



Larry Dean Forister

September 19, 1942 - April 14, 2025

Larry Dean Forister was born September 19, 1942, in Charleston, Missouri. He was one of seven children born to Clayton and Maurine (Lehr) Forister. Larry grew up in St. Louis, Missouri, and was raised in the Lutheran faith. He graduated high school in 1961.

Larry proudly served his country in the United States Army, enlisting right after high school. He faithfully served until his retirement on February 28, 1989, attaining the rank of Sergeant First Class (SFC). His military service included a tour of duty in the Vietnam War, during which he earned several decorations, medals, badges, ribbons, and awards, a testament to his courage and commitment. While in the military, he furthered his education obtaining his associates degree in American History.

Upon retiring from the Army, Larry continued his dedication to public service. He served as a Missouri State Park Ranger, achieving the rank of SGT, and proudly participating in Earth Day celebrations. Larry also served four years as a Deputy Sheriff for Dent County, where he served as court bailiff for one year, and as Police Chief of the Bunker Police Department. In 1997, he shared his passion and service by serving as a Dare Instructor for Piedmont fifth and sixth grade class.

On November 1, 2000, Larry was united in marriage to Alice Ellen (Johnson),

in Booneville, Missouri. Their union blended two families, they were blessed to share daughters: Barbara and Deanna, and son: Larry. He was a devoted husband, and a loving father. Larry was affectionally known as Papa to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He treasured the time spent with them, creating many lasting memories.

Throughout his life, Larry lived with an adventurous spirit and deep appreciation for nature. He found immense joy in the quiet solitude of fishing, particularly fly fishing at Montauk State Park and Meramec Springs. He also possessed a passion for the open road, finding freedom in riding his Harley-Davidson.

Larry departed this life April 14, 2025, in Rolla, Missouri, at the age of eighty-two years. Those left behind to cherish his memory include his loving wife of twenty-four years: Alice Forister of Salem, MO; daughters: Barbara Quayle and husband Bruce and Deanna Abney; son: Larry Forister and wife Sara; sisters: Mary Kay Teders and Joan Mantia; grandchildren: Randle Mehl, Christa Mehl, Ashley Forister, and Heather Robertson; many beloved great-grandchildren; as well as several nieces, nephews, other relatives, and dear friends.

Preceding him in death were his parents: Clayton and Maurine (Lehr) Forister; siblings: Sydney Forister, Janet Forister, John Forister, and Sharon Johnson; and grandson: Jason Klefisch.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Larry was known for his kindness, generosity, and good heart. His unwavering sense of duty, his love for family, and friends, will continue to live on in those who loved him most.

Celebration of Life for Larry Dean Forister was held Friday, April 25, 2025, in the Wilson Mortuary Salem Chapel with Pastor Chris Hendrix officiating. Song

selection played was "Go Rest High On That Mountain". Graveside Services were held in the Missouri Veterans Cemetery, Waynesville, Missouri, with Chaplain David Bennett officiating. Military Honors was provided by the United States Army. Arrangements were under the direction of Wilson Mortuary of Salem, Missouri.

Online Condolences may be left at www.wilsonmortuary.com

Cemetery Details

Missouri State Veterans Cemetery

Waynesville, MO

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **25**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

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

Memorial Service

APR **25**. 12:00 PM (CT)

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

Graveside Service

APR **25**. 2:00 PM.

Missouri Veterans Cemetery - Springfield, Missouri
Springfield, MO

Tribute Wall

BW

“ So sorry we were unable to attend Larry’s memorial service. He was a good friend and a dedicated LW Enforcement Officer serving many different agencies. He was honest and caring, loved his family. Prayers for Alice and family. God Bless.
Ann and Bob Wofford

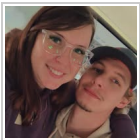
Bob Wofford - April 25, 2025 at 01:50 PM

BQ

“ Barbara Quayle lit a candle in memory of
Larry Dean Forister



barbara quayle - April 16, 2025 at 09:07 AM



“ Papa Larry taught me how to fish and swim at the age of 4. He's been my savior many times in life. He will be greatly missed.

Heather Robertson - April 15, 2025 at 05:14 PM