



Roger J Thornburg

June 18, 1951 - March 2, 2019

Roger James Thornburg, age 67 passed away March 2, 2019 at his home surrounded by many family members who loved him deeply. Roger was the eldest son of three children born to Jim and Jenny (Redman) Thornburg of Wadesville.

Roger was a 1969 graduate of North Posey High School, where he excelled in football and baseball. Roger was an All-Conference Football player known for his offensive running where he was named to the All Southern Indiana Scoring Leaders Team, he was also named best line-backer in the conference on defense. He was an outstanding baseball-player, who could lose a hard ball with a wooden bat. Roger and his brother Randy traveled with the United States Arm Wrestlers for many years where he and his brother were 6 time Indiana State Champs in the American Arm-Wrestling Association and finished 2nd in the World in Holyoke, Massachusetts in 1977 and many more titles.

Roger was a Vietnam War Era Navy Veteran serving aboard the USS Wasp CVS-18 in the 7th Fleet after graduating from high school. He was a member of VFW Post 1114. He owned and operated a very successful business Thornburg's Tavern & Catering for over twenty years working with his sister Dana Thornburg. Roger never met a stranger and his generosity was only exceeded by his love for humanity. He had a passion for helping people and did so his entire time on this earth. Roger was a head-strong passionate individual who did things his way and he will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

He was preceded in death by his father James W. Thornburg, his mother Jenny L. Thornburg, and brother-in-law Stephen W. Jarvis. Roger is survived by his three loving daughters who cared for him around the clock the last two months of his life, Jenny L. Wiggins (Darrick), Joi L. Rye (Donnie), and Janice I. Stewart (Alex), brother Randy Thornburg, and sister Dana Thornburg, four nephews which were like sons to him, Chad Thornburg, Damian Thornburg, Chance Jarvis and Austin Thornburg, seven grandchildren, Johnathon Rye, Jerod Rye, Joshua Wiggins, Alex Stewart, Kyle Stewart, Lindsey Rye, and Jaxon Wiggins, two great grandchildren Camden and Hayden Rye, and one great nephew, Beckham Thornburg.

Funeral services for Roger will be held at 10:00 AM on Friday, March 8, 2019 at Pierre Funeral Home, 2601 W. Franklin Street, Pastor Mark Tabor officiating. Burial will follow in Laurel Hill Cemetery in Wadesville. Friends may visit with the family from 2:00 until 7:00

PM on Thursday, March 7, 2019 at Pierre Funeral Home, where there will be a memorial service conducted at 7:00 PM. Friends may also visit with the family from 9:00 AM until service time on Friday at the funeral home.

There will also be a bereavement dinner gathering following the funeral at Silver Bell Restaurant in St. Wendel. Those who wish to contribute to the dinner should call Silver Bell Restaurant.

Condolences may be made online at www.pierrefuneralhome.com.

Cemetery

Laurel Hill Cemetery

Wadesville, IN,

Events

MAR 7 Visitation 02:00PM - 07:00PM

7

Pierre Funeral Home

2601 West Franklin Street, Evansville, IN, US

MAR 8 Visitation 09:00AM - 10:00AM

8

Pierre Funeral Home

2601 West Franklin Street, Evansville, IN, US

MAR 8 Funeral 10:00AM

8

Pierre Funeral Home

2601 West Franklin Street, Evansville, IN, US

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Pierre Funeral Home - March 07, 2019 at 12:10 PM



“ Wonderful tribute

Fred Blaylock - March 07, 2019 at 02:40 PM



“ So sorry for your loss. A wonderful tribute to Tiger's life

Donnetta - March 08, 2019 at 09:08 AM



“ Tiger's life

Donnetta - March 08, 2019 at 09:10 AM



“ Rogers life

Donnetta - March 08, 2019 at 09:11 AM



“ A great Tribute to one heck of a great guy.

Sara Gibbs - March 08, 2019 at 04:03 PM



“ Fantastic tribute to one of The Best! RIP big Rog!

Tim Mauck - March 08, 2019 at 04:35 PM



“ This is a wonderful tribute to a great guy!

Misty - March 08, 2019 at 04:52 PM



“ Wonderful tribute. Lots of family pictures. Some I was in and Bud coached his ball team.

Sandra Elpers - March 08, 2019 at 04:57 PM



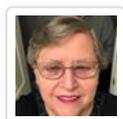
“ A Great tribute to Roger. Sorry for your loss.

paula McNeely - March 08, 2019 at 05:57 PM



“ A very nice tribute for you father. Take care girls.

Carol Peerman - March 08, 2019 at 06:10 PM



“ A really great tribute to Roger there is so much more to his story, This could have went on and on and still not told the whole story. It was a great father, friend and so much more.

Diane - March 08, 2019 at 09:04 PM



“ A great tribute to Rogers life. SO sorry to all his family members. May God give him eternal peace. God Bless!

Pat & Pat Sibgleton - March 11, 2019 at 01:40 PM



“ Very sorry I missed the notice of Roger's passing. We knocked heads many times on the football field and he was a hell of a competitor. He was a wonderful friend off the field I had great respect for him as a competitor and as a friend. He led a good life and will be greatly missed.

Bill Robertson

Bill Robertson - June 08, 2019 at 10:55 PM



“ Godspeed, Roger.

Pat Monarch

Pat Monarch - March 08, 2019 at 09:03 AM



“ Jim Willis purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Roger J Thornburg.



Jim Willis - March 07, 2019 at 01:21 PM



“ 93 files added to the album LifeTributes



Pierre Funeral Home - March 07, 2019 at 11:04 AM



“ Wonderful tribute

Jane - March 08, 2019 at 09:43 PM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Roger J Thornburg.



March 06, 2019 at 09:01 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Roger J Thornburg.



March 06, 2019 at 07:50 PM



“ To my Big Brother, a special kind of love we shared...that thing called Brotherly Love. I remember the first day we found out about this illness and the pain I felt knowing what the results would be. We were indeed joined at the hip through this journey they call life. Grade school, Middle School, High School, the United States Navy and beyond. Two Brothers have never been closer for sure. You had my back and I had yours.

Your amazing accomplishments in life always made me proud. I will always remember your talents in sports, Baseball and Football. Your ability to crush a hard ball with a wooden bat...you batted fourth and I batted third. I got to trot around many times watching you lose the ball over the fence. You played linebacker like few could, making the best linebackers proud...while running the ball on offense like you owned the field. We traveled the United States for several years, Arm-wrestling the best around. Six times state champion and 2nd in the World Meet in Holyoke, Massachusetts in 1977, too many other meets to mention...not bad for a couple of country boys.

Those are all nice accomplishments for sure, but what made you who you are, was your love for humanity and your generosity ...both were beyond measure. Taking in the homeless, loaning individuals money when they were down and out and knowing you would never get a dollar of it back, always taken up for the underdog. You raised

three wonderful caring daughters that cared for you around the clock for 2 of the toughest months of your life. I was so proud of their personal sacrifice for their DAD. A love to be envied by all. Your daughters were amazing through this process.

So now it comes time to say goodbye one last time. I'm sitting here at the keyboard with tears streaming down my face...and I think to myself how wonderful is that. I know your pain is gone now and your are in Gods hands, of that I am sure. You had many people praying for you all the way till the end. So for the last time, till we meet again Roger I miss you dearly and I will see you on the other side brother.

Randy Thornburg

Randy Thornburg - March 06, 2019 at 07:39 PM



“ WELL SAID RANDY, DITTO ON THE TEARS. THINKING OF YOU BOTH AND SISTER....BILLY CURTIS.

BILLY CURTIS - March 07, 2019 at 12:33 PM



“ What a special friend Roger has been to us. He made us laugh & enjoy things like no other. We will miss him terribly. To Randy & the girls (as well as the rest of the family) - how lucky you were to have had him. Lots of love, Pam & Bob Meyer

pamela meyer - March 07, 2019 at 07:57 PM



“ Thinking of your family with our deepest sympathy. Patrick & Carolyn Scheller



carolyn Scheller - March 06, 2019 at 04:28 PM



“ 70 files added to the album LifeTributes



Pierre Funeral Home - March 06, 2019 at 03:42 PM



“ Joe & Ron Johnson, Kim Chandler & Families purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Roger J Thornburg.



Joe & Ron Johnson, Kim Chandler & Families - March 06, 2019 at 03:21 PM



“ From: H&R Agri-Power Employees (Jenny Wiggins) purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Roger J Thornburg.



From: H&R Agri-Power Employees (Jenny Wiggins) - March 06, 2019 at 11:24 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Roger J Thornburg.



March 06, 2019 at 10:06 AM



“ Jane Lewis lit a candle in memory of Roger J Thornburg



Jane Lewis - March 05, 2019 at 11:52 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Roger J Thornburg.



March 05, 2019 at 07:44 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Roger J Thornburg.



March 05, 2019 at 05:39 PM



“ Rest In Peace Roger, you were a big part of the Dorsey family, my Mother Mae Dorsey was very fond of you. The world was a better place with you in it my condolences to the family, and may you find comfort and peace

Julianne Dorsey Fetters

julianne Dorsey Fetters - March 05, 2019 at 04:49 PM



“ The Thornburg Brothers Both were so well known, liked, and respected by so many! I know this, by performing at their so popular bar and restaurant, there in Posey County. Two wonderful individuals, with such really impressive personal arm wrestling abilities! I'll never forget watching an amazing tape of one of the astonishing arm wrestling events, while waiting to start entertaining that evening there at their bar, with The Modern Country Band, that sure loved performing there! Really great guys, and so very sad, to learn of Rogers passing. He will be very, very missed. Rest In Peace Roger. God Bless You, Your Brother Randy, and your entire Family, while having to try to deal with this terrible loss.

Steve Robinson - March 05, 2019 at 05:28 PM



“ Joey & Heather Jones purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Roger J Thornburg.



Joey & Heather Jones - March 05, 2019 at 02:52 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Roger J Thornburg.



March 05, 2019 at 02:33 PM



“ My man always. RIP big guy.

Mike Combs - March 05, 2019 at 12:16 PM



“ Shannon Easterling lit a candle in memory of Roger J Thornburg



shannon Easterling - March 05, 2019 at 12:13 PM



“ So sorry for your loss of such a great Man. Sending love to you all.

shannon Easterling - March 05, 2019 at 11:52 AM



“ Thoughts and prayers for you and your family. You will be truly missed. What a great friend and all around good guy.

Charlene Harris - March 05, 2019 at 11:12 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Roger J Thornburg.



March 05, 2019 at 07:43 AM



“ I met Roger shortly after getting back stateside - We became instant friends as well as several other members of his family. What you saw with Roger was what you got. One of the many great things about him. Heckva a good guy, the world needs a lot more like him and will be a little sadder place without him. Rest in Peace Roger.

Bill Hein - March 05, 2019 at 07:25 AM



“ I worked for him once. He treated me with respect and care. I have always considered him a friend and I will sadly miss him. Upon a recent visit, we talked of old times and memories and had so much laughter. I hope that it made him ad happy as it did me. I was so afraid that I would be crying because I was so sad to hear of his illness but he kept me sidetracked with stories of times in our past that we had experienced. I did not shed a tear, only joy and laughter. That time spent with him was ever so precious to me. I will always kindly remember him in my heart.May God be with you, his precious family! I am so sorry for your loss.

Sandra Henry - March 05, 2019 at 08:13 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Roger J Thornburg.



March 05, 2019 at 05:17 AM



“ Wow roger I've never been at a loss of words with you because it always came so easily whether it was joking or just Bullshitting but I sure am at a loss for them now u will be dearly missed I pray the utmost sympathy for your kids n families n the love your kids gave you every day I know you are one very proud father I know we will me again I will know just by your voice so till then good buddy let those Harleys ride

Jane Lewis - March 05, 2019 at 12:08 AM



“ I will miss that whitty humor, sound of that deep voice, the kindness of your heart, the love you have for everyone, the way you say what you feel and mean it, you have the heart of a giant, the soul of water trickling down rocks, the way you just help people not even knowing them, and the way you carry yourself when someone screams FIGHT! and katey bar the door because if theres a Thornburgh in the vicinity it's so on, lol. I love you Boyfriend, you were a great friend to me, never had to worry about anyone having my back cause you always did. You were my best friend,

Tamara Ours-Engelhardt - March 04, 2019 at 11:38 PM



“ Love you girlfriend. Thank you for all your help!

Janice Stewart - March 05, 2019 at 08:48 AM



“ I love you girls too

Tamara Ours-Engelhardt - March 05, 2019 at 05:25 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Roger J Thornburg.



March 04, 2019 at 09:50 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Roger J Thornburg.



March 04, 2019 at 09:32 PM



“ We are so sorry for your loss. Keep the precious memories in your heart and hopefully they will give you the peace that you need until you see him again.

Dan and Lisa Martin - March 04, 2019 at 09:24 PM



“ Thanks for just bein a good friend Roger, and savin my butt a few times..we all will miss you !

Sherri Bushard



Sherri Bushard - March 04, 2019 at 09:06 PM



“ When Roger worked at Funkeys as a bouncer and door man, he always insisted he had to see my ID.....I.....would say dammit Roger if you are then I can be here cause I am a year older than you....Then he would just laugh and laugh
He was one of my Mothers favorite people....miss you.....prayers to Randy and family....

Betty Algee - March 04, 2019 at 07:48 PM



“ He will be deeply miss and my prayers go out to the family. Roger was a amazing person with a beautiful smile

Jackie Schweikhart - March 04, 2019 at 08:50 PM



“ Roger was one of a kind. Always had a smile and a kind word. So sorry for the family's loss but happy no more pain for Roger.

Linda Herrmann - March 04, 2019 at 09:10 PM



“ Roger will be missed by our classmates at our reunion this October. He always could make you laugh and was just a dear friend. So thankful for the opportunity to visit with him during his illness. Thankful that his daughters had this special time with their Dad to show their love for him, prayers to all of you.

Belinda Kern Dillback - March 04, 2019 at 09:49 PM



“ I love you daddy! I miss you so much!

Janice Stewart - March 04, 2019 at 07:37 PM



“ Roger where do I start friends for years thru good and bad times. My dad was your big fan now you can reminisce on the ole dayswith him. Sorry you had to leave us here only till we meet again. Prayers to all the family. Richard and Kathy Wilson, Homosassa, Fl

Kathy Wilson - March 05, 2019 at 05:49 AM



“ No more Stories from me.....Really Gonna Miss Ya "Iggy".....

Mark "Mo" Elmendorf - March 05, 2019 at 08:50 PM



“ We want to extend our deepest sympathy to the girls, and their families, Randy and his family, and all the rest of the family. Roger was a very special person who we thought a lot of and will hold tight to our memories.

Love to All,
Kent and Becky Bratton

Becky Bratton - March 05, 2019 at 09:59 PM