



## Edward A. Bunce

February 18, 1938 - March 22, 2026

Edward “Ed” Arthur Bunce, 88, of Aurora passed away peacefully on March 22, 2026, at his home surrounded by his loving family. Born in 1938 to Arthur Dwayne and Ester Loraine Bunce in Aurora, he lived his younger years on the 400-acre Art Long farm in Big Rock. He had a love of nature and cooking, no doubt learned from his years there. He attended Big Rock High School where he was involved in many activities including being on the basketball team. After graduation Edward enlisted in the Army Reserves for 2 years. Following his service, he went to barber school, graduated, and worked at a shop in downtown Aurora with Red Kaufman and Roger Mahr. After a couple of years, they decided to open their own shop as partners. They opened West Plaza Barber Shop in 1961 where Ed cut the hair of many people for over 60 years alongside Roger, Red, and Rollie (who became one of his closest friends).

His love of basketball continued on throughout his life. He attended almost every West Aurora High School basketball game, and traveled to the state finals as well to watch them win the state championship in 2000. In 2022, he was inducted into the Illinois High School Basketball Hall of Fame for his dedication to the basketball program at West High. Ed was also an avid golfer, playing many rounds with friends and family over the years.

Family time was very important to Ed. He was a dedicated father, and enjoyed spending time with his children and his grandchildren. There was never any

doubt that he loved and cherished his family. Ed taught his children the golden rule, and never wavered from practicing it himself. He attended every high school basketball and football game to watch Joy on the cheer team, and gathered with family for many holidays hosted at the homes of his children. He and Jode golfed together many many times over the years and also took several trips together both in the States and overseas. In his later years he visited Jenifer in Florida for two weeks every year around his birthday, also catching up with friends who wintered there for a golf game. Ed shared many Sunday night meals with family, and was a wonderful father and friend to so many people in the area.

He was cherished by his children, Joy Lynn (Mike) Ward, Jode Edward Bunce, Jenifer Louise (Scott) Pankow as well as his grandchildren, Patrick, Matthew, Ryan, Christopher, and Lindsey Ward, Jacob (Katie) and Alexandria Bunce, Melissa (Dan) Bocek, Bethany and Olivia Wilson and his 8 great grandchildren.

A memorial visitation in Ed's honor will be held at Daleiden Mortuary (220 North Lake St, Aurora, IL 60506) on Sunday, April 19, 2026, from 1pm to 4pm. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made in honor of Edward Bunce to the Blackhawks Sports Boosters:  
<https://sd129.revtrak.net/Blackhawk-Boosters-Donations/#/v/Blackhawk-Sports-Boosters-Donation>

Arrangements entrusted to Daleiden Mortuary, Aurora, Illinois – providing funeral and cremation services to Aurora, Montgomery, Sugar Grove, Oswego, Batavia, Yorkville and surrounding communities.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

APR **19**. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Daleiden Mortuary

220 N. Lake Street

Aurora, IL 60506

(630) 631-5500

[daleidenmortuary@gmail.com](mailto:daleidenmortuary@gmail.com)

<https://www.daleidenmortuary.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ Daleiden Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Edward A. Bunce



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**Daleiden Mortuary** - April 06 at 05:18 PM

JL

“ Ed was part of the fabric of West Aurora Plaza, and really...the entire west side of Aurora. For literally over a half of a century! More than that, he was an absolute gentleman. First Class all the way around. Multiple generations of Aurorans will miss him. My condolences to his family.

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**Joseph J Lies** - April 09 at 07:48 AM

JB

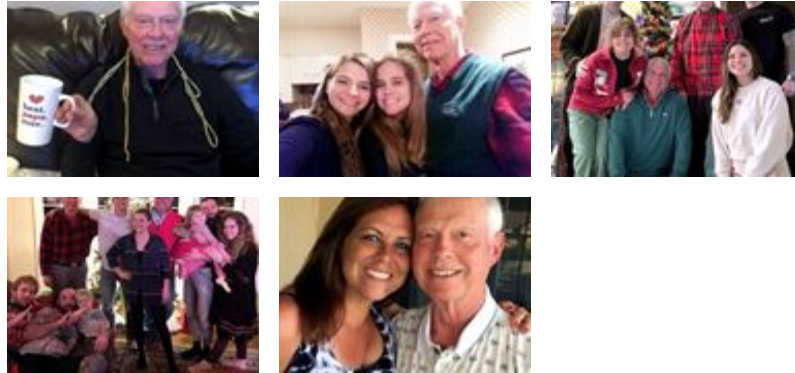
*Thank you Joesph. Very kind words. Dad was indeed a very special person.*

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**Jode Bunce** - April 14 at 01:55 PM



“ 48 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



**Daleiden Mortuary** - April 06 at 05:04 PM

GA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



**Guy Augsburg** - April 02 at 09:39 AM

GA

*Seated in the window chair is my father, Raymond Augsburg (1920-1962), nephew and employee of Arnold Lies Sr., builder and owner of West Plaza.*

**Guy Augsburg** - April 02 at 09:41 AM

PA

“ *To the Bunce Family  
I have a real opportunity to travel With Ed & Jode to pebble beach.  
What a great time we all had.  
May God bless the Bunce Family.  
Love  
Paul J Auger*

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**paul Auger** - March 31 at 11:31 AM

JB

*Thank you Paul! Love you bud.*

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**Jode Bunce** - April 14 at 01:56 PM

LL

“ *60 years of a wonderful friendship. I will miss him terribly.*

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**Lynn Lies** - March 30 at 01:13 PM

JB

*Thank you Lynn. I know how much dad enjoyed your company. You were a great friend to him.*

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**Jode Bunce** - April 14 at 01:57 PM

JK

“ *Ed was such a great neighbor for 25 years. He never hesitated to help us without us even asking. He followed our kids basketball careers and came to many of their games. We are blessed to have known him for the many years that we have been friends and neighbors.*

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**Joe Kosner** - March 29 at 09:43 PM

WP

*Dear Joy, Jode, and Jennifer,*

*Your dad was a wonderful man! He became my friend when I married Dick 58 years ago. Dick and your dad shared a strong friendship longer than that, because they both grew up on a farm in Big Rock and attended Big Rock High School, and both loved basketball.*

*Early in Dick's and my marriage, we had dinners at your house with your mom and dad, and they often came to our house for Saturday night dinners. We attended the Aurora Barbershop Quartet performances together, and Dick and Ed often played golf together. When our son Matt was born, your mom gave us your baby crib to use for him.*

*Your dad came to our New Year's Eves gatherings and to our Christmas Eve celebrations.*

*After Dick died, Ed and I went out to dinner together some Saturday nights. He was a caring and gentle man, always willing to help. You were blessed with a special dad! May God help you through this period of grief.*

*I love you all!*

*Wilma Phillips*

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**Wilma Phillips** - March 30 at 12:21 PM

JB

*Thanks Wilma. I know how much you and Dick meant to dad. He truly cherished your friendship.*

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**Jode Bunce** - April 14 at 01:58 PM