



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.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Service

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

Wasson Funeral Home

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Siloam Springs, AR 72761

(479) 524-5131

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<https://www.wassonfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Shades of Purple was purchased for the family of Joel Raymond Howard.*



May 13 at 11:26 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joel Raymond Howard.

May 13 at 11:26 AM



“ *Healing Tears - Yellow and White was purchased for the family of Joel Raymond Howard.*



May 13 at 09:24 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joel Raymond Howard.

May 13 at 09:24 AM

BW

“ I worked with Joel at Sears and learned a lot about appliance repair. He was always kidding around with me and his customers. He did like to play jokes on people. You just never knew what he would come up with. I will miss conversations with Joel. He was fun to be around. My heart goes out to the family. God bless all of you. Until I see you again in Heaven. Happy fishing Joel. Brian Wood

Brian Wood - May 12 at 11:17 PM

DP

“ Per Joel, don't eat all the beans Bob. So, so sorry for your loss. Joel was a great person.
Mark and Diane Parker Family

Diane Parker - May 12 at 07:09 PM

TE

“ We all know he “loved” my Sooners! Helped me cheer them on again and again! lol IYKYK
You will be missed Joel! RIP

Tina Eaton - May 12 at 01:11 PM

TE

“ Tina Eaton lit a candle in memory of Joel
Howard



Tina Eaton - May 12 at 11:27 AM