



Tracy L. Joyce

February 12, 1960 - November 27, 2025

Tracy Laverne Joyce, 65, of Paxton, was a man of resilience and kindness, who peacefully left us after a brave battle with cancer on November 27, 2025. Born on February 12, 1960, in Paxton, IL, he was the son of Rex and Naomi Ross Joyce, who instilled in him a compassionate spirit.

He was a hard-working laborer for many people in his younger years. When Chanute Air Force Base closed, his dad moved to Leavenworth, KS, and Tracy went along, where he was employed at a pipe coating plant. In 2000, he suffered an injury at the plant, leaving him with an amputated leg. After his accident, he moved back to Paxton, where he remained remarkably independent and hardworking.

Tracy was a member of the Paxton United Methodist Church, where he loved helping others and was known for his kindness. He received the St. James Award for his community service, reflecting his dedication and caring nature.

Tracy enjoyed spending time with his friends, sitting by a fire, telling stories, and listening to music. He had a gift for knowing song titles and loved to sing. He was loyal to the Kansas City Chiefs and NASCAR. Tracy always had a smile on his face and loved telling jokes, showing off a magic trick, and making people laugh. His greatest love was his German Shepherd dogs, Trigger, Sabo, and his sweet girl, Layla.

In recent years, Tracy could often be found working with his uncle Jay at his farm in Loda, doing construction work, riding the 4-wheeler, or mowing roadsides on the tractor. His E-Bike gave him a tremendous sense of independence, and he was able to visit with many friends.

Tracy is survived by his son, Derry “Jay” Sanders; sisters, Bridgett (Scott Bridgeman) and Rya Joyce; brothers, Joshua and Justin Joyce; his beloved uncle Jay; and many other relatives. He was preceded in death by his brothers, Rick Kuester and Bristol Joyce, his parents, and his grandparents.

Many hearts are aching, but we take comfort knowing he leaves behind a life beautifully lived and loved.

A visitation will be held on Sunday, December 7, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m., with a memorial service at 2:30 p.m., at Cox-Knapp Funeral Home in Paxton. All family and friends are welcome to join in celebrating Tracy’s life. A burial at Glen Cemetery will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to his son, Jay, as his family begins to plan for his transition home.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

DEC 7. 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM (CT)

Cox-Knapp Funeral Home
142 W. Patton St.
Paxton, IL 60957
(217) 379-2353
coxknappfh@gmail.com
<http://coxknapp.com>

Memorial Service

DEC 7. 2:30 PM (CT)

Cox-Knapp Funeral Home
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Paxton, IL 60957
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Tribute Wall

SH

“ Tracy....Been many many years but you were the love of my (grade school) life
I moved away but never forgot you
RIP
Shirley Gharst Holliday

Shirley Holliday - January 09 at 01:32 PM

DE

“ Dana Elliott purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Tracy L. Joyce.



Dana Elliott - November 29, 2025 at 01:50 PM

VH

“ Tracy you'll be deeply missed! As you always would say Much Love!
RIP my Dear Friend 💔 My condolences to Bridget and the rest of the family! ❤️🙏😭💔



Victoria Hunter - November 28, 2025 at 07:11 PM



“ Bobby Watson sent a virtual gift in memory of Tracy L. Joyce



Bobby Watson - November 28, 2025 at 06:40 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Tracy's passing. We knew each othe since we were children.



Marianna Widmer - November 28, 2025 at 06:16 PM