



Vernon "Vern" Nick Tillema

July 12, 1940 - July 12, 2015

Vernon Nick Tillema, age 75, went home to be with his Lord peacefully on Sunday, July 12, 2015 at his Wheatfield, IN residence. Vern was born on July 12, 1940, in Albert Lea, Minnesota, the son of Edward and Nellie (DeBoer) Tillema.

Vern was a graduate of the Wheatfield High School, class of 1958. On April 19, 1960, in DeMotte, IN Vern married the love of his life and best friend, Margaret Toppen and with that union came two children. Vern worked as a Construction Superintendent for The Hamstra Group in Wheatfield and after 50 years of service in 2000, he retired.. He was a member of the First Reformed Church in DeMotte and volunteered at P.E.T. Vern didn't know a stranger and he enjoyed life to the fullest. His hobbies included woodworking, traveling, fishing, boating and was a past member of the Gold Wing Riders Association. Vern loved spending time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Vern is survived by his loving wife of 55 years, Margaret; his children, Bryan (Julia) Tillema of Wheatfield and Kris (John) Hoffman of DeMotte; grandchildren, Renee (Jim) Foster of DeMotte, Ashley (Justin) Schafer of Winona Lake, IN, Scott (Lindsey) Hoffman of DeMotte, Kelsey (Joshua) Smith of Wheatfield and Jesse (Tess) Hoffman of New Bern, North Carolina; great-grandchildren, Brody, Ellie, Atticus, Lincoln and two bundles of joy on the way;

sisters, Joyce (Ken) Kampenga of Lansing IL, Irene (Tom) Hanley of Centerville, OH; brothers, Dean (Annette) Tillema, Richard (Sally) Tillema, Don (Jenny) Tillema, Edward (Kathy) Tillema all of Wheatfield.

Preceded in death by his parents.

Friends may visit from 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM on Tuesday, July 14, 2015 at the Jackson Funeral Service in DeMotte. A Celebration of Life will be held at the First Christian Reformed Church in DeMotte on Wednesday, July 15, 2015 at 10:30 AM with Pastor John Hill officiating. As per Vern's request, cremation rites will be afforded.

Memorial contributions may be made to the P.E.T. or Jasper County Hospital Home Healthcare and Hospice.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **14.** 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Jackson Funeral Service of DeMotte
200 3rd Street, SW
P.O. Box 681
DeMotte, IN 46310
(219) 987-5300
info@jacksonfuneral.com
<https://www.jacksonfuneral.com>

Celebration of Life

JUL **15.** 10:30 AM (CT)

First Christian Reformed Church
1633 South Halleck Street
DeMotte, IN

Tribute Wall



“ Jackson Funeral Chapels created a Tribute Video in memory of Vernon "Vern" Nick Tillema



Jackson Funeral Chapels - July 13, 2015 at 04:14 PM

RS

“ Margaret and family.....I am so very sorry for your loss.....please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you.....so many memories.....Sincerely, Rozanne

Rozanne Sanders - July 17, 2015 at 06:47 PM



“ 74 files added to the album Life Tributes



Jackson Funeral Chapels - July 13, 2015 at 04:00 PM

MD

“ *My deepest condolences , Margaret, to you and the entire family. Sally just told me that Vern was ill and I just saw Jodi's post that he had passed. I am so very sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family*

Marcia Dowdy

Macia Dowdy - July 12, 2015 at 06:18 PM