



## Allen R. Holt

September 23, 1949 - January 21, 2025

Allen Ray (Al) Holt, 75, of Highland, passed away surrounded by his loving family on Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2025 at Hitz Memorial Home in Alhambra.

Al was born on September 23, 1949, in St. Louis to Orville A. and Merle G. (nee Adams) Holt. He married Sandra Lynn Immer in Highland on May 5, 1973.

He attended grade schools in Edwardsville and Carpenter before the family moved to Highland in 1958. He then attended Highland schools through his graduation in 1967. He was a member of some of Highland High's best Bulldog basketball teams in the mid-60s.

He served in the U.S. Air Force as an accountant from June, 1969-December, 1972, being stationed near Izmir, Turkey and near Madrid, Spain. He reached the rank of Staff Sergeant.

After his military discharge, he returned to Highland where he worked at Alton Box Board while earning his Associates Degree from SIU-Edwardsville and Belleville Area College.

He began his 37-year career, working for the U. S. Social Security Administration in July, 1973. He worked his way up to District Manager, working in Alton, East St. Louis, Belleville, Effingham and Anderson, IN, and earning numerous performance awards along the way. He became Highland's personal Social Security advisor on his own time as he instructed hundreds of area residents how to maneuver the complexities of filing for benefits. He retired from SSA in Dec., 2010.

Simultaneously, he began a second career, joining the Highland News Leader staff as a sportswriter for more than a decade throughout the 90s. He became well known in Highland as he positively affected the lives of hundreds of young athletes and their families by highlighting their sports careers. He also enjoyed the chance to work closely with his brother Steve.

First and foremost was Al's dedication to his family. He coached all three of his sons in basketball, baseball and soccer. When they all headed to college, he and Sandy traveled across the Midwest as the boys played college baseball and football. Even when his grandkids were participating in sports or other activities, they drove thousands of miles to Bloomington, Chicago and Dallas to support them.

He was a member of Evangelical United Church of Christ in Highland. Al enjoyed bike riding, playing cards with friends and was an avid St. Louis Cardinals, Las Vegas Raiders and Boston Celtics fan.

His circle of friends grew larger and stronger throughout his life. He played men's league basketball, fast pitch and slow pitch softball, coaching many of those teams, as well as women's softball teams, at the same time. In recent years, he added even more good friends, playing golf with his beloved Bogey Buddies.

Survivors include:

Spouse - Sandra Holt, Highland, IL

Mother - Merle White, Highland, IL

Son - Travis A. (Paige, M.D.) Holt, M.D., Bloomington, IL

Son - Brian M. (Phoenix) Holt, J.D., Oak Park, IL

Son - Derek S. (Rebekah) Holt, Parker, TX

Brother - Steve L. (Terri) Holt, Highland, IL

Brother-In-Law - Dennis L. (Christine) Immer

Sister-In-Law - Karen S. Immer

Grandchild - Lila P. Holt (Triplet)

Grandchild - Adilenne G. Holt (Triplet)

Grandchild - William H. Holt (Triplet)

Grandchild - Parker C. Holt

Grandchild - Piper A. Holt

Grandchild - Violet E. Holt

Grandchild - Grayson A. Holt

Grandchild - Sebastian X. Holt

Grandchild - Harrison W. Holt

He was preceded in death by:

Father - Orville Allen Holt (died 12/11/1987)

Arrangements are being handled by Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Visitation will be held from 8:30 AM to 11:00 AM on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Funeral Service will be at 11:00 AM on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL, with Father John Heater.

Interment will follow at Highland City Cemetery with a military salute and presentation.

Memorial contributions may be made to Glioblastoma Foundation, Carle Foundation Neonatal ICU, or OSF Children's Hospital Neonatal ICU.

# Cemetery Details

## Highland City Cemetery

12301 Koepfli Lane  
Highland, IL 62249

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 13. 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home - Highland  
1501 9th Street  
P.O. Box 187  
Highland, IL 62249  
(618) 654-2133  
info@spengel-boulanger.com

## Service

FEB 13. 11:00 AM (CT)

Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home - Highland  
1501 9th Street  
P.O. Box 187  
Highland, IL 62249  
(618) 654-2133  
info@spengel-boulanger.com

# Tribute Wall



“ A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Allen R. Holt.

February 15, 2025 at 01:49 PM

LE

“ Lucas & Mariel Pain and “the 4 E’s” planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Allen R. Holt.

Lucas & Mariel Pain and “the 4 E’s” - February 11, 2025 at 06:17 PM

LE

“ Lucas & Mariel Pain and “the 4 E’s” purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Allen R. Holt.



Lucas & Mariel Pain and “the 4 E’s” - February 11, 2025 at 06:17 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home - February 11, 2025 at 10:46 AM

AL

“ Alan & Kathy Lang purchased the America the Beautiful for the family of Allen R. Holt.



Alan & Kathy Lang - February 11, 2025 at 09:57 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Allen R. Holt.

February 10, 2025 at 08:44 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Allen R. Holt.*



February 10, 2025 at 08:44 PM

DA

“ *Darelyn purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Allen R. Holt.*



**Darelyn** - February 10, 2025 at 04:13 PM

PD

“ *It was always a joy when Al and Sandy visited this side of family! Al was fun, fair, and kind. He always made me feel valued. I watched how he lifted others up with his spirit! Al was an all around good guy! He will be deeply missed. ❤️ Peggy*

**Peggy Day** - February 10, 2025 at 12:55 PM

MK

“ *Service is what prayer looks like when it gets up, walks around and helps people. Allen lived a life of service. First for his country, then his friends and most importantly for his family. He gathered around him friends, always quick with a warm smile and a helping glance. Allen had a way of making sure you were having fun, enjoying company and he always put you at ease. He will always be in my memory as a blessing and a prayer. It was ennobling to have known him and to have called him friend.*

**Mike kenny** - February 08, 2025 at 06:41 PM

EW

“ *I was so sorry to hear of Alan's passing. Sandy, it sounds like the 2 of you raised a wonderful family and led a full and active life. Alan was a good guy. I wish I had talked to him more in school and at class reunions. My deepest condolences to you all.*



*Emily Werder*

**emily werder** - February 06, 2025 at 01:52 PM

WF

“ With love, Phil White and family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Allen R. Holt.



With love, Phil White and family - February 05, 2025 at 01:44 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Allen R. Holt.

February 03, 2025 at 06:14 PM



“ Dawn of Remembrance Basket was purchased for the family of Allen R. Holt.



February 03, 2025 at 06:14 PM

BC

“ Sandy & family- you have my deepest sympathy & condolences on Al's passing. I always enjoyed coaching & being with him, May God bless & keep his soul, Bill Corray

Bill Corray - January 31, 2025 at 03:32 PM

DF

“ Dennis and Cris Immer and Family purchased the Ever Upward Bouquet for the family of Allen R. Holt.



Dennis and Cris Immer and Family - January 28, 2025 at 05:46 PM

RR

“ Rick Rash purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Allen R. Holt.



Rick Rash - January 27, 2025 at 10:40 AM

DS

“ *My sincerest sympathy....Al was so supportive when I coached. He was a sounding board and always helped by writing a positive article no matter the outcome. I appreciated and valued his thoughts and opinions. Great man who left a positive influence on many.*

**Dawn Steiner** - January 26, 2025 at 08:55 PM

MB

“ *Matt, Kelly, & Kyra Bordner. purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Allen R. Holt.*



**Matt, Kelly, & Kyra Bordner.** - January 26, 2025 at 06:36 PM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Allen R. Holt.*



January 26, 2025 at 04:29 PM

FS

“ *It is great sadness to learn of Al's passing. I had the pleasure to coach Al in High School basketball. His positiveness, his hustle, his smile and laugh along with his team mates made my experience as a coach a pleasure. Fred Singleton*

**fred w singleton** - January 25, 2025 at 09:48 AM

JL

*The little 1st Baptist Church on Poplar Street at the time brought a lot of young people together. My family moved to Highland and that was where I met Al and his parents. We were a small church but a very connected church. We had a great youth fellowship every Sunday night. I will always remember Al and his Mom from our church. Since that time Al and Sandy are very nice and fun people to be around. We are blessed to have the opportunity to be with them. Janet & Denny Lang*

**Janet Lang** - February 12, 2025 at 06:53 PM