



## Matthew Gene Edwards

March 1, 1937 - February 21, 2017

Matthew Gene Edwards, 79, of Thebes, Illinois died Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at Southeast Hospital in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

He was born Monday, March 01, 1937 in Cape Girardeau, MO to Homer Paul and Sylvia Jane McCain Edwards .

He and Diana Blumenberg Edwards were married Saturday, October 20, 1984 at Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

Gene was a very intelligent and creative man with a great work ethic. Among his many accomplishments he was a pilot, owning his own airplane. Flying his airplane was a great joy for him. He invented "the valve spring compressor," on which he was able to get a patent. He retired from Delta Asphalt after working on heavy equipment several years.

Gene loved animals, especially the dogs and cats he rescued that he might give them a good home.

He was a member of Word of Faith Fellowship .

Survivors include his wife, Diana Edwards, of Thebes, IL; one son, Ronnie Joe Edwards, of Thebes; three daughters; Gwendolyn Edwards, of Carbondale, IL, Loretta Dodson, of Cape Girardeau, and Joan (Rodney)

Simmons, of Cape Girardeau; one brother, Rickey Edwards, of Tulsa OK; two sisters; his twin sister, Opal June French, of Bangor, PA, and Julie Moore, of Fruitland, MO. He is also survived by six grandchildren; William Simmons, Zachary Rendleman, Tyler Rendleman, Lacy Rendleman, Cody Dodson, Holly Dodson, one great grandson, Ivan Edwards, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and three sisters; Roshella Edwards, Rosemary Carley, and Susie Thompson.

Friends may call 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Sunday, February 26, 2017 at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel in Cape Girardeau.

Funeral service will be at 11:00 AM Monday, February 27, 2017 at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel in Cape Girardeau with the Rev. Cathy Hobbs officiating.

Burial will be at Rose Hill Cemetery in Thebes.

Memorial contributions may be given to Word of Life Fellowship, or Emerald St. Church of God.

Online condolences may be made at [www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com](http://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com).

Ford & Sons Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Rose Hill Cemetery

Thebes, IL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **26**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel  
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

## Memorial Service

FEB **27**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel  
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

# Tribute Wall

CM

“ *Cindy Mathis lit a candle in memory of Matthew Gene Edwards*



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**Cindy Mathis** - February 24, 2017 at 09:54 AM

CM

*Were so sorry for your loss. May God wrap his loving arms around each of you and give you comfort and give you all strength the days ahead. We love you all. Karen Tatum and Cindy Mathis.*

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**Cindy Mathis** - February 24, 2017 at 10:00 AM