



Alan Richard Cantley

August 26, 1945 - August 13, 2023

We are sad to announce the passing of Alan Richard Cantley, 77. Alan passed peacefully in his home on August 13th, 2023 under the care of Ruth Jensen Village and Pike County Home Health and Hospice.

Alan was born on August 26th, 1945, in St. Louis, MO to Clyde Cantley and Elsie Young. At the age of 4, Alan went to live with the Johnson's in Silex, MO. He resided there until 1980, when he moved to Bowling Green, MO and was supported by Ruth Jensen Village.

Throughout his years in Bowling Green, Alan was an active part of his community. There wasn't a person he didn't know. He was well known around town and could be found at most area activities, festivals, and shops. He was employed at the Pike County Sheltered Workshop for over 30+ years. Alan's work was very important to him, and he was a dedicated employee. At the workshop, he developed many friendships and relationships that lasted throughout his life. He retired in February of 2023. He participated in Special Olympics for many years and was quite the accomplished athlete winning multiple medals in bowling and basketball. He adorned the walls in his room with these medals as he was very proud of his, and his teammates' victories.

During his time at Ruth Jensen, Alan's staff, housemates, and other residents became his family. To know Alan was to love him. His bright blue eyes, sweet personality, and kind nature were enough to make anyone want to befriend

him. He was the life of the party and could brighten anyone's day with his infectious smile, jokes, and stories.

Always ready for adventure, Alan never let life's challenges hold him back. Alan's good humor and generous spirit touched everyone he met. One of his best qualities was being a good friend. He was ready to help anyone out and never expected anything in return.

Alan's best friend in life was Vernon Wallsmith. Notoriously known as Alan and Vernon around town, they were partners in crime and lived together for almost 42 years. More like brothers than friends, they both looked out for each other, and their relationship was a valued part of Alan's life. Another important part of Alan's life was Sherrie Pliler, staff of 9 years. Alan and Sherrie, who Alan called Shirley, had a playful and caring relationship. Her family was his family and she ensured he was included in every milestone and important event.

As a community member put it, "I can't imagine Bowling Green without Alan in it." Our world will be a little less bright without him here. His love of life didn't come to an end with his death; those who love him, will continue to honor his legacy by living their lives to the fullest.

Friends are invited to celebrate Alan's life with those who knew him best at the Church of the Nazarene in Bowling Green. Alan was an active member of this congregation since its establishment. Services will be held on Thursday, August 17th, 2023. Visitation starting at 9:00 a.m., funeral at 10:00 a.m. and graveside services immediately following at Greenlawn Cemetery.

Pallbearers include: Vernon Wallsmith, Sherrie Pliler, Tom Griggsby, Carl Ulrich, Colleen Boswell, Joe Callhoun. Honorary Pallbearers include: Jeff Meadows, Bill Traynor, Donna Colbert, Beth Kerns, Teresa Baker.

Cemetery Details

Green Lawn Cemetery

Bowling Green, MO 63334

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 17. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Church of the Nazarene
807 S Court St
Bowling Green, MO 63334-2407
(573) 324-2450

Funeral Service

AUG 17. 10:00 AM (CT)

Church of the Nazarene
Bowling Green, MO 63334

Burial

AUG 17. 11:00 AM (CT)

Green Lawn Cemetery
Bowling Green, MO 63334

Tribute Wall

SL

“ Sending our hugs and prayers for Vernon and also to Sherrie Plier and all Alan’s friends and family. Nick will be sad to hear that he is gone. Stephen and Zenda and Nick White



Stephen and Zenda Luebrecht - August 18, 2023 at 09:05 PM

GF

“ Goodbye Alan. You will be so missed. May you R.I.P. now. Fly high with the Angels. I know you will be smiling down on Vernon everyday.



Glenda Wallsmith Farrens - August 17, 2023 at 05:08 PM



“ 96 files added to the album Life Tributes



Bibb-Veach Funeral Home's, LLC. - August 16, 2023 at 05:35 PM

PP

“ Fly high with the angels Alan. Heaven will be a little brighter now with you in it.



Peggy Perkins - August 16, 2023 at 12:09 PM

CC

“ Carla Mills And Mark Cohea lit a candle in memory of Alan Richard Cantley



Carla Mills and Mark Cohea - August 16, 2023 at 10:53 AM

KO

“ Kathy Orf lit a candle in memory of Alan Richard Cantley



Kathy Orf - August 15, 2023 at 09:05 PM



Theresa Wallsmith

“ Theresa Wallsmith lit a candle in memory of Alan Richard Cantley



Theresa Wallsmith - August 15, 2023 at 08:24 PM



Theresa Wallsmit

R.I.P. Alan... Thank You for your Lifelong friendship to my brother inlaw Vernon....

Theresa Wallsmit - August 15, 2023 at 08:27 PM

JL

“ *Janet Lovell lit a candle in memory of Alan Richard Cantley*



Janet Lovell - August 15, 2023 at 08:04 PM

CT

“ *Cindy Hays Tolbert lit a candle in memory of Alan Richard Cantley*



Cindy Hays Tolbert - August 15, 2023 at 06:52 PM

SE

“ *You will be greatly missed Alan. Always enjoyed out talks and sharing my peanut butter crackers with you. RIP buddy*



sherry ellis - August 15, 2023 at 05:36 PM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Alan Richard Cantley.



August 15, 2023 at 02:10 PM



“ Sure will miss you buddy. 😞😞 Rest in peace my friend. 💙💙💙



Chrystal Walker - August 15, 2023 at 11:15 AM