



## Joel Raymond Howard

January 30, 1962 - May 10, 2026

Our beloved Pa, Joel Raymond Howard, 64, passed away on May 10, 2026 at Washington Regional Medical Center in Fayetteville, Arkansas, surrounded by family.

Joel was born January 30, 1962, in Sumner, Iowa, to Leo Lavern Howard and Ellen Louise Hoeger. He graduated from Starmont High School in 1980 and attended the University of Iowa.

Joel moved to Arkansas, where he met and married the love of his life, Katherine McKirch, on December 30, 1999, in Fayetteville, AR. They had two children, a daughter, Johanna and a son, Raylee, and they shared 33 loving years until his passing.

Joel was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. He was a dedicated provider and worked for Sears for 35 years. He was an avid fisherman and hunter. He enjoyed gardening and farming, and telling stories, particularly ones about growing up in Iowa. He had a sense of humor and enjoyed teasing others. He held a deep affection for his grandchildren and leaves behind the legacy of family.

Joel is preceded in death by his father, Leo Howard and twin granddaughters, Gidget and Clover Howard.

Joel leaves behind and will be deeply missed by his wife, Katherine Howard of the home; daughter and son-in-law, Johanna and Justin Trimble; son and daughter-in-law, Raylee and Natalie Howard; grandsons, Gardner Howard and Jackson Trimble, all of Highfill, AR; his mother, Ellen Howard, of Manchester, IA; brothers and sisters-in-law, Randy and Brandia Howard, of Farmington, AR; and Scott and Deb Howard, of Hazleton, IA; sister and brother-in-law Ann and Allan Hermsen, of Manchester, IA; brother-in-law, Vernon McKirch and mother-in-law Johanna Pigeon and father-in-law Vernon McKirch; many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

# Upcoming Events

## Celebration of Life Service

MAY 15. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Wasson Funeral Home

441 U.S. 412

Siloam Springs, AR 72761

(479) 524-5131

[wasson@wassonfuneralhome.com](mailto:wasson@wassonfuneralhome.com)

<https://www.wassonfuneralhome.com>