



Don "Red" E. Langford

February 7, 1946 - May 7, 2026

Don E. Langford, known as Red, passed away peacefully on May 7, 2026, to reunite with his beloved wife, Vivian Langford. He was born on February 7, 1946, in Crawford County, Kansas, to Don Langford Sr. and Bessie (Holt) Langford. During his childhood, Don's family moved frequently as they worked the harvest, traveling between Missouri, Kansas, and Yakima, Washington. They eventually settled in Pittsburgh, Kansas, for many years before moving to Missouri, where they lived downtown while his father owned an antique store. The family also lived for a short time in Lathrop, Missouri.

Don (Red) married Vivian Marie Sheirls on April 9, 1963, in Columbus, Kansas. Together, they had two children: a son named Don (Bub) and a daughter named Bessie. They initially raised their children in Kansas City, Missouri, before settling in Independence, Missouri.

Red was a skilled builder and tradesman, often collaborating with his son on construction projects, including houses, swimming pools, and patio decks. In his free time, he enjoyed fishing and caring for his dogs.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his loving wife, his sister Nancy Darlene (Langford) Adams, numerous infant siblings, and his great-granddaughter, Emma Sue Rust.

Red is survived by his son, Don (Bub) Langford, and daughter-in-law Leah Sutton, who cared for him for many years; his daughter, Bessie Salmons (Mike); his older sister, Carolyn Sue (Perry); granddaughters Amanda O'Neal and Samantha (O'Neal) Rust; grandson Codee Langford; seven great-grandchildren; nieces, nephews, and other loved ones.

His family and friends will dearly miss Red. In accordance with his wishes, no services will be held.