



Samuel D. Rayfield

September 13, 1941 - August 25, 2019

Samuel D. Rayfield, 77, of Rossville, IL, passed away Sunday August 25, 2019 at Carle Hoopston Regional Health Center. He was born September 13, 1941, in Danville, IL. Sam married Karen Masengale on September 12, 1964, at the Rossville United Methodist Church. She survives, along with their son, Jason, daughter-in-law, Erica, and grandsons, Justin and Jamie. Sam's family includes sister, Becky (Carl) Olson and sister-in-law, Judy Rayfield. His family by marriage includes, Linda Masengale, John Masengale, Ron (Cindy) Masengale, and Dennis (Sally) Bassett. He was idolized by his 14 nieces and nephews, 28 great-nieces and nephews, and 3 great-great-nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Viola and George Gocking, and father, David U. Rayfield; brother, David J. Rayfield; mother-in-law, Viona Masengale; father-in-law, Earl Masengale; sisters-in-law, Sharon Bassett and Donna Masengale; brother-in-law, Larry Masengale; and nephew, Brian Masengale.

Sam attended Rossville schools where he and his brother, Dave, were standouts on the basketball and football teams. After high school, he served in the National Guard and worked for many years as an electrician and heating and cooling salesman. His community involvement included serving with the Rossville Fire Department, Rossville Park Board, Rossville United Methodist Church Board, and helping found the Rossville Ambulance Service. On many Friday nights, he refereed area high school football games. Sam's favorite topic of conversation and way to spend his free time was with the grandsons he adored, Justin and Jamie. He loved to teach the boys to fish, watch their activities or organize weekend fun in the backyard.

For nearly 50 years, Sam would travel for a week of fishing on Lake Martin in Alabama with a favorite cousin. The rest of the year he would take Jason and many friends and family fishing at spots near and far, especially the Polywogs. When he wasn't fishing, he also enjoyed golf, NASCAR, and Gaither music on Saturday nights.

Sam's kindness was legendary among his family and friends. He always had time to lend a hand or attend family special events, wearing a grin that made his eyes twinkle. He will be deeply missed by all who were lucky enough to know him.

A visitation will be held 4:00 -8:00 P.M. Wednesday August 28, 2019 at Anderson Funeral Home 427 E. Main St. Hoopston, IL. A Celebration of Life will be held at 11:00 A.M.

Thursday August 29, 2019 at the funeral home, with Pastor Chris Quick officiating. No burial will be held.

The family has requested all memorial donations be directed to the Rossville Fire Department, Rossville United Methodist Church, or to the Sharon L. Masengale Bassett (Karen's sister) Breast Cancer Fund (through OSF Healthcare Foundation).

Events

AUG **Visitation** 04:00PM - 08:00PM

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Anderson Funeral Home

427 E Main Street, Hoopeton, IL, US, 60942

AUG **Memorial Service** 11:00AM

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Anderson Funeral Home

427 E. Main St., Hoopeton, IL, US, 60942

Comments



“ Sending prayers and thoughts as you celebrate Sam's life.....

Jim Bauer - August 28, 2019 at 04:52 PM



“ When Sam's obit reads "missed by all who knew him", that's not an exaggeration !! Not a nicer guy was ever born, except maybe his brother Dave !! He had to be in order to marry into the Masengale family !! Viola and George were great parents to all their kids, including Becky !! Sam's passion for fishing stems from Grandpa Wally, who walked to the pond near their home with just an old cane pole, and always returned to their house with a stringer full of fish !! As for sports, both Dave and Sam were the prized athletes of Rossville High !!
Its a shame that such a fine life would come to an end, but all of us who knew Sam are happy and grateful that we did know him !! Our sympathy to Karen, Becky, and all Sam's family !! Thanks for sharing him with us all these years !!
Dan Prillaman

Dan Prillaman - August 28, 2019 at 01:51 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Samuel D. Rayfield.



August 27, 2019 at 11:55 PM



“ to Linda and the family.

Sam was one of best friends I ever had during my time with him. We shared a connection with the family all the time I was living in the area. We ate and lived sports, and became ever closer during that time. Even though I haven't been in the area for many years I often thought of those great years. The last time I saw Sam was at our 50th reunion, and I remember those good times.

To you Linda and the family I once again all the peace the Lord can bring to you. Sam will be missed, but not forgotten. May the Lord be with you at this time.

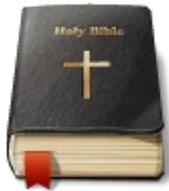
Roy {wick} Bray

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Roy wick Bray - August 27, 2019 at 02:42 PM



“ My prayers and condolences for you and your family. Sam was always with a smile or a laugh.
God bless family at this time and always.



Rebecca Means Luttrell - August 27, 2019 at 10:51 AM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Samuel D. Rayfield.



August 27, 2019 at 09:35 AM



“ We are so sorry for the loss of Sam, we're sending up prayers for your entire family.

Rex and Janie Hackett - August 27, 2019 at 08:24 AM



“ As I heard the news of Sam's passing memories of the psst rushed thru my mind... Sam was there for everyone. To me he was a personal friend, fellow firefighter, teacher and businessman. Although we had been miles apart over the last 20 plus years I thought of him often. I will miss his smile and warm heart. Prayers for Karen and all the family.

Nate Rife - August 27, 2019 at 05:59 AM



“ Karen & Family: My deepest sympathy to you all. Sam was a wonderful man and he was always smiling whenever I would see him. Thoughts and prayers to you all during this difficult time. Sincerely, Ginger

Ginger Grant - August 26, 2019 at 09:54 PM



“ Vickie Allison lit a candle in memory of Samuel D. Rayfield



Vickie Allison - August 26, 2019 at 08:06 PM