



## Donald L. "Don" Ritchie

August 8, 1942 - November 9, 2013

Donald L. "Don" Ritchie, age 71 of Centralia, IL, died Saturday, November 09, 2013, at Good Samaritan Hospital in Mount Vernon, IL.

He was born August 08, 1942, in Highland, IL, the son of Lawrence E. and Zorka Ann (nee Besta) Ritchie.

He was a former member of the IBEW.

Born at Highland, IL; grew up on a farm north of Highland and graduated from Highland High School in 1960. He served with the US Army. He was a lineman for General Telephone Company and Continental Telephone Company, and served other telephone companies in Illinois. He operated his own bucket truck for a number of years. He was an avid collector of arrowheads. For a number of years he raced "Funny Cars" at Florida. He retired and moved to Centralia in 2010.

Survivors include:

Daughter - Shai L. (Jeffrey) Foster, Highland, IL

Daughter - Heather Ritchie, Centralia, IL

Son - Seth W. Ritchie, Centralia, IL

Daughter - Mariah L. Ritchie, Saint Louis, MO

Grandchild - Paige L. Foster, Highland, IL

Grandchild - Payton L. Foster, Highland, IL  
Grandchild - Brice Ritchie, Centralia, IL  
Grandchild - Brandon Ritchie, Centralia, IL  
Grandchild - Cameron Ford, Saint Louis, MO  
Brother - Steven M. (Lynn) Ritchie, Highland, IL  
1st Ex-wife - Donna (Kenneth) Eversgerd, Breese, IL  
2nd Ex-wife - Debbie Ritchie, Centralia, IL  
3rd Ex-wife - Erin Essenpreis, Breese, IL  
4th Ex-wife - Linda Ritchie, Centralia, IL

He was preceded in death by:

Father - Lawrence E. Ritchie  
Mother - Zorka Ann Ritchie nee Besta died 10/02/2007  
Brother - Gerald L. Ritchie died 01/17/2010

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

Memorial service will be at 1:00 PM on Friday, November 15, 2013, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL, with Rev. Philip W. Chapman, officiating.

Interment will be at Highland City Cemetery in Highland, IL.

Memorials may be made to the Family.

# Tribute Wall

KB

“ I am so sorry I was just told about Dons passing,,,, He was a dear, dear friend and I will miss him! If at all possible could someone please contact with the info of where his grave site is so that I may show my respects. Please contact me via my email [k.barwald@gmail.com](mailto:k.barwald@gmail.com)  
Good bye my sweet friend my battle buddy!

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**Kym Barwald** - November 15, 2013 at 09:45 PM

SK

“ 1 file added to the album Don & Steve



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**Steve Van Kley** - November 15, 2013 at 04:22 PM

SK

“ My name is Steve Van Kley, I'm the firstborn son of Don. Most of you won't know me because I've only met Steve, Shai, and of course Don.  
Even though I only met him once, I do feel a sense of loss at his passing.  
At least I did get to meet him, and spend an enjoyable afternoon with him.  
You are all in our prayers.

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**Steve Van Kley** - November 13, 2013 at 10:35 PM

SF

*Im so sorry Steve we wanted to contact you but sadly could not remember your last name. He is in a better place now and thank you for your condolences.*

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**shai foster** - November 14, 2013 at 10:05 PM

SK

*I appreciate the thought Shai. I tried to upload a picture of Don and I the day we met in 2001, which just happened to be my 37th birthday...but this site acts like it accepted it, but i don't see it appearing here.*

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**Steve Van Kley** - November 15, 2013 at 04:26 PM

BB

*hey this is Dons grandson I'd love to reach out to you guys*

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**Bryce Bradley** - January 22, 2023 at 05:47 AM