

Cecil Ray Pemberton

July 9, 1936 - October 24, 2017

Today we have chosen to celebrate a life, a life well lived. Cecil Ray Pemberton finished his earthly journey peacefully in his sleep the morning of Tuesday, October 24, 2017 surrounded by his loving family. He left this world with dignity and grace.

Born in Crescent, Missouri to Arley and Nellie (Wright) Pemberton, Cecil was the second youngest of nine children. After graduating from Richland High School, Cecil joined the Army where he faithfully served his country in Korea until his honorable discharge.

Cecil then attended Tri-State University in Indiana obtaining his degree in electrical engineering. While he was there, he met Celia Schlund on a blind date. They fell fast in love and were married November 10, 1962. Through the years they shared many wonderful memories and were only two weeks away from celebrating their 55th wedding anniversary.

In Cecil's spare time he greatly enjoyed fishing, hunting, and being in his woods. He and Celia also traveled when she could get him to leave their beloved farm; Cecil would grin as he admitted that he really did have a great time on their trips. However, Cecil's most treasured times were spent with his beloved wife, family and friends.

Cecil was a blessed man and leaves to cherish his memory, his loving wife, Celia Pemberton of the home; his four children: Jennifer O'Brien of Richland, MO, Susan McCrary (William) of Defiance, MO, Michael Pemberton (Louise) of New Orleans, LA, and Matthew Pemberton (Morgan) of Columbia, MO; 4 grandchildren: Colleen O'Brien-Navarro (Noah) of Lake St. Louis, MO, Mary O'Brien-Kochbeck (Joe) of St. Louis, MO, Alan O'Brien of St. Louis, MO and Ellie McCrary of Defiance, MO; 3 great grandchildren: Elizabeth, Holden and Harrison of Lake St. Louis, MO, and another great grandbaby due in just three weeks; one sister: Hazel Rawlins of Bentonville, AR; one brother: Warren Pemberton of Lebanon, MO; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers: Otis Gail, John, Raymond and Wayne; one sister, Helen and a son-in-law, Gary O'Brien.

Although we will miss the warmth, laughter and enjoyment of his many stories of past adventures, the pain of our loss is softened by the memory of who he was and the joy and happiness he brought to so many hearts.

A Celebration of Life service was held at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, October 29, 2017 in the Richland United Methodist Church with Rev. Mitch Henson and Rev. Dwain Hennessey officiating. Favorite song selections included, "Let It Be How Great Thou Art," "Softly and Tenderly," "On Eagles Wings" and "Drift Away." Scriptures from Micah 6:6-8; Psalm 23 and Revelation 21:1-5 were read. Family and friends shared touching memories about Cecil.

Inurnment will be in the Mt. Union Cemetery, Brumley, Missouri at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be in memory of Cecil Ray Pemberton to the Puerto Rico and Virgin Island Relief Fund, or to the Missouri Department of Conservation and may be left at the Memorial Chapel of Richland.

Tribute Wall



“ *Cecil Ray Pemberton*

January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



“ *I am so sorry to hear of Cecil's passing. I last saw him at our cousin, Imogene (Wright) Davis's funeral only a couple of weeks ago. I had a very pleasant conversation at Glover Chapel Cemetery with Cecil and Celia. He seemed in good health and good spirits. I have fond recollections of Cecil's parents, my Uncle Arlie and Aunt Nellie (Wright) Pemberton. The grandchildren of John and Lillian (Ingram) Wright are becoming fewer, like the leaves of autumn wafting to the ground. May Cecil rest in peace in the loving hands of his Creator.*

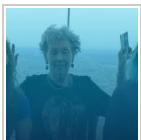
My sincerest sympathy to Celia and all the family.

Alan Wright - October 28, 2017 at 05:42 PM



“ *Celia & Family we are so sorry for your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*
Kay Burks & Fay Stevens.

Fay Styevens - October 26, 2017 at 10:01 PM



“ *His warm smile and infectious laugh will be a lasting memory for me. He was a good and kind person.*

Charlotte Moore - October 26, 2017 at 05:06 PM

Carol Wall

“ Carol Wall lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Pemberton



Carol Wall - October 26, 2017 at 03:16 PM

MS

“ The world has lost a good man but he will meet us all one day in the land of glory.

Mary Switzer - October 26, 2017 at 02:15 PM

RP

“ Uncle Cecil was one of the kindest, most humorous people I have ever met. We were all blessed to know him! I love you guys ❤️



rachel pickle - October 26, 2017 at 01:37 PM



“ Becky Neal Tezkol lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Pemberton



Becky Neal Tezkol - October 26, 2017 at 01:17 PM



“ So very sorry for your loss! Prayers for the family!



Ruby Kelly - October 26, 2017 at 12:37 PM



“ Marilyn Folkert lit a candle in memory of Cecil Ray Pemberton



Marilyn Folkert - October 26, 2017 at 07:42 AM



“ Tamarah And Richard Newell sent a virtual gift in memory of Cecil Ray Pemberton



Tamarah and Richard Newell - October 26, 2017 at 04:53 AM



“ Jennifer, thinking of you and your family at this time. Love you!!



Beth Rachau - October 25, 2017 at 04:25 PM