07:50 AM