



Clarence Howard Bunkholt Jr.

January 12, 1947 - March 3, 2024

Clarence Bunkholt Jr., 77, of Bloomington, MN, passed away on March 3, 2024 peacefully surrounded by family.

Clarence was born on January 12, 1947, to Clarence Bunkholt Sr. and Peace Marie in Minneapolis, MN.

Clarence graduated from Bloomington High School in 1965 and attended the University of Minnesota. He proudly served in the Marines as a reserve for six years-Semper Fi. Early in Clare's career he worked as the manager at Burger King, Burger Chef, and as a Maître d' at the Camelot. Later, he opened the pet store, Fin Fur & Feather at Southtown Center, and was known as "The Bird Man" for 32 years. During his retirement years, he thoroughly enjoyed his work at Lunds & Byerlys in Bloomington for the last 11 years.

In 1968, he married Deborah Heinen and they went on to have two children, C.B. (Clarence III) and Erik. His wife Deb was the love of his life and they treasured their 55 years together.

Clare was active in the kids' sports (quarter midget racing, karate, hockey, soccer), the Bloomington Karate Center and the American Legion Post 550. He enjoyed hunting and fishing. His children, grandchildren, and great grandchild brought him an abundance of joy.

Clarence was preceded in death by his father Clarence Sr., mother Peace Marie, and brother Carl. He is survived by his wife Deb, sons C.B. (Gigi), Erik (Shauna), and Ben, sister Patricia, grandchildren Natalie (Mitch) Radcliff, Nicole Westlund, Jon, Brandt and Kylee Bunkholt, and great grandchild Colter Radcliff.

A visitation will be held at Washburn McReavy Dawn Valley Chapel on Saturday, April 20th from 1-4 pm.

His departure comes as a great shock and a deep wound, and is gravely felt by his entire family and countless others who loved him. The family appreciates your support during this difficult time and asks that in lieu of flowers, donations may be left at the visitation or sent to Deb, C.B. or Erik.

Please contribute by sharing memories of our beloved Clarence on this memorial website.

Tribute Wall

TC

“ *The Churchills purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Clarence Howard Bunkholt Jr..*



The Churchills - April 19, 2024 at 11:14 AM

JA

“ *I'll miss my best friend in many ways, after all he introduced Mary & me when I stopped in to see him @ the pet shop! We had lotsa laughs together! We date back to working at Burger King when we were kids! He has a beautiful family that I feel a part of! Thank you for being in my life my dear friend!*

Jim Armstrong - April 09, 2024 at 11:29 AM

JB

“ *My deepest sympathy to the family of Clare prayers 🙏*

Jim Bunkholt - March 29, 2024 at 02:58 PM

JB

“ *I'm Clare cousin we graduated from Bloomington high school we kinda lost touch in the years after high school but when we did see each other it was as if we hadn't lost touch I'm sure going to miss him*

Jim Bunkholt - March 29, 2024 at 02:56 PM

MH

“ Back in the days of Fin Fur, and Feather I met Clarence, My mother Jackie worked, and groomed for Clarence, they had a great working relationship, and I soon worked at the shop tending to most of the animals, cleaning fish tanks, and changing out bedding for all the little critters, learned to handle birds and so on, I learned a lot from him, he was a mentor to me, and had great patients teaching me how to do things , and how he liked things done at the shop, I thought highly of him, and always respected him like a father figure. He was a great man, and he helped our family out a lot and I'll never forget him. He was larger then life to me, and am sorry to hear the word of his passing. I will never forget how much he did for my mom, and his generosity. We lost a good one . My condolences to all Family, from ours. Rest In Peace Clarence

Michael Halsey - March 27, 2024 at 01:59 AM

TM

“ Clarence, Deb and the kids were family to mine for many years. Clare and I were extremely close back in the day when we were starting out in our businesses and raising kids. We spent every 4th of July together as families on the lake fishing, water skiing and just having fun. His oldest son and I went to the world title in Kickboxing with Clare as the scorekeeper and Deb as a judge. We were family.

I will miss many things about Clare but the one thing I believe every one of his friends will agree on was he was a loyal and trusted friend. He had integrity as a man, a father and husband. He will be greatly missed by all. God bless Deb and the kids and grandkids. They had an opportunity of knowing and loving a truly great man.

RIP Clare

Tim Mullin

Tim Mullin - March 26, 2024 at 11:28 PM

JS

He was one of the most honorable man I think I ever knew. ALWAYS did the right thing, no matter what. I respected him more than most men.

John Stotesbery - March 29, 2024 at 03:18 AM

NA

“ *I just found out about Clarey, I'm so very sorry to hear of his passing. I remember always laughing when I was around him and your family. Know that I am thinking about all of you and saying prayers of comfort. Nancy Murray*

Nancy - March 18, 2024 at 09:13 PM

RK

“ *A life well lived is a precious gift of hope, strength and grace. Clarence made our world a brighter, better place with his presence, stories, laughter and generosity. He shared with me many of his homemade seasonings for meats, fish and the like, which came along with grilling and cooking tips. I will miss my friend, who loved nothing more than opportunities to chat and share stories. They left me with smiles and laughter. A life well lived is a legacy. Clarence, you leave us with a living, lasting memory my grateful heart will treasure. Fly high, friend. Love, Rick Kaufman*

Ricky Kaufman - March 18, 2024 at 10:10 AM

JB

“ To the Bunkholt Family...my sincere condolences and sympathies to you all!!! Words don't always express the emotions one feels...nor the pain. I am so deeply saddened by the loss of your beloved Clarence, and our grief as friends...as he touched us all!!! ❤️ So many great memories spent with Clarence at work and play...and I am so grateful that I got to know his Family!!! May God Bless you all now and always. Love,
Jane Beckius



Jane Beckius - March 17, 2024 at 04:40 PM

JW

Dear Bunkholt's
I am so sorry to hear of Clare's passing. My sister, Diane, and I grew up with Carl and Clare. Our parents met when they were first married and became life long friends. Our families took vacations together and got together every summer in Grand Marais. We met Clare and family at the Mall of America one time for a fun evening. He will be missed.

Joan Bailey Wilson - March 27, 2024 at 09:30 AM