



## Keith A. Thornton Sr.

October 17, 1961 - April 25, 2026

Keith A. Thornton, age 64, of Gravois Mills, Missouri, passed away on Saturday, April 25, 2026, at Lake Regional Health System in Osage Beach, Missouri, after a hard-fought battle with cancer.

Keith was born on October 17, 1961, in Shawnee Mission, Kansas, the son of the late Floyd and Joyce (Bean) Thornton. He grew up in Shawnee Mission and later attended Stover High School. From an early age, Keith spent much of his time helping his father at the family auto shop, where his lifelong love of cars first took root.

After high school, Keith joined his father at Thornton Excavating and Gravel, working as a heavy equipment operator. He had a deep love for construction and took great pride in working with his hands and building things that lasted. Just as much, he loved lending a hand to friends and neighbors on their own projects — always ready to help and always with a good story to share along the way.

Keith felt most at home in the woods. He loved the outdoors and found real joy in simple living — splitting and cutting firewood and living surrounded by the trees he loved. He was rarely without an ice-cold Coca-Cola close by, a small pleasure he never tired of.

Keith will be remembered for his quick wit and his gift for storytelling. He was passionate about music, especially classic rock and roll, a devoted Kansas City Chiefs fan, and an avid follower of NASCAR.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Floyd and Joyce Thornton, and his sister, Donna Gray.

Keith is survived by his children, Amber Ford and her husband Gregory, and Keith Thornton II and his wife Michele; his sisters, Linda Mirot and her husband Max, and Debbie Thornton; two grandchildren; four nieces and nephews; and many other loving relatives and friends.

A visitation will be held from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. on Friday, May 8, at the Kidwell-Garber Laurie/Sunrise Beach Chapel. Graveside services and inurnment will follow at 2:00 p.m. the same day at Garber Memorial Estates in Laurie.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are suggested to the American Cancer Society.

Arrangements are under the direction and care of the Kidwell-Garber Laurie/Sunrise Beach Chapel.

# Cemetery Details

## Garber Memorial Estates

417 Silvey Rd.  
Laurie, MO 65038  
(573) 374-7688

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 8. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Kidwell-Garber Funeral Home - Laurie/Sunrise Beach Chapel  
417 Silvey Rd.  
Laurie, MO 65038  
(573) 374-7688

## Graveside Service

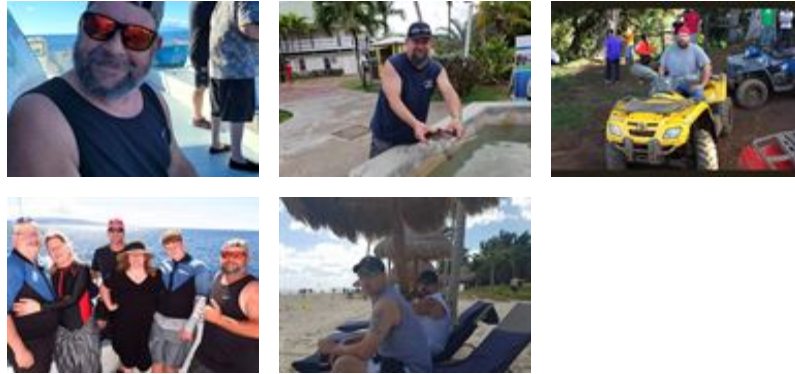
MAY 8. 2:00 PM (CT)

Garber Memorial Estates  
417 Silvey Rd.  
Laurie, MO 65038  
(573) 374-7688

# Tribute Wall



“ 105 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Kidwell-Garber Funeral Homes** - May 06 at 05:31 PM

SS

“ *Condolences to the family. So sorry to hear this.. Keith was in my class, and along with his sister Donna, we all hung out in the same group and would spend most weekends at the Bend..*

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**Sue Schumacher** - April 27 at 12:44 AM