



# Robert Cearlock

JUL 27, 1934 - JAN 8, 2025



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## **Robert Cearlock**

JUL 27, 1934 - JAN 8, 2025

**R**obert L. "Bob" Cearlock, 90, of Vandalia, IL, passed away peacefully Wednesday, January 08, 2025 at his home, surrounded by family.

A Funeral Service will be held at 11:00 AM, Friday, January 17, 2025 at the First United Methodist Church, Vandalia with rev. Joe Lawson and Pastor Curtis Flake officiating. Interment will follow at Fairlawn Cemetery, Vandalia. Visitation will be held prior to the service from 9:00-11:00 AM, Friday, at the church. In lieu of flowers and gifts, memorials may be made to the Parkinson's Foundation. Online condolences can be expressed at [www.hohltandfilefh.com](http://www.hohltandfilefh.com).

Robert Lee Cearlock was born July 27, 1934 in Vandalia, IL, the son of John Franklin and Opal Irene (Elder) Cearlock. He married the love of his life, Nelda Mae Anderson, on May 21, 1953 in San Antonio, TX. Together, they had three daughters and celebrated 72 years of marriage.

At the age of 12, Bob started working alongside his three brothers in his father, John Cearlock's, Grocery and Feed Store. In 1955, he went to work at Tri-City Grocery Store in Vandalia and was the manager until 1972, when he then built Bob's IGA. The store was sold in 1985 and later known as Harmon's IGA. In 1986, Mr. Cearlock founded RC Foods in Greenville, and eventually sold the store in 1992.

Mr. Cearlock had several business interests outside of the grocery field. In 1964 he opened the first coin operated car wash in Vandalia, the Ram-Jet. He started the Fayette County Shopper in 1978 and sold the shopper to The Leader-Union in 1981. He also owned and operated the Jefferson Street Laundry and the Rainbow Laundry and Car Wash.

A long history in a family-owned business gave Bob an appreciation for service and responsibility to the community. Bob was a past president of the Vandalia Retail Merchants Association, the Chamber of Commerce, the Vandalia Lions Club, and the Board of Directors at First National Bank. He was also a member of the First United Methodist Church and past member of the Fayette County Hospital District Board and Vandalia Moose Lodge #1447.



## Obituary

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After reducing his work schedule, Bob had much more time to enjoy his hobbies such as golfing, fishing, and traveling. He was a loving husband, devoted father, and grandfather and was sure to make time for family outings and get togethers.

Mr. Cearlock is survived by his wife Nelda Cearlock of Vandalia; daughter, Rhonda Cearlock of Vandalia; daughter, Nancy Cearlock of St. Peters, MO; daughter, Sue and husband Don Schofield of Franklin, TN; sisters, Joan Siebert of Vandalia and Judy Dothager of East Peoria; grandchildren, Leah and husband Ryan Griesenauer of Hendersonville, TN and Elizabeth and husband Jesse Woodall of Knoxville, TN; and a great-grandson, Bennett Griesenauer of Hendersonville, TN.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Dean, Gene and DeWayne Cearlock; and sisters, Dorris Cearlock and Kay Kistler.






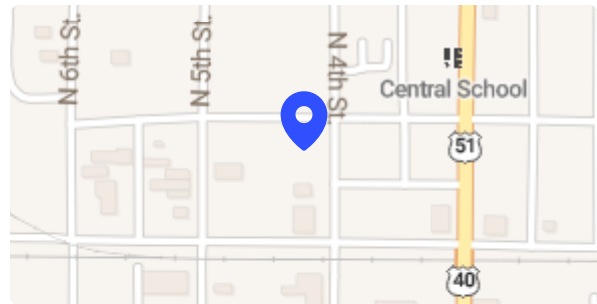
# Events

**Robert Cearlock**




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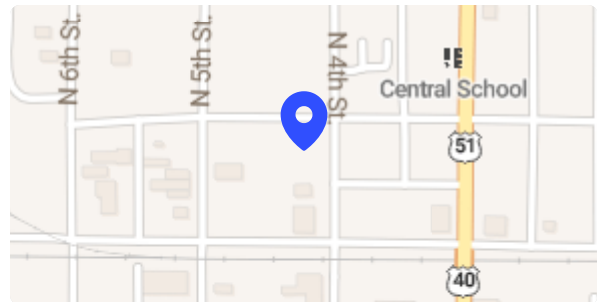
## Visitation

-  **Friday, January 17, 2025**
-  9:00 AM - 11:00 AM CT
-  **First United Methodist Church**  
127 N. 4th St., Vandalia IL 62471




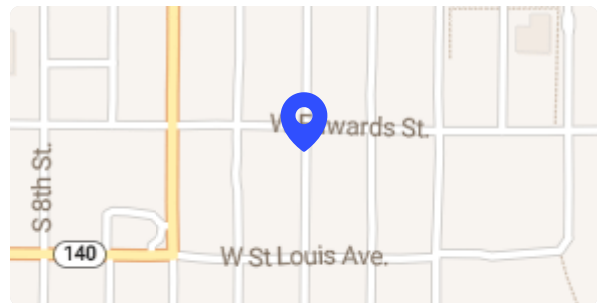
## Funeral Service

-  **Friday, January 17, 2025**
-  11:00 AM CT
-  **First United Methodist Church**  
127 N. 4th St., Vandalia IL 62471



## Cemetery Details

-  **Fairlawn Cemetery**  
South 6th St, Vandalia IL 62471





# Tribute Wall

**Robert Cearlock**  
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**Tom & Sandy Robbins** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Cearlock family.



January 15 at 5:26 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Serene Retreat to the Cearlock family.



January 15 at 4:13 AM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert.



January 15 at 4:13 AM



**Bonnie Barr** posted:

Sue, You were brought up beautifully by your parents. Sending love and sympathy to you and yours. And of course prayers for God to be near and help everyone heal from this loss. Love, Your classmate and friend, Bonnie Bone Barr

January 14 at 9:18 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet to the Cearlock family.



January 14 at 7:17 AM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert.



January 14 at 7:17 AM



# Tribute Wall

**Robert Cearlock**  
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**Sharon Spillar** sent a Blue Caribbean Bouquet to the Cearlock family.



January 14 at 5:58 AM



**Cheryl Oertwig** posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with all of you!

January 14 at 5:06 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Lily and Rose Tribute Spray to the Cearlock family.



January 11 at 1:22 AM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert.



January 11 at 1:22 AM



**Pam And Mike Baker** posted:

Bob and Nelda were always so accepting. They invited us into their FL home and their lake home. Nelda insisted in making lunch for us and then playing golf. Bob added so much to the community. Bob will be missed.

January 10 at 3:24 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful Dreams to the Cearlock family.



January 10 at 7:47 AM



## Tribute Wall

**Robert Cearlock**  
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**Deb Maurer** lit a candle in honor of Robert.



January 9 at 9:08 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Robert by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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