



## Marvin Ray Ferguson

January 14, 1936 - October 28, 2022

Marvin Ray Ferguson, age 86 of Richland Center, passed away peacefully at the Richland Center Hospital on Friday, October 28th, 2022. He was born on January 14, 1936 in Rockbridge, Wisconsin, the son of Orla and Lucille (Shaw) Ferguson, the sixth of six children. After the age of 6 months, he was raised by Nolan and Roxanne Ferguson, his aunt and uncle. His adoptive sisters include Irene, Inez, and Evelyn. After attending Richland Center High School, he joined the Army. While in the Army, he was stationed in Germany and qualified as a sharpshooter. He competed in many shooting competitions for the Army.

Marvin returned to Gotham, WI to run the family farm after his dad suffered a heart attack. He eventually moved to Madison, WI. There he worked at Manchesters Department Store where he met Janet Shannon. They were later married on July 16, 1960 and lived in Madison for almost two years before moving to Richland Center where they raised their five children.

Marvin worked for the Milwaukee Road railroad for 18 years as a crew member and eventually became the roadmaster. After the railroad, Marvin worked for the Richland County Highway Department plowing snow and taking care of the county parks. He continued working into his 70's and eventually retired to spend time on their property in Richland Center.

Marvin's favorite activity was to be outside enjoying the countryside, oftentimes on his tractor in the woods, surveying which trees needed to be cut for winter wood. Earlier in his life he was an avid hunter of deer and morel mushrooms. Marvin was proud of all of his children and grandchildren and often talked about them. He enjoyed visiting with friends, neighbors, and family and sharing stories.

He is survived by his 5 children, Brian Ferguson of Sugar Grove, IL, Debbie Ferguson of Madison, WI, Daniel (Lynda) Ferguson of New Glarus, WI, Todd (Susan) Ferguson of Woodstock, IL, and Tricia Ferguson of Oregon, WI; 9 grandchildren, Cody and Colton Ferguson of Kankakee, IL, Brianna (Blake) O'Brien of Madison, WI, Logan Ferguson of New Glarus, WI, Alex (Mary Grace) Ferguson of Davenport, Iowa, Kathryn Ferguson of Golden, CO, Ryne Ferguson, Bryson and Regyn Jelle of Belleville, WI; sister Evelyn Chitwood, and many nieces and nephews.

Marvin was preceded in death by his wife Janet, adoptive parents, Nolan and Roxanne Ferguson, 4 brothers, Clifford, Frank, Jim, and Richard Ferguson, a sister, Bonnie Felland, and adoptive sisters Inez and Irene.

A special thank you to Marvin's caretakers, Linda, Deb, and Todd, as well as grandson Ryne, for their loving support through this difficult time.

Please join the family in a celebration of his life on November 25, 2022 at Clary Memorial Funeral Home in Richland Center. Visitation will be from 11-1 PM with lunch being served during visitation. The local military honors unit will provide military graveside rites at 1:00 PM at the Clary Memorial Funeral Home.

[www.clarymemorialfuneralhome.com](http://www.clarymemorialfuneralhome.com)

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

NOV **25**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Clary Memorial Funeral & Cremation Service, LLC  
26777 Jelland Drive  
Richland Center, WI 53581  
(608) 647-6390  
josh@clarymemorial.com  
<https://clarymemorialfuneralhome.com/>

## Military Honors

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# Tribute Wall

MF

“ To the family and friends of Marvin Ray Ferguson, another Comrade was called to the high command. He has gone to the commander of us all. On November 25, 2022 in Honor of his memory, we acknowledged his service to our country in a time of national need, who is now enrolled in that great spirit army whose footfalls cause no sound. But in the memory of man, their souls go marching on. Because of them, our lives are free, because of them the world is blessed. Our deepest condolences from Bower-Gunnill-Dalton VFW Post 2267, Richland Center, WI.



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**Margie Freeman** - December 13, 2022 at 01:46 PM

KW

“ My thoughts are with Dan and the entire Ferguson family today. May you all find a sense of peace in the near future. Sorry that I couldn't be there today to tell all of you in person.

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**Kraig Walter** - November 25, 2022 at 01:32 PM

TF

“ My thoughts, sympathy, and prayers are with the family at this difficult time. Tom Fry

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**Tom Fry** - November 23, 2022 at 08:13 AM

TF

“ I worked for Marv on the railroad for one summer as a teenage kid. Marv treated me with respect and taught me some life lessons. One time I was a little late. He said don't break your neck trying to get here. I was never late again. He also gave me advice, don't sit on the rail joint in hot weather. The rail will expand and take a piece of your butt cheek. Boy did listen to that. I saw Marv a few years at the square restaurant eating breakfast. I kept looking at him and thought I know him. Couldn't miss that mustache. We had a short conversation, and he was very appreciative that I came over. Something triggered me to look up his number a couple years ago, and I called him. His grandson answered the phone and let talk to Marv. Again, he was very appreciative. I've never worked for anyone I've more respect for. He was one of the good guys. I'm sure he's up in heaven teaching God the finer points on railroading. Tom Fry

Tom Fry - November 23, 2022 at 06:44 AM



“ 48 files added to the album LifeTributes



Clary Memorial Funeral Home - November 21, 2022 at 10:13 AM



*Prayers of comfort and peace for the Ferguson family. Hoping that as you all gather together, family and the reflection of great memories bring joy and laughter.*

*With love and sympathy,*

*Jennie (Skillrud) MacLaren*

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**Jennie Skillrud-MacLaren** - November 23, 2022 at 11:10 AM

JT

“ SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS! THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS FOR YOUR FAMILY!

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**JOHN & CONNIE TURGASEN** - November 18, 2022 at 05:30 PM

DN

“ *So sorry to hear of your loss  
Glen and Deb Niemeyer*

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**deb niemeyer** - November 08, 2022 at 11:17 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Marvin Ray Ferguson.*



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November 04, 2022 at 09:47 PM

FS

“ From Jack and Myreen Schaab purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Marvin Ray Ferguson.



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**From Jack and Myreen Schaab** - November 04, 2022 at 05:34 PM

RW

“ I the Richard Wastlick Family enjoyed my many many years of being friends of your Dad and Mom. They were great neighbors and I enjoyed having you Dad tell stories of his life in the Army, His Railroad years and years he worked for Richland County. I rode with him a couple of times when I was not working when he worked for Gardner baking company. I enjoyed his hunting stories and his common sense approach to life and how he helped and dealt with people he worked with. Your Mom was a gem to and one of my wifes best friends. I have missed her and now will miss visiting with your Dad. I am thankful for knowing then and also watching you as his and her children grow up. You have my deepest sympathy and my thoughts will be with you. Cherish the memories the will always be with you. Richard Wastlick

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**Richard G Wastlick** - November 04, 2022 at 03:03 PM

YF

“ Your Tanknology Family purchased the Beautiful i n Blue for the family of Marvin Ray Ferguson.



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**Your Tanknology Family** - November 04, 2022 at 02:57 PM

NK

“ Good stories were always shared on our walks or short drives with Marv on our lane. He always had an interest in our well-being. He was just a very kind and gentle man who would take care of a fallen tree here and there blocking the road on his tractor. Deepest sympathies to the children and grandchildren. He will be missed.

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**Nancy Kraemer** - November 03, 2022 at 02:42 PM