



Mark V. Hardgraves, 64, of Shirley

June 17, 1961 - December 7, 2025

SHIRLEY: Mark V. Hardgraves, Sr., 64, of Shirley, formerly of Ayer, died Sunday, December 7, 2025 at his home.

Mark was born in Detroit, Michigan, June 17, 1961, a son of Jacqueline (Mitchell) Hardgraves and the late Vance Hardgraves and grew up in an Army family moving frequently as a child.

Mark enlisted in the United States Army and served his country for three years before being honorably discharged in 1983 and settling in the Ayer & Shirley area.

Most recently Mark worked five years as a machine mechanic at Berry Global Company in Sterling, retiring in August of this year. Prior to that, for over 30 years, Mark worked as a millwright at Bemis Company in Shirley where he also served 24 years as the Union President there.

Always a competitor, Mark enjoyed playing golf, flag football, softball, basketball, billiards and darts. He also enjoyed fishing. He was a former member of the Shirley American Legion post.

In addition to his mother of Indianapolis, IN, he leaves his longtime companion, Shannon L. Dixon of Shirley; his son, Mark V. Hardgraves, Jr.,

and his wife, Christina of Gardner; two daughters, Jocelyn Y. Hardgraves and her husband, Marcus Ellis of Ayer, Casey D. Hardgraves of Shirley; his brother, Thomas Hardgraves of Indianapolis, IN; two sisters, Rebecca Allen and Kelli Smith both of Indianapolis, IN; three grandchildren, Alijah Hardgraves, Ezra Hardgraves and Marquise Johnson.

He was the brother of the late Joseph Hardgraves and Stanley Hardgraves both of Indianapolis, IN.

Mark's family will receive relatives and friends at calling hours on Tuesday December 16, 2025 from 4:00 to 7:00PM at Anderson Funeral Home, 25 Fitchburg Road (RT 2A), Ayer.

The Anderson Funeral Home, 25 Fitchburg Road, Ayer is assisting the family with arrangements

Previous Events

Calling Hours

DEC **16**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Anderson Funeral Home - Ayer
25 Fitchburg Road ~ Route 2A
Ayer, MA 01432
(978) 772-2355

Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Mark V. Hardgraves, 64, of Shirley.



December 13, 2025 at 10:36 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Mark V. Hardgraves, 64, of Shirley.



December 12, 2025 at 09:48 AM



“ *Vertafore - Customer Operations Team* planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mark V. Hardgraves.

Vertafore - Customer Operations Team - December 12, 2025 at 09:48 AM



“ *Richard Kane* purchased the *Arrive in Style* for the family of Mark V. Hardgraves, 64, of Shirley.



Richard Kane - December 12, 2025 at 07:28 AM

RK

“ Richard Kane planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mark V. Hardgraves.

Richard Kane - December 12, 2025 at 07:28 AM

RK

“ Casey dear, I am so sorry!

Richard Kane - December 12, 2025 at 06:59 AM

LW

“ Lanie & Dave Williams purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Mark V. Hardgraves, 64, of Shirley.



Lanie & Dave Williams - December 11, 2025 at 07:42 PM

TF

“ The Ellis Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Mark V. Hardgraves, 64, of Shirley.



The Ellis Family - December 11, 2025 at 02:53 PM

TF

“ The Ellis Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mark V. Hardgraves.

The Ellis Family - December 11, 2025 at 02:53 PM

EH

“ I was deeply sorry to hear of Mark’s passing. Please accept my sincere condolences.

Elaine Pater Hallice

Elaine Hallice - December 11, 2025 at 01:32 PM

EL

“ It is with a heavy heart that I write this message today. Mark was not just a colleague but a best friend to me since 1992 when I first started at Bemis Associates. Over the past 30 plus years, we have shared countless memories together, both at work and in our personal lives. He was my rock during many of the best and worst times, and I believe we were that for each other.

The loss of Mark is incredibly profound, and I will miss him dearly. I wish to extend my deepest condolences to his family during this difficult time. Mark, I know you are in a better place, and you will always be in my heart and remembered fondly by everyone you touched.

With heartfelt sympathy,

Eric Longo

Eric Longo - December 11, 2025 at 11:28 AM

EL

“ Eric and Lori Longo purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mark V. Hardgraves, 64, of Shirley.



Eric and Lori Longo - December 11, 2025 at 11:21 AM

KA

“ My deepest condolences to the family. Although I did not know Mark personally, he was my wife Rebecca’s brother, and I know how much he was loved. His service, hard work, and dedication to others will always be remembered. Keeping the family in my thoughts during this difficult time. Kenneth Allen

Kenneth Allen - December 11, 2025 at 12:13 AM

AT

“ Mike and I were very fond of Mark. We are sorry of your loss. May he rest in peace. Mike and Adele Turnbull

Adele Turnbull - December 10, 2025 at 08:27 PM