



Harold Swofford

JAN 21, 1938 - SEP 7, 2025



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Harold Swofford

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Harold L. Swofford, 87, of Mulberry Grove, IL, passed away peacefully on Sunday, September 07, 2025 at his home.

A Funeral Service will be held at 11:00 AM, Thursday, September 11, 2025 at Hohlt & File Funeral Home, Vandalia with Rev. Bruce Sasse officiating. Interment will follow in McInturff Cemetery, rural Vandalia with Military Rites accorded by Crawford-Hale American Legion Post # 95, Vandalia & Brownstown VFW Post #9770. Visitation will be held prior to the service from 9:00-11:00 AM, Thursday, at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers and gifts, memorials may be made to McInturff Cemetery. Online condolences can be expressed at www.hohltandfilefh.com

Harold Laverelle Swofford was born on January 21, 1938 in Alton, IL, the son of William J. and Velma M. (Roberts) Swofford. He married the love of his life, Judith Ann LaDuke on October 01, 1960. Together they raised three children and celebrated 54 years of marriage before her passing on January 19, 2015.

Harold was a proud United States Army veteran. In his school days, he excelled as an athlete, particularly in track and wrestling. His career began at the Johnson-Stephens & Shinkle Shoe Factory in Vandalia, and he later worked as a mold operator for Crane Packing, where he retired after many years of dedicated service. Harold was also a passionate softball coach and player. His love for music and singing led him to perform old country karaoke at numerous nursing homes, and he eventually started his own program on Facebook. Known for his witty jokes, Harold was a gentle and down-to-earth man. He cherished his family and enjoyed playing horseshoes and ping pong, as well as woodworking and gardening.

Mr. Swofford is survived by his son, Curt Swofford and wife Diane of Vandalia; daughter, Kathy and husband Kent Emerick of Vandalia; daughter, Sandy and husband Scott Snider of Salem; grandchildren, Mindy and husband Christopher Birkner of St. Genevieve, MO , Michael Emerick and wife Carrie of Hanover Park, Andrea Emerick of Titusville, FL, Travis Emerick of Centralia, Brooke and husband Donny Sager of Shelbyville, KY, Olivia Snider with Ben Myatt of Shelbyville,



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KY, and Blake Swofford of Vandalia; great-grandchildren, Corie and husband Cody Smith, Hunter Sasse and wife Annika, Xadric Lassar and wife Leah, Harlequin Lassar, Owen Birkner, Luke Birkner, Jersey Rakers, Alex Emerick, Clara Emerick, Blaire Sager, Dawson Sager and Alara Myatt; great-great grandchildren, Grace, Maddie, Avery, Aiden, and Rydian; numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife; grandson, Douglas Emerick; brothers, Otis, Sidney, Raymond, James, Everett, and Donald Swofford; sisters, Nola Weaver, Retha Blain, and Wilma Meyer.



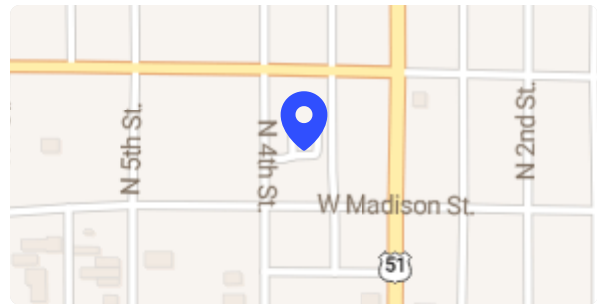
Events

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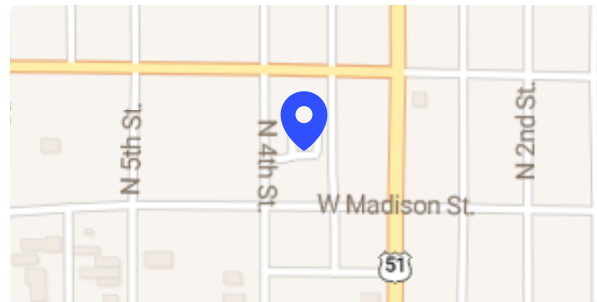
Visitation

- Thursday**, September 11, 2025
- 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM CT
- Hohlt & File Funeral Home, Ltd.**
204 N 4th Street, Vandalia IL 62471



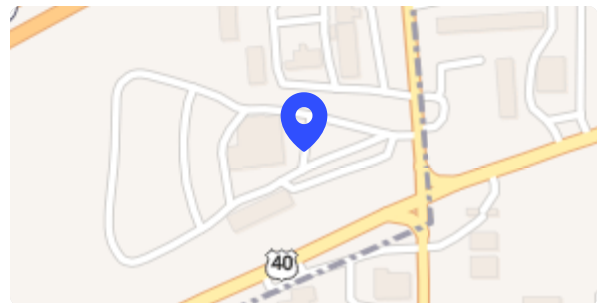
Funeral Service

- Thursday**, September 11, 2025
- 11:00 AM CT
- Hohlt & File Funeral Home, Ltd.**
204 N 4th Street, Vandalia IL 62471



Cemetery Details

- McInturff Cemetery**
Rte 140, Vandalia IL 62471





Tribute Wall

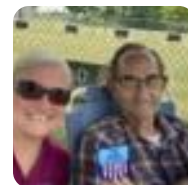
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Pamala Carr shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Harold was one of my best friends. And so much fun for a child as a next door neighbor growing up in Hagarstown, IL. He made fun things like stilts to walk on. I couldn't wait to get home from school to use those stilts! He would have them ready for me by his garage. In speaking with my brother Matt, he commented that Harold took a lot of one on one time with him, which I didn't realize. He would ask Matt if he wanted to pitch softballs to him and they would pitch for over an hour. It meant a lot to Matt. Later in life, he very patiently taught me to play horseshoes and because of that teaching I won a tournament. He will be deeply missed. But our loss is heavens gain.



September 13 at 4:59 AM



Anonymous sent an Arrive in Style to the Swofford family.



September 10 at 2:59 AM



Stacy Levin posted:

Your parents were definitely a second set of parents to me. So many great memories!! Love you all!

September 9 at 5:54 PM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Swofford family.



September 9 at 4:46 AM



Media

Harold Swofford

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Pamala Carr shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

September 13 at 4:59 AM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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