



**Johnnie L. Laukaitis**  
**January 22, 1942 – February 20, 2022**

## Obituary

Johnnie L. Laukaitis, 80 of Pana, was reunited with his beloved wife of 54 years, Mary on Sunday, February 20, 2022, at St. John's Hospital, Springfield, IL. He was born January 22, 1942, in Pana, IL to Vincent & Atha (Klover) Laukaitis. He married Mary Rochkes on November 11, 1967, in St. Patrick's Catholic Church. She preceded him on October 18, 2021.

Johnnie was a 1960 graduate of Pana High School and went on to serve his country in the U.S. Navy from 1960-1964. While in the Navy he was a part of the U.S. Navy Rifle & Pistol Team in which he won numerous awards. He was most proud of his Distinguished Marksman award he received in 1964. After his time in the service, Johnnie went on to work as an electrician, and was a member of the Decatur IBEW Local # 146. He was also a member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Pana, and the National Rifle Association. He spent many afternoons at Okaw Valley Muzzleloaders Club and Taylorville Rifle & Pistol Club. Johnnie also enjoyed having coffee with his many friends and spending time with his grandchildren.

Johnnie is survived by his children: Brian (Christine) Laukaitis, Springfield, IL, Lisa Dagen, Pana, IL, Jennifer (Curtis) Kessler, Virden, IL; grandchildren: Alexanne Dagen, Evan Kessler, Ryan Kessler; and half-siblings: Randolph Burrus, Holly Harlow, Monica Zucco . He was preceded by his father, Vincent Laukaitis; mother & stepfather, Atha (Emmett) Burrus; siblings, Eugene "Kitie" Laukaitis, Nancy Batton; and half-brother, Gregory Burrus.

Per Johnnie's wishes, cremation rites have been accorded and private family inurnment will be at a later date. Memorials in Johnnie's honor may be made to Sacred Heart Catholic School or Pana Community Hospital Foundation and will be accepted by McCracken-Dean Funeral Home who is assisting the family.