



Larry Chapman

June 24, 1948 - September 19, 2024

Irvin Larry Chapman was born June 24, 1948, in Salem, Missouri. He was born nine days after his father Irvin Chapman passed away. Larry was raised in Sligo, Missouri by his mother Grace (Hammons) Chapman. At the age of ten, Larry and his family moved to Salem. In 1964, at the age of sixteen, graduated from Salem High School.

Larry met the love of his life, Rena Belinda White, at Stephens Dairy Queen. Years later they rekindled their relationship and on October 4, 1991, they were united in marriage. Together they created thirty-three years of lasting memories. Larry and Rena were blessed to share three sons: Rick, Clint, and Billy.

In his youth he started working, to help his mother, by delivering newspapers. He was Salem's first newspaper boy and was also mowing lawns for those around him. At the age of sixteen, Farris Craig helped him get his work permit, which started his long career with Criag Distributing. Larry retired from Kraft at the age of sixty-three and shortly after started driving for the United States Postal Service. He was looking forward to retirement again in December 2024.

Larry was a collector of tractor trailer model trucks and antique watches. He was an avid St. Louis Cardinals Baseball fan. He was an animal lover,

especially with his dachshund dogs and his huge fish collection. Larry deeply loved his family and making memories with them, especially his grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren. His faith was important to him, and he attended the catholic church when he was able.

Larry passed away September 19, 2024, in Rolla, Missouri, at the age of seventy-six years. He is survived by his loving wife: Rena Chapman of Rolla, MO; sons: Rick Chapman and wife Paula of Salem, MO, Clint Lunn and wife Jennifer of St. Louis, MO, and Billy Lunn and wife Lisa of Salem, MO; grandchildren: Dalton Chapman and wife Makaila, Stephanie Meredith, Shelby Chapman, Sarah Chapman, Darrick Chapman and wife Ashlee; thirteen great-grandchildren; several great-great-grandchildren; as well as several nieces, nephews, other relatives, and dear friends.

Preceding him in death were his parents: Irvin and Grace Chapman; infant sibling; sister: Verna Thomas and husband Harvey; and brother: Mel Chapman.

Larry was one of kind and always polite. Everyone who knew him loved him. He will be forever missed but his kindness will never be forgotten.

Funeral Services for Irvin Larry Chapman were held Tuesday, September 24, 2024, in the Wilson Mortuary Salem Chapel with Pastor Chris Hendrix officiating. Song selection played was "Amazing Grace". Serving as Pallbearers were Clint Lunn, Billy Lunn, Rick Chapman, Dalton Chapman, rowdy Mackley, and Noah Sapp. Burial was in the Cedar Grove Cemetery. Arrangements were under the direction of Wilson Mortuary of Salem, Missouri.

Condolences may be left online at www.wilsonmortuary.com

Cemetery Details

Cedar Grove Cemetery

Salem, MO

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **23**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Wilson Mortuary - Salem
1000 West Scenic Rivers Blvd.
Post Office Box 45
Salem, MO 65560
(573) 729-5555
<https://www.wilsonmortuary.com/>

Funeral Service

SEP **24**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Wilson Mortuary - Salem
1000 West Scenic Rivers Blvd.
Post Office Box 45
Salem, MO 65560
(573) 729-5555
<https://www.wilsonmortuary.com/>

Tribute Wall

KM

“ Southview loved Larry - totally obvious from the turn out today of Southview teachers that attended his celebration of life. Larry came into Southview that first year as a bull taking over with his horns pointed to straighten out any messes and make sure everything went exactly like it was supposed to go in this new building. There were even tears that first meeting we had because he came off so gruff telling us how to use the phone system. (Not me- I knew from the start that he was a bluff.) We soon learned that he was a teddy bear. He backed his teachers 100% all the time. We could go to him with anything and vent or cry, and he would listen. We dubbed him the weatherman that he surely would become after he retired since he would always check out when clouds came over the playground, and I had a perfect window to watch him surveying the incoming storm. He loved the sixth grade teachers and planned his day around having lunch with us for those 20 minutes because he didn't want to miss out on any of our conversations And they were interesting conversations with Mackie, Kooi, Sloan, Dana and me. We could've had those guys fired back in those days easily. 🤔 We loved his sonic drink that he had daily and never washed the cup, but just went for refills, and we even got so we would cut the straw shorter and shorter when he walked out of the room. He discovered that quickly and kept a supply of straws in his desk. Recess key was often getting lost or misplaced so he attached it to a piece of wood. Emily's dog story was one that we teased him about often. He adamantly said there would be no dog in his house. And often he told me about how he would never let grandkids wrap themselves around his finger. Pretty sure that didn't happen from pictures, I see. He tried to make us think he was a mean, gruff old man when we all knew he was just a teddy bear.

Oh, I could tell many stories from the parties we had, but I won't go into those details. Southview teachers knew how to party, and basically it was because Larry was there to help us party. I love this man who was such an awesome principal, so much fun to work for him and a friend. So many good memories. He will be missed. My love to Debbie, Emily and Nick and families. ❤️❤️❤️

kathy meinert - December 28, 2024 at 10:11 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Videos Album*



Wilson Mortuary - September 26, 2024 at 03:49 PM

SA

“ *Uncle Larry was a very special always kind always will remember him chasing me with this wolf mask to keep e in bed at grandmas love you*

sandra ammons - September 24, 2024 at 12:18 PM

DP

“ *So sorry for your loss. May you be comforted by the outpouring of love surrounding you.
Bob and Debbie Pool*

Deborah Pool - September 24, 2024 at 10:50 AM

TM

“ *Brother Rick and Brother Dalton, I'm thinking of you.*



Tyler McConnell - September 23, 2024 at 04:29 PM



“ 113 files added to the album LifeTributes



Wilson Mortuary - September 23, 2024 at 01:24 PM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Larry Chapman.



September 22, 2024 at 12:12 PM



“ Roger & Helen Pool planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Larry Chapman.

Roger & Helen Pool - September 22, 2024 at 12:12 PM



“ Vicky McDonald lit a candle in memory of Larry Chapman



Vicky McDonald - September 22, 2024 at 01:30 AM

NN

“ *I haven't seen Larry for many years. I remember stopping by his house with my mom. She knew them from Sligo. My condolences and prayers for comfort. Nancy Nelson-Stickels*

Nancy Nelson-Stickels - September 21, 2024 at 08:25 PM