



Riley Read

March 16, 1938 - April 3, 2023

Riley R. Read, 85, passed away April 3, 2023, after a long courageous battle with cancer. He was born March 16, 1938 at the family's farm house in Franklin County, IL to John Hobert and Albertha Read who preceded him in death. He was the youngest of six children; one brother and five sisters who all learned the value of faith, hard work, common sense, and story-telling on the family farm. He married Frances K. Jones on September 14, 1962, in Alton, IL and together they raised two daughters. Riley spent his career as a railroader working for the Frisco Railroad in St. Louis, MO and Springfield, MO until its merger with Burlington Northern (later BNSF). He continued working for the BNSF in St. Paul, MN until his retirement. Post retirement Riley consulted on access door control systems for organizations of all sizes, traveling to many destinations in the U.S. and abroad, eventually fully retiring in Houston, TX. Riley was active in the United Methodist Church throughout his life teaching classes, serving as a lay pastor, and serving on many church boards and committees. He was a light-hearted and fun-loving man that loved to joke around and tell stories from his earlier years. Riley enjoyed cooking and was known to make delicious gourmet meals in addition to delighting friends and family with barbeque and homemade ice cream. Beyond church work and cooking, Riley enjoyed woodworking and photography. He attracted many through his kind, peacemaking example and engaging personality, and will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Riley loved life and fought for every second of life to the end.

He is survived by his wife, Frances Read; daughters, Cheryl Read and Cindy Read; three granddaughters, Becca Shipley, Sarah Smith, and Rachel Hostetter; one great grandson, Eli Underwood; one sister, Josephine Smith; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Previous Events

Receiving of Family and Friends

APR **10**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Addison Funeral Home
18630 Kuykendahl Road
Spring, TX 77379
(281) 350-0998
addisonfh@yahoo.com
<https://addisonfuneralhomes.com>

Funeral Service

APR **10**. 1:00 PM (CT)

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Tribute Wall

BS

“ Truly my favorite uncle. Of course, my mom, Josephine (his sister) called me Riley at least half of the time. I never saw anything but kindness from this man and was always in awe of him from the moment I remember meeting him which I suppose was when I was three or four. One of my favorite memories is of taking my young family to Minnesota in the early '90's and enjoying his wonderful barbecue and homemade ice cream. Nothing better. Thank you for wonderful memories Uncle Riley. We all loved you.

Barry Smith - April 08, 2023 at 12:50 PM

BT

The Robertsons were neighbors & friends and Riley help my grandpa with the work on the farm. He worked with my dad and and his 3 brothers and they farm and grandpa Charlie & Martha connected to Tobe Reed's at Cracker's Neck. I Miss getting to hi to Riley on fb, wondered what had happened to him. He was a great guy and muss him, a fond childhood friend and neighbor.

Brenda Robertson Tarlton - April 24, 2023 at 03:06 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Riley Read.



April 08, 2023 at 12:43 PM

PC

“ He was a mentor and dear friend to so many of us in the pews of SWUMC. Could always count on him for a story about the farm. We shared stories of how things were in offices "in the day". I remember his strong voice as we enjoyed the old hymns (still "shout the victory", Triple R.) Rest in peace.

Patricia Ann Cravens - April 04, 2023 at 09:48 PM

PC

“ I'm so sorry to hear about Riley's passing. I shared many conversations with him. He never complained even when I knew he was in lots of pain. As his body grew weak, his spirit grew stronger .you're at peace, at last! Pat Cooksey

Pat Cooksey - April 04, 2023 at 08:15 PM

JW

“ I loved our conversations about the family genealogy. Great Uncle Riley will be truly missed.

Julie Westjohn-Tardiff - April 04, 2023 at 06:51 PM