



## Dwayne Alan Ellrich

September 30, 1948 - October 28, 2022

Dwayne Alan Ellrich, 74, of Rensselaer, Indiana, passed away on October 28, 2022

surrounded by his loving family. He was born in Taylorville, Illinois on September 30,

1948 to Harold and Florence Ellrich. He grew up in Taylorville, later moving to Lafayette

in grade school and graduated from Lafayette Jefferson High School in 1967.

He

attended Purdue University and later served in the United States Army during the

Vietnam War from 1968-1970 as part of the Alpha Company 1st Battalion (Black

Scarves), 2nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division (Big Red One) receiving the Army

Commendation Medal with V device for heroism and valor during fierce military

operations at the Battle of Quan Loi. Dwayne was also awarded a Meritorious Service

Medal for his outstanding service to the United States in Vietnam.

Following his military service Dwayne spent many years in sales and in the transportation industry as an Operations Manager, retiring from Caterpillar in

2014.

He was a hard-working, dedicated family man who enjoyed spending his time with his family, grandchildren and extended family and did so at any opportunity. A hilariously witty and fun-loving brother, father, uncle, husband and grandpa, he will be remembered by all for his spontaneous quick wit and huge heart for his family and friends.

Dwayne was an avid Purdue Boilermaker fan, and he loved watching and attending Purdue football and basketball games, instilling a deep family Purdue tradition that continues today. He also loved the "Greatest Spectacle in Racing," attending the Indianapolis 500 with family and friends and he recently was able to fulfill a "bucket list" dream of riding in an IndyCar around the famed track. A childhood love of the New York Yankees and Mickey Mantle lasted a lifetime. Dwayne was a longtime supporter and volunteer with the Special Olympics of Indiana, attending and supporting all of the athletes at various local and state competitions, including his most favorite activity, watching his daughter Ashley compete. He also enjoyed golf, fishing, playing washoos with his family and cheering on his grandchildren at their swim meets.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Harold R. and Florence C. Ellrich. He

is

survived by his wife, Elizabeth J. Ellrich of Rensselaer, Indiana, whom he married on

January 5th, 1983; a sister, Janice (Tab) Gebhard of Lafayette, Indiana, and brother

Roy (Michelle) Ellrich of Lafayette, Indiana. He is also survived by 5 children; Tammy

Morgan (Ted) of Columbus, GA; Michael Ellrich of Atlanta, GA; Amy Hinshaw (Mark) of

Zionsville, Indiana; Andrew Mackey (Shauna) of San Diego, CA; and Ashley Ellrich of

Rensselaer, Indiana and four grandchildren; Belle, Brady, Kaeden and Kalaeh, along

with many nephews and nieces whom he loved and adored.

A Graveside Service will be held on Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 10:30 AM CT at Memory Gardens of Rensselaer with full military rites. Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer has been entrusted with the cremation arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Special Olympics of Tippecanoe County.

# Cemetery Details

## Memory Gardens of Rensselaer

Memory Gardens  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5125  
info@jacksonfuneral.com

# Previous Events

## Graveside Services

NOV 10. 10:30 AM (CT)

Memory Gardens of Rensselaer  
Memory Gardens  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5125  
info@jacksonfuneral.com

# Tribute Wall



“ *Jackson Funeral Chapels created a Tribute Video in memory of Dwayne Alan Ellrich*

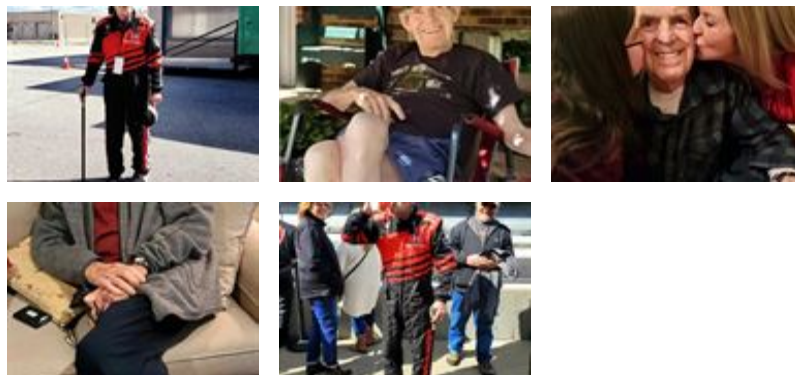


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**Jackson Funeral Chapels** - November 07, 2022 at 12:54 PM



“ *81 files added to the album Life Tributes*



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**Jackson Funeral Chapels** - November 07, 2022 at 12:48 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss.*

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**JoAnn Reese** - November 05, 2022 at 12:46 PM

PH

“ Sincere condolences to the Ellrich family in your loss of a loved one. May your memories carry on. Blessings, Peggy & Jennifer Hoover & Family

Peggy Hoover - November 03, 2022 at 08:13 AM

MH

“ 1 file added to the album Slideshow



Mark Hinshaw - November 02, 2022 at 11:00 PM

JS

Wonderful tribute. Dwayne fought the good fight and now without pain but will be deeply missed by all.

Judy Smith - November 04, 2022 at 11:22 AM

MR

Great tribute. 🙏

margo roberts - November 05, 2022 at 09:53 PM

DE

Libby & family, I am so sorry for your loss.... Great photos and music to remember Dwayne by💕

Deb Ellis - November 06, 2022 at 07:19 PM



“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

Jackson Funeral Chapels - November 02, 2022 at 01:08 PM

BM

“ *Barb Miller lit a candle in memory of Dwayne Alan Ellrich*



Barb Miller - November 02, 2022 at 09:58 AM

JB

“ *Judy Burvan lit a candle in memory of Dwayne Alan Ellrich*



Judy Burvan - November 01, 2022 at 05:56 PM

  
Christie  
Wagner

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Christie Wagner - November 01, 2022 at 02:38 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dwayne Alan Ellrich.*



November 01, 2022 at 02:36 PM

WT

“ *Wagner & Hicks Families (Odessa, TX) purchased the America the Beautiful for the family of Dwayne Alan Ellrich.*



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**Wagner & Hicks Families (Odessa, TX)** - November 01, 2022  
at 02:25 PM

AB

“ *Sending my thoughts and prayers to the Ellrich family and friends, my deepest sympathy! Yours Truly, Audrey Busfield*

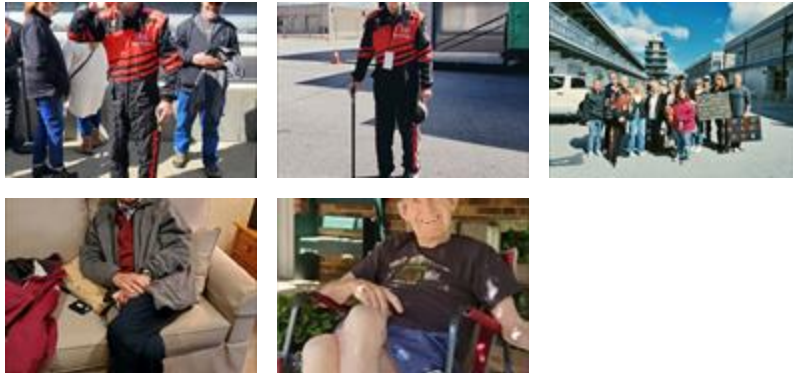


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**Audrey Busfield** - November 01, 2022 at 02:02 PM

AH

“ *81 files added to the album Dwayne Ellrich*



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**Amy Hinshaw** - November 01, 2022 at 01:56 PM