



Daniel L. Rannells

August 29, 1931 - October 10, 2012

KOONTZ LAKE-Daniel L. Rannells, 81, of Koontz Lake, formerly of Hamlet, passed away Wednesday, October 10, 2012 at Doctor's Hospital, Bremen, IN. Dan was born August 29, 1931 in LaPorte, IN to Joseph and Mildred (Musser) Rannells and lived in the area all of his life. On October 5, 1951 in Indianapolis he was married to JoAnn Turner, who preceded him in death on August 11, 2011. He was also preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Barbara Dolezal. Survivors include: four children, Debbie (John) Hemmings of Avon, IN, Joe (Jody) Rannells of Koontz Lake, Kathy (Tim) Purtee of Hamlet and Kris (Michelle) Rannells of Hamlet; grandchildren, Nicci (Rod) Podell, Barb (Chase) Huotari, Drew (Caitlin Weinstein) Rannells, Abbey Rannells, Ashley Blair, Erik Paniccia and Brittnie Rannells and great-grandchildren, Chace, Ainsleigh, Lexi, Emilie, Riley and Kinley.

Dan was the owner of Rannells Funeral Home, Hamlet & Koontz Lake, since 1952. He was a member of the Hamlet United Methodist Church and the Hamlet Lions Club. He was a past-member of the Hamlet Fire Department, the Hamlet Town Board, the Starke County Merit Board, several other business and civic organizations and was the former Starke County Coroner for many years.

Funeral services will be Tuesday, October 16, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. (Central Time) at the Hamlet United Methodist Church with Rev. Mark Day officiating.

Burial will be at the Fletcher Cemetery, Hamlet. Friends may call Monday from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Rannells Funeral Home, Hamlet Chapel and Tuesday at the church after 10:00 a.m. until the time of services. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be given to the Hamlet United Methodist Church.

Tribute Wall

KB

“ I was very saddened to hear of Dan's passing. My condolences go out to the entire Rannells family. Growing up across the street from Dan and JoAnn (and all the Rannells kids) was truly a blessing in my life for which I am extremely thankful. The thing I will remember and miss most about Dan is his cheerful smile and kindly disposition while serving as our community's funeral director. Thank you for bringing comfort to so many during our time of loss over these many years. Rest in peace friend and neighbor, you will be forever missed.

Ken Boyle - June 18, 2018 at 11:43 AM

LB

“ My deepest condolences to all of you. Losing your Dad will definitely leave an empty space in the community. God Bless you all.
Laura

Laura Brown - June 18, 2018 at 11:43 AM

KS

“ It was very sad to hear of Danny's passing. He was always a very friendly and compassionate friend that helped thousands of people dealing with their grief. Yet he had a wonderful sense of humor. My grandparents and my Dad always talked affectionately of Danny. He will be greatly missed.

Karen Sobieck - June 18, 2018 at 11:43 AM

TB

“ Dan is an irreplaceable part of this community. I have been often comforted by his smile and wit. I have also appreciated the way the he and his sons have treated every person they work with with dignity and respect - like family. Our community is blessed to have them. I will be praying for the family adjusting to another loss.

Tina Baughman - June 18, 2018 at 11:43 AM

JA

“ ((HUGS)) to the Rannells Family. Dan will be missed. He was such a great guy and always made me feel better as I walked thru the doors of the funeral home. Thank you Rannells Family for sharing your Dad, Grandpa and Great Grandpa with our community.

Jayme - June 18, 2018 at 11:43 AM

DE

“ My heartfelt condolences to Dan's family. The community has lost a wonderful man. Dan and his boys were there for me in my darkest hours, just as they were for many, many more.
God bless you Dan.

Denise - June 18, 2018 at 11:43 AM

BS

“ The family of Jesse Keen would like to offer our condolences to the Rannells family on Danny's passing. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

Barbara Keen Stafford - June 18, 2018 at 11:43 AM

PK

“ So sorry for your loss. Dan was a good man. I can still remember how he consoled me, when, picking out Ralph's gravesite. I will remember how all of the family went over and beyond helping me through the deaths of my son and husband.

pam krulik - June 18, 2018 at 11:43 AM

CJ

“ Sorry for your loss

cary jensen - June 18, 2018 at 11:43 AM

JE

“ To the entire Rannells family, my heart was broken when I heard about Danny. One of the best times of my life was when I worked for your Dad and Mom. I almost lived at your home. They both taught me so much! God bless them and all of you. Tish

Jerry - June 18, 2018 at 11:43 AM

HK

“ So, sorry for your loss. We will always remember Danny's friendly smile and the warm greeting he always gave you when he saw you. He was a very warm and caring person and he will be missed.

Hank & Elaine Kozora - June 18, 2018 at 11:43 AM

JS

“ My deepest condolences to the Rannells family. Danny, was a wonderful person. Will miss him dearly. Dan and his sons always treated everyone with respect and kindness.

Jean Seese - June 18, 2018 at 11:43 AM

SW

“ Please accept my condolences. I knew Danny many years ago when he would help us by providing the hearse for our funerals in LaPorte when I was part owner of the Giese-Wurster Funeral Home. Always friendly and real with a great outlook on life. I'm sure he will be missed.
Steve Wurster

Stephen Wurster - June 18, 2018 at 11:43 AM

M(

“ To the Rannells family, sorry to hear about your dad. My thoughts and prayers go out to your whole family. He helped with my mom and dads funeral and was a very good friend.

God Bless your entire family
Malinda King (Louderback)

Malinda King (Louderback) - June 18, 2018 at 11:43 AM

DP

“ Joe, I am very sorry in your dads passing. He is a great guy and will always be remembered with memories of kindness. Prayers for you and your family.

Dennis Pflugshaupt - April 29, 2018 at 07:50 PM

RM

“ Our deepest sympathy to the family of Danny, may you find comfort from your wonderful memories of him. He will be truly missed. Keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers.

Ron and Margo Martin - April 29, 2018 at 07:50 PM

RW

“ We shall certainly miss Danny's greeting at the door as we entered or left your funeral home. We can picture him now with Ernie Glant, Marion, and JoAnn sitting on park benches catching up on all the news.

Heaven is getting nearer for us, too. See you soon, Danny!

Randall & Clara Warnke - April 29, 2018 at 07:50 PM

LR

“ We sadly say "Farewell" to Danny and ask Blessings upon his family. Danny was always there for us with compassion, competence, and caring in our times of need. It was very reassuring to know Danny was only a phone call away. Danny enriched our lives in our times of sorrow. Thank You, Danny.
Lynette (Shei) Ramsbey

Lynette J. (Shei) Ramsbey - April 29, 2018 at 07:50 PM

RO

“ to the Rannells Family. Your Father was such a great man and helped so many during their time of sadness. He will truly be missed.

Ronnie - April 29, 2018 at 07:50 PM

AS

“ I have so many good memories of Dan. He was a great neighbor and man. He was always smiling and made the world a better place. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Andy Shively & Family

Andrew Shively - April 29, 2018 at 07:50 PM

EC

“ So sorry for your loss. May God be with you.

Eugene and Mable Lee Combs - April 29, 2018 at 07:50 PM

DP

“ Our thoughts & prayers are with you all!!

Darrell & Norma Pitts - April 29, 2018 at 07:50 PM

LJ

“ To all the family I am so sorry for your loss. He was a great friend to Rae and I. He will be sadly missed. We will miss His smiling face. Always has a smile for everyone.

Linda Jensen - April 29, 2018 at 07:50 PM

DC

“ To the Rannells family, I am so sorry to learn about your loss. Danny was a Hamlet institution. Even though I have lived away from Hamlet for 50 years, Danny always greeted me as if I had just seen him the week before. At a very young age, I remember when the Black Funeral Home became the Rannells Funeral Home. One time when I commented about that to Danny, he told me he became the youngest funeral director ever in the state of Indiana at the age of 18. He said a few years after he became funeral director that a law was passed making 21 the minimum age to become a funeral director, so his record will never be broken! He was a wonderful friend to my mom and dad, Walt and Hattie Christoph. At my dad's funeral many years ago, I'll never forget a story Danny told me and my brothers. He said he had seen my father in the post office shortly before his death and my dad had one of his frequent coughing spells. He said when my dad recovered and was able to catch his breath, he looked at Danny and said, The more I cough, the more you smile. Danny had a wonderful wit and was simply a wonderful, wonderful man. Hamlet won't seem the same when I visit there.

Dewey Christoph - April 29, 2018 at 07:50 PM



“ I went to school with Danny. I am so sorry he passed away. His friendship was very special to me.
Altie

October 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ This man died from a broken heart. Now he is reunited with his best friend. He is surely resting in peace now!

October 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM