



## Donald C. Ballinger

January 2, 1938 - November 2, 2019

Donald Cleo Ballinger, age 81 of Humboldt, IL passed away at 2:26 PM, Saturday, November 2, 2019 at Sarah Bush Lincoln Hospital in Mattoon, IL. A funeral service in his honor will be at 2:30 PM, Thursday, November 7, 2019 at Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home, 1200 Wabash Avenue, Mattoon, IL 61938 with Reverend Ron Dickinson officiating; a committal service will follow in Roselawn Cemetery in Charleston, IL. Military Rites will be conducted by the US Army National Guard. A visitation will be from 1:00 PM until the time of service at the funeral home.

Donald was born on January 2, 1938 in Toledo, IL the son of the late Clark D. and A. Naomi (Cox) Ballinger. He is survived by his two children; one son, Bruce D. Ballinger and wife Reyna of Rancho Palos Verdes, CA; one daughter, Gail E. Crouse and husband Mark of Mechanicsville, VA; four grandchildren, Brian, Karen, Samantha, Shelby; one great-grandchild, Sawyer; one sister, Bany Winn of St. George, UT; and five nieces, Cathy Abston of Charleston, IL, Terri Carpenter and husband Bill of Greenville, IL, and Debbie Hines and husband Jay of Mattoon, IL, Angie Esser and husband Neil of Altadena, CA, Robin Williams of Altadena, CA. He is preceded in death by his sister Natresia Biggs and nephew Joe Abston.

Donald honorably served our country in the Army National Guard for over thirty years and was employed by General Electric for forty years. He was a dedicated Life Member of American Legion, Sons of American Legion 4088, Life Member of Patriots and Life Member of Mattoon Eagles Lodge. Donald

was a member of Kaskaskia Country Club and an avid golfer. He was a devout sports fan, who enjoyed watching baseball and college basketball, and coached JC baseball for several years. He had a passion for old western movies, woodworking and making furniture. Donald will be greatly missed but not forgotten.

Memorials in his honor may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Visit [www.mitchelljerdan.com](http://www.mitchelljerdan.com) or [www.facebook.com/mitchelljerdanfuneralhome](http://www.facebook.com/mitchelljerdanfuneralhome) to light a virtual candle in his honor or share a memory with the family.

# Cemetery Details

## Roselawn Cemetery

Charleston, IL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 7. 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM (CT)

Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home Ltd.  
1200 Wabash Ave  
Mattoon, IL 61938  
(217) 234-8828  
contact@mitchelljerdan.com  
<https://www.mitchell-jerdan.com/>

## Service

NOV 7. 2:30 PM (CT)

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1200 Wabash Ave  
Mattoon, IL 61938  
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# Tribute Wall

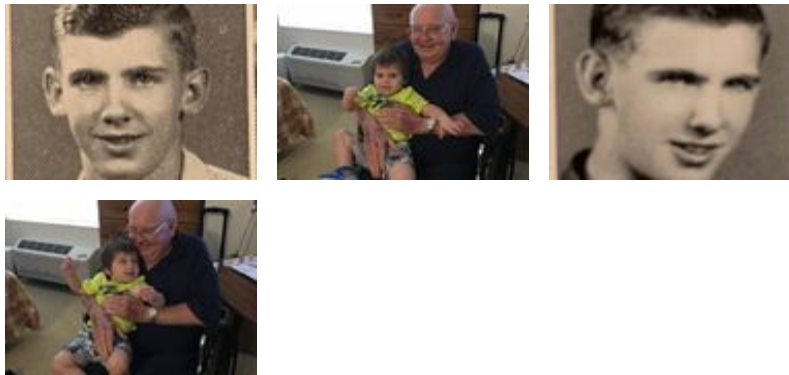


“ Donald C. Ballinger

October 08, 2023 at 07:40 PM



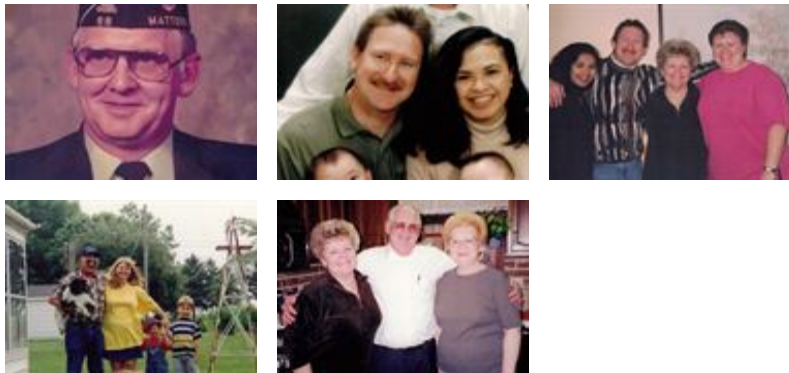
“ 4 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home - November 07, 2019 at 01:16 PM



“ 56 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home - November 06, 2019 at 08:30 PM

CA

“ *I will always cherish " our talks" I learned alot about our family from you. R.I.P. Uncle Don.*

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**Cathy** - November 05, 2019 at 05:19 PM

BW

*Donald Cleo Ballinger, "Robin", that's my Brother. He was my unspokern, unseen protector.*

*When i was very small he could not pronounce my name so he called me "Bany" and that is what i'm known as to this day. So in a sense he named me!*

*When we were growing up I was his tag-along with the boys playing baseball, football, Fox and the Hound on those cold winter days. Running to the creek, at the end of the turn road, playing in the water on those hot humid summer days or catching those nasty snapping turtles in buckets and dragging them home. Only Dad would make us turn them loose saying, They'll find their way back to the water".....*

*Rob taught me to ride a bike. Though I never had one of my own. He was very proud and possessive of his, I was never allowed to ride his unless he was present. One day i snuck out while he was inside and was riding in the yard, suddenly, an out of place brick bat! Of course, I went head over heels, breaking the fancy rear view mirror and cutting an inch plus hole above my knee. I was crying and screaming when he came running and lugged/carried me in the house to mom. Once again my protector. My first doctor's visit and six stiches later. Boy did I get chewed out after he knew I was OK.*

*In high school it was he who taught me the rules of the road and driving. Dad wouldnt let me drive his because my sister, Natresia, had a fender bender in the only family car three years earlier.. Rob would let me drive his, only if he was in it! But....*

*Robin took me to dances, allot of dances, parties, games and activities. Always there to pick me up when it was time to come home or when HE thought it was time to leave!*

*After we both married and had families and i moved to California we disconnected for awhile. Then as our lives settled we became those buddies again, vacations, trips etc.*

*When I was home for my 50th Class reunion I stayed with Rob and while visiting I mentioned I didn't have a date for the pizza party, where all would gather for the first evening. My Rob's first response was "I'll be your date, "Ban". We had a great time. He knew more people then I did since he had lived there all his life! My protector.*

*He leaves me now but in my heart I know he's in his happy place with Joann, the love of his life, mom, dad, sis, Todd, Joe and all those loved ones before him. When its my time he'll meet me there as my proector.*

*I love you, Robin< was the last words I said to you and they will be the*

*first words i say when I get there. MY PROTECTOR.*

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**Bany A. Winn** - November 06, 2019 at 09:49 PM