



Mark Hardesty

March 20, 1949 - April 26, 2017

PEORIA – Mark Hardesty, 68, of Peoria, IL died peacefully at home on Wednesday, April 26, 2017 following a lengthy illness.

Mark was born on March 20, 1949 in Peoria to Bill and Shirley Howat Hardesty. He married Theresa Rahe on March 22, 1986; she survives.

Also surviving are his six children, Troy Hardesty of Aurora, CO; Robert Parker (Lisa), Bill Hardesty, Suzanne Hardesty, Ted Hardesty, and Emily Hardesty, all of Peoria, and his granddaughter, Maya Hardesty, of Aurora, CO. In addition, his five siblings, John (Sheryl) of Lewistown, IL, Linda (Dave) Blazis of Colorado Springs, CO; Sherill Diepenbrock, Jim (Carla), and Janet (Dr. Mark) Werking, all of Peoria, also survive, as well as many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, and one granddaughter, Madison.

Mark graduated from Woodruff High School in 1967 and studied electrical engineering technology at Bradley University until he entered the electrician apprentice course at Caterpillar in 1969. After 16 successful years with Caterpillar, in 1985 he was part of a group that formed a new company, Advanced Technology Services. He spent the majority of his career in management, retiring on April 1, 2017. He loved his work and exemplified the spirit of servant leadership.

Mark was an avid outdoorsman and athlete who had many eclectic interests, especially hunting, fishing, and gardening. In addition, he assumed active roles in all of his children's activities, such as Boy Scout leader; baseball, soccer and chess coach; horse show dad; and stage dad. He was passionate about everything he did, and he did it well.

Above all, Mark was a man of faith and family. His life, especially during his bout with cancer, was a witness to his belief and trust in God. He was devoted to his wife and children, endlessly kind, patient, humble, generous, fun, courageous, and loving.

A funeral Mass will be held at 10:30 AM Wednesday, May 3, 2017 at St. Jude Catholic Church in Peoria. Fr. Patrick Henehan will officiate. Visitation will be from 4 – 7 PM Tuesday, May 2, 2017 at Deiters Funeral Home in Washington, with a recitation of the rosary at 7:30 PM. Additional visitation will be one hour prior to the service on Wednesday at the church. Interment will be at St. Clement Cemetery in rural Dunlap, Illinois.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in Mark's name may be made to the Sisters of Mary Morning Star or the Women's Care Center of Peoria, in care of Deiters Funeral Home 2075 Washington Rd. Washington, IL 61571.

Cemetery Details

St. Clement Cemtery

Dunlap, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 2. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Deiters Funeral Home & Crematory - Washington
2075 Washington Road
Washington, IL 61571
(309) 745-5999

Visitation

MAY 3. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Jude Catholic Church
10811 N. Knoxville Ave.
Peoria, IL

Funeral Mass

MAY 3. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Jude Catholic Church
10811 N. Knoxville Ave.
Peoria, IL

Tribute Wall



“ *Deiters Funeral Home & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Mark Hardesty*



Deiters Funeral Home & Crematory - May 03, 2017 at 12:11 PM

RD

“ *You are being held in the thoughts and prayers of the Regina Dominican School Family.*

Regina Dominican - May 04, 2017 at 02:32 PM

MM

“ *My Condolences to the family and friends of Mark. He was a great person and visionary for ATS. He will truly be missed and loved. May God support and strengthen the family in their time of loss.*

Martin Mower - May 04, 2017 at 08:24 AM

DP

“ *Dan & Annie Plaag lit a candle in memory of Mark Hardesty*



Dan & Annie Plaag - May 03, 2017 at 09:47 AM

DP

*Terry and Family,
Our sympathy for your loss. Eternal Rest grant unto him O'Lord, and let
Perpetual Light shine upon him. You are in our thoughts and prayers.
May God bless you with his love and peace.
Dan and Annie Plag*

Dan and Annie Plag - May 03, 2017 at 09:52 AM

TH

Thanks Dan and Annie.

Theresa Hardesty - May 04, 2017 at 11:55 PM



“ 34 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Deiters Funeral Home & Crematory - May 02, 2017 at 11:38 AM

FR

“ *From Ryan and Kim Rector purchased the Pretty
Please for the family of Mark Hardesty.*



From Ryan and Kim Rector - May 02, 2017 at 07:33 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mark Hardesty.*



May 01, 2017 at 04:39 PM



“ *So Sorry for your loss. Thinking of you...*
Corie Sego
FJC

corie sego - May 01, 2017 at 03:42 PM



“ *Caterpillar - Griffin Plant purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mark Hardesty.*



Caterpillar - Griffin Plant - May 01, 2017 at 12:50 PM



“ *Shirley, Sherrill, Theresa and all of the Hardesty family, we are so sad to hear that Mark is no longer with us. Praying for your comfort and sending our love to you.*



Sincerely,
Jeanne and Terese Speck

Jeanne and Terese - May 01, 2017 at 07:55 AM

RS

“ Our prayers and sympathy to the family, we were sorry to read of Mark's passing. Many years ago he was an usher at our wedding and then in much later years his son Troy went to school with our younger son Dana at RCHS. You are in our prayers and we pray that our Lord and Savior will bring peace to all of you as you struggle with this loss. "He is our peace." Eph 2:14

Ron and Lorraine Stotts - April 30, 2017 at 10:07 PM

PK

Terry - it has been many years since our Regina days and saddened to read about your loss. My hope is the wonderful memories shared in the video stay with you.

*Pamela King
Naperville
elicodpap61@gmail.com*

Pamela King - May 04, 2017 at 04:35 PM

TH

Thank you Pam,

Theresa Hardesty - May 04, 2017 at 11:57 PM

PC

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Philip H. Cole - April 30, 2017 at 02:05 PM

PC

“ *What a loss for us, in this world, with Mark’s passing. I write this after reading Mark’s obituary this morning and remembering him over the years. He was one of my two primary mentors when I started in the plant engineering team at East Peoria Caterpillar (Spring 1981). Mark and I continued as part of the original group that became Advanced Technology Services. We put in very long days at ATS in self-education and customer support. I have many memories of working with Mark which include the Building KK computer room working on DEC PDP 11/40’s trying to trouble-shoot them and get them back online before morning first shift start of high-rise storage production. Mark also organized many ATS events. This picture I include does not show Mark but it is from one of the Turkey Run (Indiana) canoe trips he organized for ATS employees and their families. I still have and use the canoe trailer I purchased from Mark 30 years ago and that will now be a physical reminder for me of Mark. My regret is that Mark and I did not stay close as the years went by. Time and different chosen life paths parted us. Still I will always remember Mark as being a good friend, mentor, and work peer. Thank you Mark. Phil Cole*

Philip H. Cole - April 30, 2017 at 02:02 PM

TN

“ *The Newlins purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mark Hardesty.*



The Newlins - April 30, 2017 at 11:23 AM

MT

“ So very sorry for your loss! I attended Woodruff High School with Mark! He was a very nice gentleman! I will keep you and your family in my prayers! I won't be able to attend the visitation for I am recovering from total knee replacement and going to have back surgery! May God hold you in His arms at this time and always! God Bless..Marci (Baumbach) and Jim Theisen. West Peoria



Mrs. Marcia (Baumbach) Theisen - April 30, 2017 at 11:14 AM

DN

“ Very sad to hear about Mark and your loss. A fine man from one of Peoria's finest families. A role model for so many young people .Dale Newlin.

Dale Newlin - April 30, 2017 at 10:17 AM

RW

“ Terry,
I am so sorry for your loss. I was shocked to see that Mark had passed away. I can't imagine how you must be suffering right now. You have my deepest sympathy.
Randy Wendland

Randy Wendland - April 30, 2017 at 08:44 AM

TS

“ We so enjoyed our time with Mark when we got together, such a nice, thoughtful humble man. We were blessed to go on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Mark and Terry. I remember how excited he was going to Canna to renew their wedding vows on their anniversary and he presented Terry with a ring. Such a sweet thing to do. Mark was our photograprer, made CD copies for everyone, so thoughtful. Very very nice man, loved by all. Theresa and Gary Shane

Theresa and Gary Shane - April 29, 2017 at 01:11 PM