



Terry M. Lankow

December 14, 1943 – May 22, 2025

Terry Merlin Lankow, a cherished husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend, passed away peacefully on May 22, 2025, at HSHS St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital in Effingham, Illinois. Born on December 14, 1943, in Aurora, Illinois, to the late Robert and Mabel (Mietzner) Lankow, Terry's life was marked by dedication, love, and an unwavering spirit of adventure.

Terry was a true family man, deeply devoted to his beloved wife of 61 years, Linda D. (O'Dell) Lankow. Their enduring partnership was a testament to true love and mutual respect. Together, they raised two sons, Brian (Lori) Lankow of Worden and Jon (Shari) Lankow of Stewardson, who will forever cherish his memory. Terry's joy was multiplied with the birth of his two grandchildren, Lance and Isaac, both of Stewardson, whose lives he enriched with his wisdom and playful spirit. He is also survived by his brother, Gene Lankow of Stewardson, his uncle, Richard (Laura) Mietzner, and several nieces and nephews, all of whom will miss him dearly.

After graduating from high school, Terry answered the call of duty and enlisted in the United States Army, serving his country with honor. Upon returning to civilian life, he joined Local 146 in Decatur as a Journeyman Electrician, a career that spanned over 40 years until his retirement in 2005.

An avid outdoorsman, Terry found solace and joy in the embrace of nature. He was happiest when he was fishing, hunting, shooting, woodworking or traveling out West. Yet, nothing compared to the time he spent with his grandchildren, whether he was cheering them on at sporting events or sharing the quiet wonders of the natural world he so loved.

Family and friends are invited to gather and pay their respects at Brummerstedt Funeral Home from 12:00-1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 28, 2025. A graveside service will follow at 1:30 p.m. at Stewardson Cemetery, where Terry will be laid to rest with military honors by the American Legion Post 611 of Stewardson. Memorials in Terry's honor may be given to the donor's favorite charity and may be mailed to 302 W. Main St., Shelbyville, IL 62565. The family requests casual attire. Brummerstedt Funeral Home in Stewardson is assisting the family.