



Richard Jay French

July 12, 1948 - June 18, 2022

Richard “Jay” French, 73, of New Castle passed away peacefully on the evening of Saturday, June 18, 2022 at home surrounded by his family.

He was born on July 12, 1948 in New Castle, IN, a son of the late David and Mary Jane French.

Jay graduated from Union High School in 1966. Jay served his country in the United States Army as a Military Policeman during the Vietnam War. He worked as a Lab Technician for Chrysler Corporation and retired in 2003 after 37 years. Jay also worked for Miller Environmental and General Truck Sales in Muncie for several years. He enjoyed going on cruises, farming, mowing, fishing, boating and being outdoors.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Anna “June” French; children, David (Kristen) French, Julie (Shane) Delon, Steven (Jody) French, Mark (Danielle) French, Keisa (Alan) Messer and Sarah Clifford; 12 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; siblings, Dale (Joyce) French, Ben (Pat) French, Linda (Richard) Ratcliff, Connie (Ed) Smith; step-mother, Yvonne French, and several nieces and nephews.

Jay was preceded in death by his parents, David Franklin and Mary Jane (Razor) French.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Henry County Community Foundation for the Cancer Society Fund.

A celebration of life will be held at 1:00 pm, Saturday, June 25, 2022 at Sproles Family Funeral Home in New Castle with Ben French officiating.

Friends may visit from 10 am – 1 pm prior to the service at the funeral home.

You may send the family a personal condolence at www.sprolesfamilycares.com.

The Sproles family and staff are honored to serve the family of Jay French.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **25**. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Sproles Family Funeral Home
2400 S Memorial Dr
New Castle, IN 47362
(765) 521-2400
toms@sprolesfamilycares.com
<https://www.sprolesfamilycares.com/>

Celebration of Life

JUN **25**. 1:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ 113 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Sproles Family Funeral Home - June 24, 2022 at 10:14 PM

JB

*We are so sorry to hear of the loss of your loved one. Please know that God knows your sorrow and will see you through this difficult time. Sending special love and prayers to Mark, Danielle and Lillian.
The Byrd Family*

Julie Byrd - June 25, 2022 at 09:54 PM

BE

“ *Sorry for your loss! I am great friends with Mark and Steve and know what great people they are. Thoughts and prayers to you.*

Brett Eltzroth

Brett Eltzroth - June 24, 2022 at 01:00 PM

RS

“ To the family :
Sorry for your loss. We know Jay will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Jesus will take care of him❤️



R&L Sanders - June 24, 2022 at 12:32 PM

AW

“ Sending loving, peaceful prayers to you all.
Jay will be sadly missed and never forgotten.



ANDREA WRIGHT - June 24, 2022 at 09:15 AM

KB

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Jay worked here at General Truck Sales and those of us in the body shop think a lot of him. Such a good guy. Always a smile and kind word. I know you will miss him. We miss him! Karen Brubaker

Karen Brubaker - June 23, 2022 at 09:29 AM

JC

“ Sorry to hear of Jay's passing. I enjoyed working with him for several years in the lab at Chrysler Corporation. Our families shared many birthday parties, along with other adventures, while our children were growing up. My condolences to all of his family members on this loss.

Jerry Cox

Jerry Cox - June 22, 2022 at 09:07 PM

MB

“ Momma Von, Brent, and Brad purchased the Pink Potpourri Bouquet for the family of Richard Jay French.



Momma Von, Brent, and Brad - June 22, 2022 at 05:59 PM

MW

“ I too came to know Jay from the Wallace trips to Patoka lake, first met him when I was 12 or 13 years old. We all had so much fun together and Jay was a very integral part of that experience. After college I went to work at Chrysler and not long after in the lab with Jay. I can't really put into words how much the time I got to spend with him at work and after he retired meant to me. He became a fairly permanent fixture in my life and we spent many evenings hanging out, playing darts in his barn, just catching up on what was happening in each others lives. My brother Mike wrote the previous post about Jay, which could not have been said more beautifully and it really illustrates who Jay was and what he meant to so many different people. I feel like lots of people come in and out of our lives throughout the years but Jay had an immense impact on me and I will always treasure the 40 years I got to be a part of his life. The world is going to be a sadder place without him in it but it's obvious to me the legacy he left behind. My heart goes out to his family and as I learned recently after the passing of my own father, it gets better with time.

Mark Wallace

Mark Wallace - June 22, 2022 at 04:39 PM

PO

“ *Portia lit a candle in memory of Richard Jay French*



Portia - June 22, 2022 at 12:26 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Richard Jay French.*



June 22, 2022 at 08:02 AM

MW

“ *I first came to know Jay as one of the "Patoka Gang" - a group founded by my Dad and his brothers. The gang would carve out a week every spring to go fishing on Patoka lake in southern Indiana. Jay simply became part of the family. I and the rest of the group thought the world of Jay - always eager to pitch in and help, a great boatmate, and the occasional practical joker. In later years, as it became more difficult for the entire group to come together for the trip, Jay and I continued the tradition. I am very grateful for all those wonderful memories.*

Jay was also very supportive and kind to me when I joined the Chrysler family. There were certainly times when I needed his grounded sensibility and sense of humor.

Our sincerest condolences to the French family for this profound loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you in these difficult times.

Mike Wallace - June 22, 2022 at 07:53 AM

CJ

“ *My condolences to the French family! Jay was an outstanding worker and a great friend. Enjoyed working with him at Chrysler. May God bless the French family during this very difficult time* 🙏❤️🙏



Curt Jackson - June 21, 2022 at 05:42 PM

YL

“ *Your Supply Planning Family at Eli Lilly purchased the Ever Upward Bouquet for the family of Richard Jay French.*




Your Supply Planning Family at Eli Lilly - June 21, 2022 at 11:47 AM

PM

“ *Phil Marsh lit a candle in memory of Richard Jay French*



phil marsh - June 21, 2022 at 10:42 AM

 Wilma Royer Massengale

“ *Wilma Royer Massengale lit a candle in memory of Richard Jay French*



Wilma Royer Massengale - June 21, 2022 at 09:38 AM

DB

“ *I am sorry I have a conflict Sat so will be unable to attend the service. But please know you have my sincere condolences and prayers for peace and comfort for you all.*

Donni Barnes - June 20, 2022 at 09:32 PM

AD

“ *Angela Duncan lit a candle in memory of Richard Jay French*



Angela Duncan - June 20, 2022 at 04:14 PM

BH

“ *Oh we are so saddened to hear of JAYS PASSING! He was such a kind and wonderful man. Enjoyed the times we bowled with him!! Our thoughts and prayers are with his family!! RIP JAY.*



Belita and Mike Hardwick - June 20, 2022 at 03:31 PM

MR

“ My deepest sympathies to all that love Uncle Jay. I regret I will not be in attendance for celebrating his life. I will be thinking of you all. I have many favorite memories with Uncle Jay. One being when he taught me how to water ski. He had taken us to Brookville and while I was learning to ski somehow my skis were pulled off and as I came up from the water one hit me in the back of the head. Luckily David jumped in for a quick rescue! As I sat in the boat shaking off the aching in my head Uncle Jay says it's your turn again. I thought gosh give me a minute. Little did I know this to be a life lesson of when you fall off get back on. I'm sure he wanted to make sure I wasn't afraid to try again.

He, Aunt Linda and I applied this to our Bad Bowlers league as well. Continually trying to bowl! We were never invited out of this league but we had a lot of fun!

A few of many memories and I am grateful for them all. I am fortunate to have had him as a part of my life and family and will remember him fondly.

Melissa Rumble - June 20, 2022 at 02:49 PM

PW

“ Jay was a heck of a guy. Not many people would fit in on our family fishing trips to Patoka but, Jay was a natural. Had many great times with him on those trips. It was truly my pleasure to have known and shared some laughs with him.

Paul Wallace

Paul Wallace - June 20, 2022 at 01:02 PM