



Minuard Bert Abney

December 3, 1940 - August 5, 2024

Minuard B. Abney, of Ironton, MO, retired from this life on Monday, August 5, 2024, at the age of 83 years, 8 months, and 2 days. He was born December 3, 1940, in St. Louis, MO, to the late Bert and Gerriene (Britton) Abney. On December 31, 1987, Minuard was united in marriage to Carilyn Joan Wharton who survives.

Also surviving are his three children from his first marriage, Michael Abney of St. Louis, MO, Bradley Abney of Czar Tower, MO, and Kim Abney of Pilot Knob, MO; the three children he gained when he married Joan, Margo Bradley of Desloge, MO, Ozie Prior, III of Banner, MO, and a daughter who he proudly adopted at a young age, Carilyn Abney and fiancé Travis of Ironton, MO; eight grandchildren Crickett, Mya, Corrina, Xander, Xandeleighia, Xadrian, Gray, and Wyatt; two great-grandchildren, one brother Tony Abney of Viburnum, MO, , and many more loving nieces, nephews, cousins, family members and friends.

Minuard is preceded in rest by his parents, a sister Eleanore Leeman, and a brother Alfred Abney.

After Minuard graduated from high school, he went right to work. He learned to work hard at a young age, but no matter how much he worked, he was starving, so he made the decision to move back to Czar Tower and joined the United States Army. After finishing his service in the Army, he went to work for the Doe Run Company at the Cominco Mines in Bixby, MO, and worked until his retirement in April 1999. Retirement, that's a laugh! Minuard didn't believe

in retirement. Right after he left the mines, he bought his first dump truck the same year and Abney Trucking was born. Abney Trucking went from a small operation with one truck, to a large scall operation with 21 trucks and crew members.

When you worked for Minuard, you were guaranteed to learn HIS work ethic, which was you worked from sunup to sunup the next day. You worked all day, you got back to base, and you worked all evening and night on the equipment to get it ready for the next day. You worked until the job was done or it was too dark to see. You weren't on regular time, you were on HIS time, which was also known as "Viburnum time". If you didn't learn something from Minuard, whether it be how to work hard, how to treat your friends and family, or how to help those all around you, you weren't listening to him and you missed out on valuable life lessons.

When the Tom Sauk reservoir broke, Minuard had all his trucks there to clean up the damage and rebuild the Johnson Shut Ins Park. He even worked alongside one of his trucking competitors, Campbell Trucking. He saw the task which needed to be completed, and didn't stop until it was, just like he taught so many how to.

Minuard wasn't just a hard and dedicated worker, he was a loving and devoted husband, father, and grandfather. When Carilyn went into the hospital to have her children, his grandchildren, he went when she went and stayed there until they were born. He was not going anywhere until he knew they were here and healthy. He would make his bed on a waiting room couch, which was much smaller than him, but he wasn't leaving that hospital. He loved being a grandfather, and it showed when he was with them or telling friends about them; he was a proud grandfather.

Minuard's life was rich with friends. He cherished many, and said that if he didn't have Bobby, he couldn't have kept the trucking business going. Bobby was a blessing to Minuard in this aspect of his life, and as a friend. If he knew you, he wanted to help you. If he didn't know you, and saw you needed help, he would help you.

Minuard wasn't just a boss to the young men who worked for him, he was a mentor, a leader, a father figure, a friend, and an example of what a man should be.

He had a special place to sit when he had time, and it was the bench at Steve and Garrett's, it was his chair and ottoman. He would rest there while waiting for Joan to come get him, and even had her drive for him a time or two so they could get a truck back home. One time while helping him bring home a truck, Joan got pulled over instead of Minuard, and he never let her forget it.

Minuard said for years, he wanted to work to the very end, and wanted to go in either one of his trucks or on one of his machines, and well, he did just that. He drove his truck to the very end. He said, "If I stop working, I will stop living", and that's how it happened. He got to work to the very end. His work boots may have changed to comfy Crocs, but he still worked as hard as he could and never lost his work ethic.

Minuard B. Abney leaves behind a legacy of hard work and many lessons. His friends on D Highway became family, and he will be missed by the Ushers, the Wadlow's, the Inman's, and many others who were his second family.

A Visitation for friends and family to gather will be held on Sunday, August 11, 2024, beginning at 6:00 pm and lasting until 8:00 pm from the Cole Family Chapel.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Monday, August 12, 2024, beginning at 11:00 am.

Interment will follow the services in the Cove Cemetery in Ironton, MO.

Rev, Adam Logan will be officiating the services.

Online condolences may be made at www.colefamilyfuneralhomes.com

Cemetery Details

Cove Cemetery

State Hwy D
Ironton, MO 63650

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 11. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Cole Family Funeral Home
210 E Reynolds St
Ironton, MO 63650
(573) 546-0742

Celebration of Life

AUG 12. 11:00 AM (CT)

Cole Family Funeral Home
210 E Reynolds St
Ironton, MO 63650
(573) 546-0742

Tribute Wall

RA

“ We were new to the area and looking for road work to be done found mr.Abney
We found the nicest,kindest,caring helpful guy and ended up having the same last name.He took us in like family and he did everything to help us out on our new journey. If it wasn't for mb we don't know what we would of done.And he always said I'm doing this for jetti so she can drive across that creek, he wanted her safe.
Just wished we had more time with him but God took him home.
Prayers for the family.
God Bless.
Rodney and Jetti Abney

Rodney and Jetti Abney - August 12, 2024 at 09:37 AM

TC

“ When I was a little girl, my dad worked for him and Tony. Minuard was a great man. He convinced me that chocolate milk came from black cows. That is one thing he never let me forget. He will be missed very much. Now he can r.i.p with my dad Orville Crocker.
R.i.p you two.

Tausha Crocker - August 11, 2024 at 10:48 PM

JG

“ About a year ago, Minuard and I ate lunch together in Farmington, and we rehashed the days back in 1968 or so, when he hired me, a young teenager, to help with building his house on hwy V. We had a lot of laughs, but a lot of times, I was on the serious end of a pick or a shovel. Ditches had to be dug for the foundation. We'd go to the creek to shovel pickup loads of gravel for the foundation. We built the trusses for the house, set them, set floor joists and walls. He was a great guy to work with. One night, we were in his two ton truck heading over to Cominco to pick up a load of core samples to take to a warehouse in Salem. We were watching closely, a flashing light on the West side of the highway, in the sky. It followed us from the Czar tower , all the way to Viburnum. We thought for sure it must have been a UFO. Thanks for the good times, Minuard. Jim Gillam

Jim Gillam - August 10, 2024 at 11:47 PM

PP

“ I've known Minuard since I was 6 and my family rented a house from his parents. He has always been a nice guy and devoted to his kids. He was school board president when I taught in Viburnum and did an excellent job and was very fair. He was just a good guy. So sorry to hear of his passing. My thoughts and prayers are with his family, especially Michael, Brad and Kim. You were blessed to have him as your dad.
Pam Poston

Pam Poston - August 10, 2024 at 08:56 PM

TP

“ Very sorry to hear the passing of Minuard. He and my dad, Harold 'Packy' Chilton were good friends and he was at our house often.

Teresa (Teri) Chilton Parks. - August 10, 2024 at 05:10 PM

GD

“ We are so sorry to learn of the death of our friend from back home in Viburnum. We have so many good memories of the "good old days" when we were all young and raising families. Our sympathy to the families that have lost this good man. Gary and Pat Dane

gary dane - August 10, 2024 at 02:36 PM

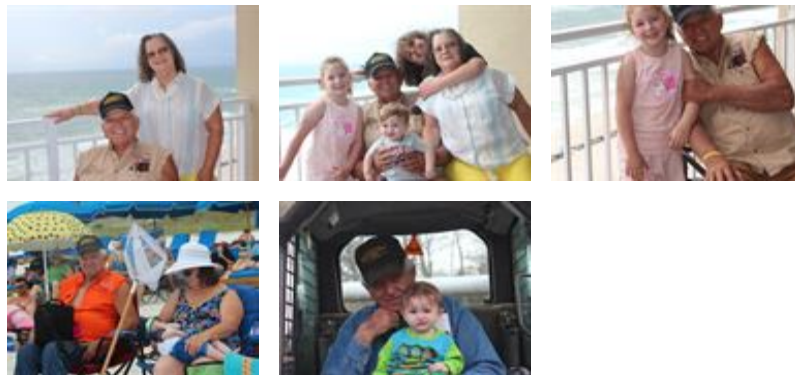
LR

“ Sad to lose another great man. The obit described him to a T. Prayers of comfort to the family.

larry and linda ragsdale - August 10, 2024 at 01:56 PM



“ 50 files added to the album Life Tributes



Cole Family Funeral Home - August 09, 2024 at 03:57 PM

RR

“ Ryan Abney and family (Son of Rodney) purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Minuard Bert Abney.



Ryan Abney and family (Son of Rodney) - August 08, 2024 at 08:06 PM

DB

“ *Wish this was closer to home. I would like to have come to visitation for Minuard. Losing too many of our old friends from school days*

Dixie Bobbitt - August 08, 2024 at 03:41 PM

CA

“ *Carol Abney and family extend their deepest sympathy.*



Carol Abney - August 07, 2024 at 10:46 PM

KW

“ *Our sincere sympathy to Minuards family. 🙏
Kenny & Sue Wooten*



Kenny & Sue Wooten - August 07, 2024 at 10:15 PM

SW

“ *Sylvia Walton lit a candle in memory of Minuard Abney*



Sylvia Walton - August 07, 2024 at 08:15 PM

TF

“ *The Moses family purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Minuard Bert Abney.*



The Moses family - August 07, 2024 at 04:03 PM

CT

“ *Charles and Evon Turner lit a candle in memory of Minuard Abney*



Charles and Evon Turner - August 07, 2024 at 02:13 PM