



RICHARD "DICK" DAVID WARD, 73

STILLMAN VALLEY - Richard "Dick" David Ward, 73, died Tuesday, Nov. 13, 2012, at SwedishAmerican Hospital in Rockford. He was born May 11, 1939, in Wamac, the son of Mark and Evelyn Ward. He met the love of his life at age 14, Willadene Hodge. They married two years later. Through struggles he found his way to feed, shelter, and clothe her and five babies. He moved forward with every step of his life. He received an honorable discharge in 1962 from the U.S. Navy. He retired in 2000 from Consolidated Freight Ways in Rockford, after 39 years of truck driving. He loved his family and his friends. A perfect day was riding his Harley next to his son and best friend "Rich", and making a day of it. Survived by children, Terry (Frank) Lindenmeier of Grove, Okla., Sherry Ward (fiancé, Dale Echelbarger) and Richard M. Ward, both of Stillman Valley; sister, Doris Eckel of Olney; grandson, William Richard (Jennifer) Glazier; great-granddaughters, Hannah and Ruby; and many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by his parents; wife, Willadene; daughters, Susan and Tamara Ward; and brother, Art Ward. Service at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 17, at Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, 136 W. Roosevelt Road, Stillman Valley, with visitation from 9:30 a.m. to time of service; the Rev. Randy Snider, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Byron will officiate. Burial at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 20, in Stillman Valley Cemetery. A memorial fund is established in his name. At Dick's request, feel free to dress casual for the service