



## Dale R. Mechling Jr.

November 2, 1949 - February 5, 2019

Dale R. Mechling, Jr, 69, of Bluffton passed away on Tuesday, February 5, 2019, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Dale was born on November 2, 1949 in Bluffton to Dale R. Mechling, Sr. & Nora (Maddux) Mechling. He graduated from Norwell High School with the class of 1970. Upon graduation, Dale served in the United States Navy during Vietnam, and was discharged in 1972. He worked at Gateway Restaurant in Markle for 22 years as a cook. He later worked at Peyton's in Bluffton from 1996 to 2003. Dale enjoyed fishing, plowing snow and attending local auctions. He always made time to spend with his granddaughter.

Dale and Mary K. (Nix) Mechling were married on October 3, 2003 in Bluffton.

Survivors include his wife Mary of Bluffton and four children; Cantina Mechling and Celena Mechling, both of Fort Wayne, Johnathon and Jacob Mechling, both of Bluffton, along with 3 grandchildren.

Dale is also survived by his sisters; Myrtle Sallese of Pennsylvania, Dee & Lillian Mechling, both of Huntington, Gelene Garton of Bluffton and Nancy Mechling-Garringer of Markle.

Dale is preceded in death by his parents and two sisters, Garnet Mechling and Carolyn Graves.

Friends are invited to visit with Dale's family from 11 A.M. to 4 P.M. on Saturday (Feb. 9th) at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Memorials may be made in Dale's memory to the family.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the family at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 9. 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home  
308 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
<http://www.thomarich.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ Dale R. Mechling Jr.

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM

TS

“ To the family of Dale Mechling If. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Terry and Sue



Terry E Scher - February 10, 2019 at 08:49 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dale R. Mechling Jr..



February 08, 2019 at 06:59 PM

CL

“ To the family and friends, I am sorry for your loss.  
Carol Layne



Carol Layne - February 08, 2019 at 03:30 PM

DS

“ I have known Dale since our days at Rockcreek which is well over 50 years ago . We rode the school bus together. He was a very ornery guy. He always made it easy to know what he thought about everything. I always thought of him as a good friend. After high school when I was in college and he was over at Vietnam, he wrote me a letter. I still have that letter. Our lives went in different directions but I always enjoyed seeing him when I ran into him or at our high school reunions. He liked my husband as well. We were all in the same high school class. I remember the last time I saw him several months ago. He came up to me in a store here in town and we laughed together for several minutes. I will miss seeing him and laughing with him. I am sorry for the loss of him for his family and other friends.

*Debra (Deb) Siela*

---

**Debra Siela** - February 08, 2019 at 03:05 PM

LF

“ To the family of Dale,

*I used to work with him at Gateway. Awesome cook and fun times working together. I am very sorry for your loss.*



---

**Lynnette Fisher** - February 07, 2019 at 12:48 PM

BG

“ Mary, Jonathon, & Jacob -

*I'm so sorry for your loss. Dale was truly something else! Ornery as heck and as I'm typing this I am just imagining hearing him laugh - he did have a great laugh, & boy could he cook! I know he wasn't doing too well for awhile now and I hope that ya'll will at least be able to find some comfort knowing that he's not in pain, or uncomfortable anymore.*

*Bless you all,  
Brandy & Jim Gibson*

---

**Brandy Gibson** - February 06, 2019 at 06:20 PM

MP

“ Dale was such a great man. Always brought a smile to my face. He will be greatly missed. Praying for all of his family and friends.

---

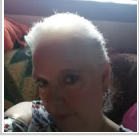
**Misty Peters** - February 06, 2019 at 01:31 PM

BH

“ *i will always think of you day and night, You always made me smile and laugh,  
The day that you and Mary came to mi to see us i cried and i knew then i would  
never see or talk to again so i cry, hurt ,I love you my cousin and friend,*

---

**becky huff** - February 06, 2019 at 01:05 PM



“ *My memory keeps taking me back to the good old days. We spent almost every  
sunday at Aunt Nors and Uncle Dales having so much fun and food and Jr.  
chasing us girls around the yard trying to kiss us. 💕*

---

**Billie Winters** - February 06, 2019 at 11:20 AM