Walter John Renken Jr.
72 | Alton
May 17, 2019
arrangements by Gentry Funeral Home

Walter John Renken Jr., 72, of Alton, passed away unexpectedly after a brief illness at 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 17, 2019, at Alton Memorial Hospital with his family by his side. Born October 30, 1946, in Alton, he was the son of Walter John and Harriett (Black) Renken. Mr. Renken retired from the Alton Telegraph as a night production manager on June 7, 2013. On April 20, 1981, he married Margaret E. Beierle of Alton. She survives. Also surviving is a daughter, Martha (Alex) Pfister of Chicago; three sons (Linda) Renken of Ma., John (Jessica) Berner of Ballwin, Mo., and Kenny Renken of Creve Coeur, Mo.; 11 grandchildren; great-grandchildren; sister, Harriette (Dean) Schmick of Salisbury, Md., and Tammy Hatcher of Godfrey, who was the fiancée of his son Thomas, who preceded him in death. Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his son, Thomas Renken, and a brother, Bill Renken.

He was employed at Olin Brass in East Alton for 30 years as a slitter operator. He is survived by brothers, Robert Weathers of Granite City, Chris (his fiancée, Monica Warren) of Troy and Daniel (Jennifer) Weathers of Granite City; nieces and nephews, Alexis, Ryan Paul, Jordan, Madyson, Morgan, and Landan; aunts and uncle, Linda Hobson, and Lois and Les Throop; along with many cousins.

The Granite City North Class of 1977 graduate had a big heart and loved fishing. More than anything, he loved the St. Louis Blues and Cardinals teams. Billy was a fanatic when it came to fishing. The Funeral Home is also planned. Billy also attended ISHE 95 listeners.

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