



William Franklin Harkness

June 29, 1950 - December 10, 2025

William "Bill" Franklin Harkness, 75, of Lubbock, Texas, passed away at his home on December 10, 2025. He was born June 29, 1950, in Canton, Illinois, to Duane Eldon Harkness and Mildred Ione (Super) Harkness.

Bill had a lifelong passion for mechanics, muscle cars, woodworking, and animals. He was known for his big ideas and his heartfelt desire to tackle "a whole acre of things," always keeping projects and dreams close by. He also had a knack for making others laugh in his usual smart-aleck way, often lightening the moment with quick wit and humor. His pets were a great love of his and often a favorite topic of conversation. In his early adulthood, he served in the United States Navy, an experience that helped shape his independence and work ethic. He began his career working in the oilfield and later became an over-the-road truck driver, a profession he pursued for many years, reflecting his love of the open road and independence.

He is survived by his daughters, Tabitha Evans (Lawrence), Angela Perkins (Kalyn), and April Harkness; his step-daughters Teressa Brewer and Kelly Winegeart; his siblings, Peggy LaFollett, Eddie Harkness (Gayla), Jodi Garcia, Anita Harris (Bill), and Chris Backlund; his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and his longtime parrot companion, Sugar.

He was preceded in death by his life partner, Shirley Wunder; his parents; his brother, Chip Harkness; his brother-in-law, Buck LaFollett; and his sister-in-law, Liz Harkness.

A private memorial service for family and friends will be held at the Chapel at Peaceful Gardens Memorial Park, 15602 TX-493 Loop, Lubbock, Texas, on Saturday, January 3, at 1:00 p.m.

Previous Events

Memorial

JAN 3. 1:00 PM (CT)

American Heritage Funeral Home

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