



Obituary

Born: Friday, June 14, 1946

Died: Wednesday, April 15, 2020

Jack Wilburn of Montezuma left this Big Game of Life to talk to the Big Man Upstairs on April 15, 2020.

Jackie Gene Wilburn was born June 14, 1946 in Clinton to Milton Leo Wilburn and Betty (Lewis) Wilburn. He graduated with the Montezuma High School Class of 1964. After working for the state highway department, he joined the U.S. Navy, serving four years, including two tours to the Mediterranean on a minesweeper, USS Avenge. He later worked at Futurex in Bloomingdale and at Hercules/AET for fifteen years. He also served as a great bartender at various times and places in the Parke County area.

He opened Jack's Place at the Lyford "Y" on Groundhog Day, 1995. Jack's Place was known for Thursday cook-your-own steak nights, peanut shells on the floor, and "the coldest beer in town." He retired in 2008 and later enjoyed lunches out at local places and socializing. He especially enjoyed a part-time job at Willy's in Cayuga.

His family includes his wife, Laura Bury Wilburn, who he married February 14, 1987; his daughter, Jacqueline S. Wilburn of Clinton; two step-daughters, Lisa Bloesing and her daughter, Margit, and Julia Bloesing and her son Max; his mother-in-law, Helen Bury of Danville, IL; a brother-in-law, David Bury and family of Florida and Washington; nieces Jenny, Heather, Kinsey, nephews Brian and Kevin, and many family members he called "Cuz."

Jack was preceded in death by his parents, sisters Susan Wilburn and Cathy Griffin, and his "Bro" Richard Wilburn. Jack's favorite movie was The Outlaw Josey Wales and he claimed the only book he ever read was The Power of Positive Thinking, which affected his whole life -- "Discover the happiness habit and life will become a continual feast." Jack believed "Every day's a holiday and every meal's a feast!" and he lived his life that way. In his memory, please enjoy a holiday and a feast.

No services are planned, but definitely there will be a celebration of his life! If desired, please support organizations providing food to children and families and those affected by the current situation in our world.

"So dawn goes down to day. Nothing gold can stay."

Brown-Mack Funeral Home was entrusted with the arrangements.

Online condolences may be made to brownmackfuneralhome.com.

Service Summary

- Service details not available -