



Richard Arthur Swartzlander

March 25, 1937 - June 3, 2015

Central City - Richard Arthur Swartzlander, age 78, of Central City, passed away at 12:55 A.M. on Wednesday June 3, 2015 in his home surrounded by his family. He was born March 25, 1937 in Wamac, IL, son of Margie (Wazelle) Swartzlander and Frank J. Swartzlander. Richard married Nancy Kay Woodward on March 21, 1958 and she survives him. He is also survived by his two sons, Ric Swartzlander of La Crescenta, California, and Brent Swartzlander and his wife Michele of Centralia, his grandchildren, Megan Swartzlander and Claire Swartzlander of La Crescenta, California and Chelsey Swartzlander, Lexi Swartzlander and Jace Swartzlander of Centralia. His sister Darlene Nelson and husband Louis of Centralia, his brother Donnie Swartzlander and wife Phyllis of Bryan, Texas, and sister-in-law Wanda Wernsman of Cumming, Georgia; several nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother Raymond Swartzlander, an infant daughter, April Lynn Swartzlander, and a son, James Jason "Jace" Swartzlander. Richard was a carman welder for the Illinois Central and Burlington Northern Railroads for thirty years, retiring in 1991. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and flower gardening. He also loved U.S. history, particularly the history of early Centralia. He was a supporter of the Centralia Historical Society Museum. In the early 1970s he was a founding Charter Member and on the board of directors for the Raccoon Water Company. He was builder and co-owner of Richmond-Heights Mobile Home Park in Central City along with his brother Raymond. In 2005, Richard was instrumental in having a

portion of Broadway in Central City renamed Glenn Champ Way in honor of the former principle and coach at Central City Grade School, a man whom he admired and considered a very positive influence on his early life. He also created a memorial display for Mr. Champ at the grade school. Besides being a devoted husband and father, "PaPa", as he was known to his family and close friends, adored his five grandchildren. They were his pride and joy. He rarely missed a ballgame or school event and visited his grandkids in California as often as he could. Richard was a member of Zion Hill Baptist Church. A Celebration of Life Service for Richard A. Swartzlander will be held Saturday, June 6, 2015 at 1:00 P.M. at the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home in Centralia. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Memorial Park in Centralia. Visitation will be held from 11:00 A.M. until the time of service on Saturday at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to St. Jude's Childrens Hospital and will be accepted by Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home in Centralia, which is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

GZ

“ I was so sorry to hear of your loss. The thoughts of many are with you at this time of sorrow.

Gayle Ziegler - June 06, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Kay. I'm so sorry to learn of Richard's death. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Judy Swinson - June 04, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ So sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers for all of you.

Dawn Bone - June 04, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RO

“ Richard Arthur Swartzlander

Rose - June 04, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ Deepest condolences and sympathies. The Gross Family

Mark Gross - June 04, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ I was devastated to learn of Dick's death, even though I had heard that he was dangerously ill, the news of his passing still came as a shock. I hope your fond memories of him will help you get through this tough time. We went to grade school & high school together. He will always be remembered as a popular, fun loving guy who was liked by everyone. I am so very sorry for your loss. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family, Maurice (Class of '55)

Maurice French - June 04, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ Kay and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Prayers are with all of you at this time.

Peggy Myers - June 03, 2015 at 12:00 AM